

## **Becoming a SCOW Skipper**

Becoming a SCOW Skipper allows you to reserve and sail SCOW sailboats. If you are new to sailing this is a big step toward what may be one of the most fun things you can do throughout the rest of your life. SCOW has two types of boats: four Flying Scots and two Catalina 25s (Cruisers). Whether you are a new or experienced sailor, before you can reserve and skipper our boats, you must demonstrate you can sail safely and know our procedures by passing both written and on-the-water tests. Many relevant documents are on the SCOW website ([www.scow.org](http://www.scow.org)). For questions, documents, and scheduling the on-the-water test, contact the skipper director ([skipper@scow.org](mailto:skipper@scow.org))

### **HOW TO BECOME A SCOW SKIPPER**

#### **If you are new to sailing, to qualify for the Flying Scots ...**

1. Become a SCOW member.
2. Take the SCOW Basic Sailing Class (contact [training@scow.org](mailto:training@scow.org)) or pass a comparable class.
3. Familiarize yourself with the SCOW Skipper Requirements and Boat Use Policy and Flying Scot Sailor's Information File (SIF). These are part of the SCOW Basic Sailing Class materials.
3. Complete the OPEN BOOK written exam -No time limit-and return to Skipper Director for grading.
4. Complete a boating safety course and get a Boating Safety Certificate, required by DC Harbor Police for all boat operators. The Coast Guard Auxiliary offers courses at various locations. DC Harbor Police also offers a course.
5. After passing the written exam, complete the on-the-water checkout showing you can launch and handle the boat safely. There is a big emphasis on safety.
6. Fill out the Skipper Application/Agreement and sign it. Submit these along with a copy of your Boating Safety Certificate and check for \$100 payable to SCOW (for the Flying Scot skipper fee) to the SCOW Skipper Director.

#### **If you already know how to sail, to qualify for the Flying Scots or the Cruisers ...**

1. Become a SCOW member.
2. Familiarize yourself with the SCOW Skipper Requirements and Boat Use Policy, Flying Scot Sailor's Information File (SIF), and/or the Cruising Boat Sailor's Information File (SIF).
3. Familiarize yourself with the rigging, launching and sailing of the type of boat you wish to check out on.
  - a. Flying Scots: come to Social Sail on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. and help launch and rig the Scots. Go for a 20 minute sail with a SCOW skipper. Help unrig and put away the boats. Crew on the Wednesday evening Flying Scot races at 6:00 p.m.
  - b. Flying Scots and Cruisers: after passing the written test, you can request a tutor ([tutor@scow.org](mailto:tutor@scow.org)).
4. Pass the written and on the water tests.
5. Complete a boating safety course and get a Boating Safety Certificate (see above).
6. Fill out the Skipper Application/Agreement and sign it. Submit this along with a copy of your Boating Safety Certificate and check for the skipper fee (\$100 Flying Scot, \$140 Cruisers, \$180 for both) to the SCOW Skipper Director.