



PUNONGHIMPILAN TANOD BAYBAYIN NG PILIPINAS
(Headquarters Philippine Coast Guard)
139 25th Street, Port Area
1018 Manila

02 May 2016

STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURE
NUMBER 04-16

ACTIVATION OF VESSEL / BOAT / YACHT FOR PCGA USE

I. GENERAL:

The Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary (PCGA) is a civilian volunteer organization under the direct control and supervision of the PCG Commandant. The PCGA shall assist the PCG in the promotion of safety of life and property at sea, the preservation of the marine environment and its resources, the conduct of maritime Search and Rescue (MARSAR), the maintenance of Aids to Navigation (ATON), Marine Environmental Protection (MAREP) and Maritime Community Relations (MCOMREL) that enhance maritime community relations. It is composed of volunteers coming from various professions who are interested in doing civic works for the maritime sector. Some of the members own floating assets such as boats, yachts and other types of vessels including fishing vessels. As such, said members are willing to extend their volunteerism by utilizing their floating assets in the conduct of PCGA activities. Even before the creation of the PCGA, its core members have always supported the PCG during SAR operations. Thus, it is paramount that floating assets of PCGA members are identifiable at sea and that their conduct of PCG/PCGA related functions are governed by specific guidelines.

II. SCOPE

To prescribe policies and administrative procedures relative to the authority of Coast Guard District Commanders to activate PCGA vessels, boats or yachts for PCGA use.

III. PURPOSE

This SOP prescribes the policies and procedures pertaining to the activation of all PCGA vessels, boats or yachts in the service to the PCGA.

IV. POLICIES:

1. Only vessels, boats or yachts owned by active PCGA members are eligible to be registered and activated to the PCGA.
2. Passenger vessels or boats are not eligible for activation.
3. The vessel must be owned by an active PCGA member. In case the member only has access to the floating asset and the owner is not yet a PCGA, the boat owner must join the PCGA before the vessel may be activated for PCGA use.
4. Vessels that may be activated in the PCGA service are: outrigger boats, yachts, pleasure boats, fishing boats of Coastal Community Auxiliary Divisions, dive boats used in Tourism Zones and tugboats used in Maritime Pollution (MARPOL) activities.
5. Theboat/yacht should be properly registered with MARINA prior to its activation.
6. The concerned boat/yacht should not be involved in any criminal or administrative case.
7. The activated boat/yacht should be available for SAR operations and marine pollution containment as soon as practicable as requested by Coast Guard District or Station Commanders who have jurisdiction over them.
8. For purposes of monitoring the status of all PCGA boats and yachts activated in the Districts, activation orders shall be communicated to the Commandant (Attn:CG-7) for issuance of confirmatory orders by the Coast Guard Adjutant.

V. DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Commercial Vessel refers to a vessel engaged in commercial trade or that carries passengers for hire

Gross Tonnage means the measure of the overall size of a ship determined in accordance with the provisions of Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) Circular 2007– 04.

Gunwale refers to the upper edge or planking of the side of a vessel.

Motorboat a watercraft of 3 Gross Tons (GT) and below, propelled by an inboard or outboard engine.

Passenger Vessel or boat refers to a ship authorized by the MARINA to carry passengers.

Ship or Vessel (may be used interchangeably) refers to any kind, class or type of craft or artificial contrivance capable of floating in water, designed to be used, or capable of being used as a means of water transport in Philippine waters for the carriage of passengers or cargo, or both, utilizing its own motive power or that of another.

Waterline refers to the line where the hull of a ship meets the surface of the water.

Yacht refers to any ship which is used for pleasure only, whether power driven or not, to include Personal Water Craft (PWC).

MARINA refers to Maritime Industry Authority

VI. PROCEDURES:

1. As a general rule, an active PCGA member who wishes to activate his/her boat/yacht to the PCG service may signify his or her intention through a letter of intent to be submitted by Squadron Director and favorably endorsed by the Director Auxiliary District (DAD) to the Coast Guard District Commander.
2. The PCG District, upon receipt of the application for boat/yacht activation will inspect the vessel for seaworthiness and verify the status of its registration with MARINA.
3. Once the application is approved, the District Commander shall issue General Orders for its activation subject to the confirmation of the Commandant.
4. In the event that the subject boat/yacht sustains any damage while participating in PCG-PCGA related operations, the PCG will not be held liable for the damage, unless the cause of such damage stems from **neglect or recklessness** on the part of PCG personnel.
5. Only owners or boat/yacht operators should operate their own vessels.

6. Once activated, identifiable stripes with the colors (international orange, white and blue) and the PCGA logo may be painted in the port and starboard side of all activated boats/yachts(**Annex B**). It shall be placed after the bow number painted parallel to the ship's bow from the waterline up to the gunwale(**Annex A&B**).
7. POL requirements of activated boat/vessel/yacht during operations shall be borne by the owner or PCGA units.
8. All Boats/Yachts which are activated in the PCGA Service shall be properly recorded in the respective CG Districts, copy furnished O/CG-7 for monitoring and record purposes.

VII. CODE DESIGNATION (NUMBERING)

All vessels, boats and yachts to be activated in the PCGA service shall have assigned code designation consisting of letters and numbers. The bow number shall start with District Name(**Annex C**) followed by chronological listing of the activated boat or yacht on a first come first serve basis (e.g CGADNCR-CL-001).

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Epoxy and reflecting paints will be utilized for the markings of the vessel.
2. The letter and numerical type to be used in marking vessels/craft should be the block type as illustrated in **Annex D**.
3. The international orange shall be used for the PCG orange stripe and superstructure of commissioned vessel/boat/yacht.

IX. RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Deactivation Procedures and Sanctions: Activated boats must be inspected yearly jointly by the respective Station Commanders and Squadron Directors as regards its seaworthiness. As soon as verified to be unseaworthy and unfit due to the following circumstances, subject vessel must be issued deactivation orders by the Commandant, PCG:
 - a. expired licenses such as Certificate of Philippine Registry, Pleasure Yacht License, Coastwise License etc.;
 - b. has complaint arising from a maritime incident/accident; and


- c. complaint involving violation/s terms and condition of the RA 9295 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (MARINA issuances and other laws pertinent to maritime transportation).
2. Vessels which are proven to be involved in any criminal and illegal activities shall be immediately deactivated from PCGA use. Consequently, the coloredstripes shall be removed including the number coding and the PCGA logo.
3. The owner of the boat/yacht involved in illegal and criminal activities shall lose his/her PCGA membership immediately.
4. PCGA District Auxiliary Directors and PCG District Commanders shall be held responsible for the strict implementation of this SOP.

X. EFFECTIVITY:

This SOP will take effect upon publication.

BY COMMAND OF RADM MELAD:

OFFICIAL:


LIEZEL B BAUTISTA
LCDR PCG
Coast Guard Adjutant *10/05/16/TT*

TEOTIMO R BORJA JR
CAPT PCG
Acting Chief of Coast Guard Staff