



## United States Power Squadrons Invitation to Membership Hartford Power Squadron



We're happy you're considering becoming a member of the Hartford Power Squadron. Safe boating education has been our organization's focus for over 90 years. Our squadron is a part of the United States Power Squadrons (USPS), a group of over 30,000 boaters across the US.

### Savings

Your USPS membership offers discounts on insurance, boating gear, travel, and other services.

- **Insurance** - The USPS arranges discounts with Travelers, Farmers, & Americas Boating Club.
- **Boat US** - 50% discount on membership, 10% discount on towing service.
- **SeaTow** - \$10 off all towing packages.
- **Hamilton Marine** - Discounts on marine hardware.
- **Avis and Budget** - Discounts on rental cars.
- **Wyndham Hotel Group** - 20% discount.
- **Endless Vacation Rentals** - 25% discount on rentals.

### Activities & Fun Social Events

We have regular member meetings September thru May, Rendezvous/Picnic in June, Holiday Party, Change of Watch, two District Conferences, special events & mini-cruises. We always have interesting speakers & programs for the boaters at these events.

### Service/Civic activities & Helping within our squadron

- **Vessel Safety checks.** - Our examiners give the same review as the US Coast Guard does and may give the US Coast Guard annual sticker that shows "passed".
- **CoOp Charting** - Our annual survey of the CT river looks for misplaced buoys and buoys or fixed markers with painting or foliage issues. We submit reports to the USCG and NOAA with these discrepancies and compete with other squadrons for awards.
- **Booth at the Hartford Boat Show** - You will meet boaters from all over CT, many of whom are looking for more boating education.
- **Teach a Course or Become an Officer** - a rewarding opportunity that you can ease into gradually.

### Advanced courses, publications & website access to informational blogs

Advanced courses (a full list is following) are available for the price of the manuals (\$40-60). These courses have a commercial value of hundreds of dollars each.

To better understand the potential benefits of membership, explore the publications and websites of our national organization, district, and squadron.

- *Bilge Pump* <http://hartfordpowersquadron.com/Newsletter/index.html> (7x per year)
- *Squadron Web Site* <http://hartfordpowersquadron.com>
- *Sounds of 1* <http://www.usps.org/d1/soundsof1.htm> (3x per year)
- *District Web Site* <http://www.usps.org/d1/>
- *National Web Page* <http://www.usps.org>

We hope this document has helped you see the benefits of joining the Hartford Power Squadron. We can get you started enjoying all of these benefits. You will start getting our "Bilge Pump" which will list all the activities, meetings, and courses offered in the fall and spring. Look for it and take advantage of some of these benefits!

Annual membership dues are \$82 per year (\$123 for a whole family).

If you have further questions, please email [treasurer@hartfordPowersquadron.com](mailto:treasurer@hartfordPowersquadron.com).

**Hartford Power Squadron  
Invitation to Membership  
18 February 2025**

# United States Power Squadrons Advanced Course Educational Opportunities

## ***Boat Handling (formerly Seamanship (S))***

This is usually the first class you would take following our “America’s Boating Course” (ABC). The course provides more detail on many of the subjects covered in “ABC” including: rules of the road, navigation aids, using your VHF radio, boat handling under adverse conditions, anchoring, additional knots, and additional first aid and safety. If you have just finished “ABC” please try to take this course. It will be offered in Farmington beginning in early October.

## ***Marine Navigation (Formerly Piloting (P))***

The Piloting course is the first in the sequence of USPS courses on navigation, covering the basics of coastal and inland navigation. This all-new course focuses on navigation as it is done on recreational boats today and embraces GPS as a primary navigation tool while covering enough of traditional techniques so the student will be able to find his/her way even if their GPS fails. The course includes: charts and their interpretation, navigation aids and how they point to safe water, plotting courses and determining direction and distance, the mariner’s compass and converting between True and Magnetic, use of GPS – typical GPS displays and information they provide, setting up waypoints and routes, staying on a GPS route, pre-planning safe courses and entering them into the GPS.

## ***Advanced Marine Navigation (Formerly Advanced Piloting (AP))***

This course follows Seamanship (S) and Piloting (P) in the standard sequence of advanced classes. The course includes: review of skills learned in Piloting; advancing a line of position; using electronics such as: radar, depth sounders, autopilots, chart plotters, and laptop computer software; hazard avoidance techniques using electronics (e.g., “keep out” zones in GPS); collision avoidance using radar and GPS; working with tides: clearances, depth, effects of current; and piloting with wind and currents. If you have taken Piloting (P) by all means take this course.

