

INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE & CERTIFICATION

“Come for the Education. Stay for the fun!”

This is why many of us came to the LNS&PS and why we stay. It's also our recruiting theme. To fulfill our community obligations and to generate growth and new blood in our organization, we need to be able to offer a strong education program. The first step on that path is to have a well-qualified and vibrant staff of Instructors. To that end, we offer the Instructor Development Course.

Many states and adult education programs are concerned with the quality of instruction being given to the public, especially in the area of boating safety. Many are now requiring that anyone who teaches the public be able to show evidence that they have successfully completed an instructor training program. Just as the information in our public boating classes must meet the standards set by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) and the individual states, our certification process is designed to ensure our instructors meet certain standards. We need to be sure that we have not only the best course materials but also the best instructors.

USPS has always been committed to high standards in our educational programs and the Instructor Development Committee is committed to helping our instructors to be “the best they can be.” USPS has developed the Instructor Development and Certification Course and both they and the LNSPS require that all individuals providing instruction at Public Boating classes must complete and pass this course thus achieving “certification”. These skills, though not required, are pertinent to teaching other courses to our members.

The course focuses on how to teach adults using a modern, interactive and fun approach to learning. Students who complete the course will become certified USPS instructors prepared to teach our public boating classes. It is an easy way for members to ‘break the ice’ and overcome any inhibitions or anxieties they may have toward teaching, and the squadrons will have more qualified members willing to teach our courses. Unlike other USPS courses, the Instructor Development course is not designed to enhance boating skills. Rather, its emphasis is on enhancing presentation techniques and instructor skills. The course has been designed to demonstrate interactive teaching methods focused on adult learning. Students are required to prepare lesson plans and give three presentations to their peers utilizing a variety of teaching aids and presentation skills. The instructor may assign a topic for these presentations or you may use material and PowerPoint slides from existing USPS courses, and they may build on one another.

Certification will be valid for four years and may be renewed for subsequent four year terms by attending a recertification seminar. Completion of the course is recognized on the members USPS Certificate as an elective.

The course is comprised of eight 2-hour sessions (generally evenings, 1830-2030), once a week on an evening agreeable to the group (generally a Tuesday or Wednesday or Thursday). Classes will begin early next year preceding our first ABC Class in April.

The Course Facilitator is Jim Barbara: (704) 966-4072 barbarajeb@aol.com

Sessions will be held at his home: 4790 Burton Lane, Denver, NC 28037.

To Sign Up: Contact Jim Barbara for questions, clarification or additional information.