



So you are thinking about being a Volunteer Patrol Boat for Seafair Weekend?

The following is a brief description about the responsibilities of Waterside Skippers. There are several groups/positions available. Depending on the size of your boat, your boat handling experience, and where we need additional support, will determine what location you will be assigned to.

The basic duty is to patrol the shore, logbooms and lake entrances into the course area; maintaining the safety of the spectators, and performers; keeping the course area and Flight air box clear when needed. NOTE: All boats travel at 'No Wake Speed' throughout the weekend, so high-performance engines do not handle well with this low cruising speed.

Skippers will be required to recruit their own crew and have them sign up on the registration site. You should have at least one capable crew member that can follow rules and assist you in an emergency. No more than 4 people per boat preferred. Skipper must be at least 21 years of age, crew members should be at least 18 years old, however we may allow 16-17 years depending of position/patrol area. Skippers must have their boat fully equipped with emergency equipment and you may need a CB or VHF. (All boats are given a portable radio for use during the weekend.) No alcohol or drugs are allowed while on patrol or two hours prior to shift. All Skippers must have a Wa. Boaters Certificate if applicable and your own insurance.

The different groups are:

Shuttle Boats- these boats shuttle media, VIP's, volunteers, and supplies to and from the logbooms, and different docks throughout the area.

Boat criteria: If you are a Shuttle boat that transports people to and from the VIP Tower on shore and the dock inside the pit lagoon we need boats that can load people in and out easily and has seating for up to 6 people. Boats should not be too large so can handle shallower waters safely. Larger boats are needed depending on what we are shuttling and to where.

Shore Patrol- these boats make sure that swimmers and small crafts stay close to shore and clear from Hydros and other areas near the pit and banks.

Boat criteria: For the shore area we need boats no larger than 25' with no flying bridge. For boats that patrol Andrews Bay/Bailey Point area we can take sizes up to 30'. Some larger boats may be needed.

Logboom Patrol- boats move up and down designated areas of the boom and lake entrances, assisting boats to tie up to the boom, checking credentials for paid customers, safety of swimmers and passengers on boats and the booms, first response to accidents and other issues, keeping non-paying boats out of designated areas, securing the air box.

Boat criteria: Boats that patrol the booms cannot have a flying bridge so they will not block patrons views from the on boom. Larger boats can patrol the South and East/West Bridge entrances to the lake.

Generally we run from 7am-3pm Thursday and 6am-6pm, Fri-Sunday. We also have volunteers come in the month of July to help set up the race course and stay and come in on Monday after the weekend to help take down the camp and race course. **We ask that all volunteers sign up at minimum for all day Saturday and Sunday.**

You are compensated for some or most of your fuel, and are given a t-shirt for you and your crew (if registered before June 30th), in addition to passes for family or friends. A free appreciation party near the end of August. Also we have a rally dinner Wednesday evening before race weekend in the pit area for volunteers and family/friends, for a small donation (about \$3 each).

We pride ourselves in being designated the best and biggest all-volunteer event group in the US. Many of us consider this our family reunion and a majority of us have been volunteers for 25 years or more. It is a great event with great people.

If you are interested in becoming a patrol boat, I would be happy to talk with you personally and answer any question you might have.

Sincerely,
Erin Myers
Waterside Chair
raceops@seafair.com
Seafair Volunteer

