Boating Terms

Terms you need to know on the water!
• Describing things in the rear of the vessel.
aground

- Touching bottom.
anchor

- A forging or casting shaped to grip the bottom by means of a rope or chain.
Beam

- A vessel’s width at the midsection.
bilge

- The lower internal part of the boat's hull.
Bow

- The front part of the boat.
Capacity Plate

- Description giving maximum weight capacity and horsepower rating.
Capsize

- To turn over.
Cardinal Points

- The four main points of a compass; north, south, east and west.
Catamaran

- Boat with two hulls connected by a deck.
Cleat

- A piece of wood or metal with projecting ends to which lines are made fast.
Come About

- To change course, or tack, in a sailboat.
Current

- The movement of water in a horizontal direction.
Deck

• Any permanent covering over a compartment.
Displacement Hull

- The type of hull that plows through the water.
Draft

- The depth of the vessel below the water line, measured vertically to the lowest part of the hull.
Ebb

- An outgoing tide.
Fathom

- Six feet.
Freeboard

- The vertical distance measured on a boat’s side from the waterline to the gunwale.
Give-Way Vessel

• Required to take early and obvious action to avoid a collision when nearing another vessel.
Gunwale

• The upper edge of a boat’s side.
Hatch

- An opening in a boat’s deck for person’s cargo to go below.
Helm

- The wheel or tiller by which a boat is steered.
Hull

- The body of a boat.
Hypothermia

- A physical condition where the body loses heat faster than it can produce it.
Keel

• The permanently positioned, fore-and-aft backbone member of a boat’s hull.
Mast

- A spar set upright to support riggings or sail.
Mooring

• When a boat is permanently anchored, chained or moored.
Nun Buoy

• A Conical, red buoy bearing an even number and marking the starboard side of a channel from seaward.

• Remember – “red, right, returning”
PFD

• Personal flotation device (life-jacket).
Planing Hull

- Type of hull that is shaped to lift out of the water at high speeds and ride on the surface.
Port

- The left side of the boat when facing the bow.
Starboard

- The right side of the boat when facing the bow.
Stern

- The aft or back of the boat.
Tide

• The alternate rise and fall of waters caused by the gravitational attraction of the sun and moon.
Transom

• The transverse planking which forms the back of small, square-ended boats.
Underway

• A vessel in motion.
Vessel

• Every kind of watercraft.
Wake

- Moving waves created by a vessel’s motion.
Area at the rear of the boat where the motor may be located.
BOATING TERMS FOR TEST!!

THE END