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| Diagram  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | **Staunton Harold Sailability Trust** |  |

**Powerboat Cruise Captain Guide 2025**

**Foreword:**

This document has been prepared to help ensure that the Trust and all those acting on its behalf are given a much training, information and support as possible in all areas of our activities.

**Powerboat Cruise Aim:**

The aim is to offer above all a **safe** and fun sensory waterborne experience for those taking part in the sessions without impacting other water users, sailors, anglers or those using the pontoon or Jetty.

**Considerations:**

**Everything you do must be safe and considered if in doubt seek advice first by Asking the session lead**

Often those taking part maybe nervous and less confident about being on the water. They may well have sensory challenges invisible to the eye so you should always find out if there is anything you need to be aware of. They may not want to get wet, they might not like the engine noise or a bumpy ride.

You need to think about the weather conditions and it’s necessary explain any impacts that might have on your passengers, if its windy then there could be splashing even at low speeds or if its sunny they may burn quickly if they are sensitive skinned (often a trait with autism).

Your passengers may not be able to hold on tight or balance fully, so you need to ensure they are secure or supported.

**Do’s and don’ts:**

**Do wear and test the kill cord.**

**Do** test your radio and have it on at all times.

**Do** ensure you are welcoming and considerate of the needs of your passengers.

**Do** make their trip fun, interesting and informative.

**Do** make sure always that they are happy and safe.

**Do** make sure that weight is distributed evening (ie the Bow is not low in the water)

**Do** ask them if they want to go faster or get splashed.

**Do** explain to them interesting things about the boat and how it works.

**Do** visit the mark with the animals on them let your passengers touch the mark.

**D**o let them see close up the sailing that is going on.

**Do** make sure they are all holding on before you set off.

**Do** come back to shore if any of your passengers are cold, unwell or misbehaving in a manner that could be dangerous.

**Do** leave and arrive back at the pontoon / Jetty slowly avoiding creating a wake.

**Do** make sure that the boat is tied up square (Bow & Stern lines) to the pontoon before letting your passengers get on or off the boat, make sure help is on hand for loading and unloading.

**Do** make sure you have one Hand on the throttle at all times**.**

**Do feel a valued member of our volunteer family**

**Don’t**

**Don’t do anything that endangers any of your passengers, people on the jetty or on the water.**

**Don’t** create a wake around a sailing boat unless you have checked they are happy to experience some waves, creating a wake should only be done from a safe distance.

**Don’t** create a wake around the pontoon or jetty.

**Don’t** speed up or slow down dramatically without warning your passengers.

**Don’t** forget to have your radio on at all times

**Don’t** let your passengers take control of the boat unless

* You are a qualified instructor
* You are using the sea hog or a rib
* You have two kill cords in operation one attached to the driver and one to yourself **you must not operate with a single kill cord**
* There are no other passengers on board.
* You are able to take full control if you need to
* You should limit your passenger to steering only and **not use the throttle**

**Don’t** leave the engine running unattended or leave a boat with the key in the ignition

**Don’t do it if your gut instinct is I probably shouldn’t do this.**