



NEWS RELEASE

September 20, 2019

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## **BECOME A BETTER BOATER 2019-20 SKILL DEVELOPMENT COURSES ANNOUNCED**

MARCO ISLAND, FLORIDA – America's Boating Club – *Marco Island* (ABClub – MI) today announced its boating education program for the 2019-20 Season.

"If you want to be a better, safer boat operator, America's Boating Club has a course for you," said Tom Morr, Commander of ABClub – MI. "We teach the knowledge and skills to make operators, regardless of their watercraft type, confident and capable boaters."

"America's Boating Course is the basic building block for safe boating," according to Patricia Cavanagh, the Boating Club's Education Officer. "It is required (for anyone born after January 1, 1988) to obtain a Boating Safety Education Identification Card to operate a vessel of ten horsepower or more in Florida and covers the core concepts important to safe boat operation," said Cavanagh.

America's Boating Course meets for five 2.25 hour sessions over two and a half weeks. It will begin on October 21, 2019 and will be offered again beginning on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, January 6<sup>th</sup>, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Anchoring, Boat Handling, Charting/GPS, Engine Maintenance, Hurricane Preparedness for Boaters, Partner in Command, VHF/DSC Radio, Weather and advanced courses such as Marine Navigation and Advanced Celestial Navigation round out the year's offerings. Vessel Simulator Training and On the Water Training are available and may be scheduled.

"All America's Boating Courses are taught by certified instructors who are members of America's Boating Club – *Marco Island*. Instructors are experienced boaters familiar with the waters around Marco Island," Cavanagh said.

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“Boat Handling covers practical ‘how to’ information that is essential to operating all kinds of watercraft (power boats, sail boats, wave runners, jet skis, canoes, kayaks, paddleboards, etc.),” said Cavanagh. “We strongly recommend this course in tandem with America’s Boating Course,” she said.

“Members of America’s Boating Club are passionate about boating and want every boater to have fun on Marco’s waters,” said Morr. “When you take your family on your boat, nothing is more important than keeping them safe,” Morr said.

To register for courses or more details, please call Patricia Cavanagh at 239-248-5815 or visit [www.marcoboatingclub.org](http://www.marcoboatingclub.org).

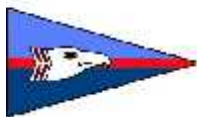
A unit of the 105-year-old, 342 chapter United States Power Squadron (USPS), ABClub – MI has scheduled 19 courses for 2019-20 at its **Learning Center** located at 1114 North Collier Boulevard, Marco Island.

*ABClub – MI is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit that teaches boating skills, conducts vessel safety checks, identifies defective navigation aids, provides experiential learning and promotes fun and fellowship among boater of all kinds. USPS is America’s largest national recreational boating organization.*

*For membership information, contact Peggy Reiss at 239-213-8686.*

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Schedule Attached



## Marco Island Sail and Power Squadron Inc.

1114 N. Collier Blvd. Marco Island, FL 34145 2547

[www.MarcoBoatingClub.org](http://www.MarcoBoatingClub.org)

(239) 393-0150

Course	Public	Day of Week	Time	Start Date	Days	Instructor/Contact
<b>Advanced</b> (Prerequisites may apply)						
Navigation	*	TU	1000	10/29/19	12	P/C Tippy Cavanagh, SN 239-393-9158
Boat Handling	Yes	TU & TH	1800	11/12/19	7	Lt Nick Rago, AP 860-798-4141 Lt Ed Bauer, S 540-463-2018
Marine Navigation	*	F	0930	1/10/20	7	P/C Gene Burson, JN 239-945-1775
Boat Handling	Yes	TU & F	1800	1/28/20	7	Lt Nick Rago, AP 860-798-4141 Lt Ed Bauer, S 540-463-2018
Boat Handling	Yes	TU & F	1800	3/31/20	7	Lt Nick Rago, AP 860-798-4141 Lt Ed Bauer, S 540-463-2018
<b>Electives</b>						
Weather	Yes	W	1300	1/8/20	10	P/C Rhonda Gloodt, JN 239-450-7089
Engine Maintenance	No	TH	1000	1/9/20	8	1/Lt John Maciolek, AP 732-496-4595
<b>Public Boating</b>						
America's Boating Course	Yes	M & TH	1800	10/21/19	5	1/Lt John Maciolek, AP 732-496-4595
America's Boating Course	Yes	M & TH	1800	12/2/19	5	1/Lt John Maciolek, AP 732-496-4595
America's Boating Course	Yes	M & TH	1800	1/6/20	5	1/Lt John Maciolek, AP 732-496-4595
America's Boating Course	Yes	M & TH	1800	2/3/20	5	1/Lt John Maciolek, AP 732-496-4595
America's Boating Course	Yes	M & TH	1800	3/9/20	5	1/Lt John Maciolek, AP 732-496-4595
<b>Seminars</b>						
Charting/GPS	Yes	TU & W	1800	11/5/19	2	P/C Rhonda Gloodt, JN 239-450-7089 P/C Carl Thieme, SN 239-970-2177
Charting/GPS	Yes	TU & W	1800	1/21/20	1	P/C Rhonda Gloodt, JN 239-450-7089 P/C Carl Thieme, SN 239-970-2177
VHF/DSC Radio	Yes	TH	1800	1/30/20	1	P/C Jim Olmes, SN 703-899-7328
Charting/GPS	Yes	TU & W	1800	2/18/20	2	P/C Rhonda Gloodt, JN 239-450-7089 P/C Carl Thieme, SN 239-970-2177
Partner in Command	Yes	SAT	1000	2/22/20	1	TBD
Hurricane Preparedness	Yes	TU	1000	4/7/20	1	D/Cdr Ted Reiss, SN-CN 239-213-8722 P/C Rhonda Gloodt, JN 239-450-7089
Hurricane Preparedness	Yes	TU	1800	5/5/20	1	D/Cdr Ted Reiss, SN-CN 239-213-8722 P/C Rhonda Gloodt, JN 239-450-7089
<b>Vessel Trainer</b>	REQUEST ONLY					1/Lt John Maciolek, AP 732-496-4595
<b>On-the-Water Training</b>	REQUEST ONLY					D/C Ted Reiss, SN-CN 239-213-8722

\*Instructor determines