STCW-F (Fishing) Chapter II

Appendix to STCW-F Chapter II Regulation 3

Minimum Knowledge Required for Certification of Skippers on Fishing Vessels of 24 Meters in Length and Over Operating in Limited Waters

Ref: https://www.edumaritime.net/stcwf Source: IMO

1. The syllabus given below is compiled for examination of candidates for certification as skippers on fishing vessels of 24 meters in length and over operating in limited waters. Bearing in mind that the skipper has ultimate responsibility for the safety of the vessel and its crew at all times including during fishing operations, examination in these subjects shall be designed to test that the candidate has assimilated properly all available information that affects the safety of the vessel and its crew in accordance with the syllabus.

2. Navigation and position determination

2.1 Voyage planning and navigation for all conditions:

- 2.1.1 by acceptable methods of determining tracks;
- 2.1.2 within restricted waters;
- 2.1.3 where applicable, in ice;
- 2.1.4 in restricted visibility;
- 2.1.5 where applicable, in traffic separation schemes; and
- 2.1.6 in areas affected by tides or currents.

2.2 Position determination:

- 2.2.1 by terrestrial observations, including the ability to use bearings from landmarks and aids to navigation such as lighthouses, beacons and buoys in conjunction with appropriate charts, notices to mariners and other publications, and assessment of the accuracy of the resulting position fix; and
- 2.2.2 by using, to the satisfaction of the Party, modern ship electronic navigational aids as provided in the fishing vessels concerned.

3. Watchkeeping

3.1 Demonstrate thorough knowledge of the content, application and intent of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972, especially Annexes II and IV concerned with safe navigation.

3.2 Demonstrate knowledge of Basic Principles to be Observed in Keeping a Navigational Watch as prescribed in chapter IV.

4. Radar navigation

4.1 The Party shall decide whether or not to incorporate the radar syllabus below in the general requirements for certification of skippers. If the Party decides not to include the syllabus in the general requirements, it shall ensure that the syllabus is taken into account for purposes of certification of skippers serving on vessels fitted with radar equipment and plying within limited waters.

4.2 Demonstrate using a radar simulator or, when not available, manoeuvring board, knowledge of the fundamentals of radar and ability in the operation and use of radar, and in the interpretation and analysis of information obtained from the equipment,* including the following:

4.2.1 factors affecting performance and accuracy;

4.2.2 setting up and maintaining displays;

4.2.3 detection of misrepresentation of information, false echoes, sea return;

4.2.4 range and bearing;

4.2.5 identification of critical echoes;

4.2.6 course and speed of other ships;

4.2.7 time and distance of closest approach of crossing, meeting or overtaking ships;

4.2.8 detecting course and speed changes of other ships;

4.2.9 effect of changes in own vessel's course or speed or both; and

4.2.10 application of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972.

* Reference is made to resolution 2 of the 1995 STCW-F Conference.

5. Compasses

5.1 Ability to determine and apply compass errors.

6. Meteorology and oceanography

6.1 Knowledge of meteorological instruments and their application.

6.2 Ability to apply meteorological information available.

6.3 Knowledge of characteristics of various weather systems affecting the limited waters concerned, at the discretion of the Party.

6.4 Knowledge of weather conditions affecting the limited waters concerned liable to endanger the vessel, at the discretion of the Party.

6.5 Where applicable, ability to use appropriate navigational publications on tides and currents.

7. Fishing vessel manoeuvring and handling

7.1 Manoeuvring and handling of a fishing vessel in all conditions including the following:

7.1.1 berthing, unberthing and anchor work under various conditions of wind and tide;

7.1.2 manoeuvring in shallow water;

7.1.3 management and handling of fishing vessels in heavy weather, including appropriate speed, particularly in following and quartering seas, assisting a ship or aircraft in distress, means of keeping an unmanageable vessel out of a sea trough and lessening drift;

7.1.4 manoeuvring the vessel during fishing operations with special regard to factors which could adversely affect the vessel's safety during such operations;

7.1.5 precautions in manoeuvring for launching rescue boats or survival craft in bad weather;

7.1.6 methods of taking on board survivors from rescue boats or survival craft;

7.1.7 where applicable, practical measures to be taken when navigating in ice or conditions of ice accretion on board the vessel;

7.1.8 where applicable, the use of, and manoeuvring in, traffic separation schemes;

7.1.9 the importance of navigating at reduced speed to avoid damage caused by own vessel's bow or stern wave; and

7.1.10 transferring fish at sea to factory ships or other vessels.

8. Fishing vessel construction and stability

8.1 General knowledge of the principal structural members of a vessel and the proper names of the various parts.

8.2 Knowledge of the theories and factors affecting trim and stability and measures necessary to preserve safe trim and stability.

8.3 Demonstrate ability to use stability data, stability and trim tables and pre-calculated operating conditions.
8.4 Where applicable, knowledge of effects of free surfaces and ice accretion.
8.5 Knowledge of effects of water on deck.
8.6 Knowledge of the significance of weathertight and watertight integrity.

9. Catch handling and stowage

9.1 The stowage and securing of catch on board vessels, including fishing gear.
9.2 Loading and discharging operations, with special regard to heeling moments from gear and catch.

10. Fishing vessel power plants

10.1 Operating principles of marine power plants in fishing vessels.
10.2 Vessel's auxiliary machinery.
10.3 General knowledge of marine engineering terms.

11. Fire prevention and fire-fighting appliances

11.1 Organization of fire drills.
11.2 Classes and chemistry of fire.
11.3 Fire-fighting systems.
11.4 Participation in an approved fire-fighting course.
11.5 Knowledge of provisions concerning fire-fighting equipment.

12. Emergency procedures

12.1 Precautions when beaching a vessel.
12.2 Action to be taken prior to, and after, grounding.
12.3 Action to be taken when the gear becomes fast to the ground or other obstruction.
12.4 Floating a grounded vessel, with and without assistance.
12.5 Action to be taken following a collision.
12.6 Temporary plugging of leaks.
12.7 Measures for the protection and safety of crew in emergencies.
12.8 Limiting damage and salving the vessel following a fire or explosion.
12.9 Abandoning ship.
12.10 Emergency steering, rigging and use of jury steering and the means of rigging a jury rudder, where practicable.
12.11 Rescuing persons from a ship in distress or from a wreck.

12.12 Man-overboard procedures.

12.13 Towing and being towed.

13. Medical care

13.1 Knowledge of first aid procedures. Practical application of medical guides and advice by radio.

13.2 Practical application of medical guides and advice by radio, including the ability to take effective action based on such knowledge in the case of accidents or illnesses that are likely to occur on board the vessel.

14. Maritime law

14.1 Taking into account the limited waters as defined by the Party, a knowledge of international maritime law as embodied in the international agreements and conventions as they affect the specific obligations and responsibilities of the skipper in the waters concerned, particularly those related to safety and the protection of the marine environment.

14.2 The extent of knowledge of national maritime legislation is left to the discretion of the Party, but should include national arrangements for implementing applicable international agreements and conventions.

15. Life-saving

Knowledge of life-saving appliances provided on fishing vessels. Organization of abandon ship drills and the use of the equipment.

16. Search and rescue

Knowledge of search and rescue procedures.

17. The FAO/ILO/IMO Code of Safety for Fishermen and Fishing Vessels, Part A

Knowledge of such sections of the FAO/ILO/IMO Code of Safety for Fishermen and Fishing Vessels as may be required by the Party.

18. Methods for demonstration of proficiency

The Party shall prescribe appropriate methods for the demonstration of proficiency in relevant requirements of this appendix.