## ***Junior Navigation (JN)***

Junior Navigation is the first in a two-part program of study in offshore navigation, followed by the Navigation course. It is designed as a practical “how to” course. Subject matter includes: precise time determination, use of the Nautical Almanac taking sextant sights of the sun, reducing sights to establish lines of position, special charts and plotting sheets for offshore navigation, and offshore navigational routines for recreational craft.

## ***Navigation (N)***

This course is the final course in the main sequence of advanced courses. You must have passed JN as a prerequisite. It takes the Sun sighting methods learned in JN to the next step of sighting from the moon and stars. It includes chapters on emergency navigation and using software to plan an offshore voyage.

## ***Marine Electrical Systems (MES)***

Marine Electrical Systems (MES) covers the practice of wiring your boat, including boat electrical wiring practices and diagrams, direct and alternating current power, galvanic and stray current corrosion, and lightning protection. Troubleshooting is emphasized throughout, so students should feel comfortable performing even tricky wiring tasks after passing this course.

### ***Marine Communications Systems (MCS)***

Marine Communication Systems (MCS) is an in-depth, nine-chapter review of communications systems available to the recreational boater. Radio history and spectrum definitions are presented along with definitions of radio circuits that the student should learn to choose the best communications method for his/her situation. One chapter is devoted to the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS), and the student kit includes a GMDSS and Marine Radio Boatowner's Guide that explains how the GMDSS works as a maritime "911" and describes the enormous advantages of digital VHF radio for ordinary communications with fellow boaters. The Guide comes with an interactive CD-ROM that shows you how to use a Class-D DSC-equipped VHF radio. Another chapter is devoted to FCC Rules and regulations, and other chapters cover High Seas radio (MF/HF and satellite communications) and other systems such as Family Radio Service transceivers. Finally, there is also a chapter on troubleshooting of radio installations.

### ***Electronic Navigation (ENCE)***

The CPS-ECP Electronic Navigation course is a good introduction to navigation using electronic tools and is suitable for experienced as well as novice boaters with basic charting knowledge. It focuses on navigating with electronic tools, rather than on navigation systems hardware.

### ***Radar for Boaters (RA)***

This course was developed by Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons and is up to date for Radar technologies available now and into the near future. The course covers the different types of Radar equipment, their capabilities and limitations, as well as their features and how they apply to students' needs. It covers what you need to know about Radar, from how and where to mount the antenna to how to interpret the displays, so you can use your Radar for collision avoidance and for navigational purposes.

### ***Engine Maintenance (EM)***

The Engine Maintenance course includes the diagnosis of modern systems, while also teaching the basics of engine layout and operation. Gasoline inboards, outboards, and diesel engines are taught in a way that reinforces the common aspects of how engines work. The EM course covers those repairs that do-it-yourselfers can still perform, teaches how to diagnose problems that might be beyond your ability to fix, and how to share information with your mechanic so the right repairs get performed. The new Engine Maintenance 2007 also covers basic mechanical systems such as drive systems (propellers), steering systems, and engine controls. The last chapter discusses solutions you might use to problems that could occur while afloat and away from a repair facility. Gasoline, diesel, and outboard engines are treated independently in this chapter.

### ***Sail (SA)***

Sail is a complete sail course beginning with basic boat designs, rigging and sail processes for the non-sailor. The course proceeds into the physical aspects of sailing, sail applications, marlinespike, helmsmanship, and handling of more difficult sailing conditions, navigation rules, and an introduction to heavy weather sailing.

### ***Weather (W)***

This is a general weather course that includes topics of particular interest to boaters. There is also a chapter on Professional Forecasting.

### ***Cruise Planning (CP)***

Designed for members who plan to cruise for just a day or for a year--in either a sail or powerboat--this course covers the following topics: Cruise Preparation and Planning, Boat and Equipment, Anchors and Anchoring, Security, Chartering, Cruising Outside the United States, Crew and Provisioning, Voyage Management, Communications, Navigation, Weather, and Emergencies.



# Membership Application



Type of Membership:  Single Active (18+)  Family Active

**Instructions:**

1. The annual dues for a single membership in the Hartford Power Squadron are \$82. You can add the whole family for \$123. It is economical to get full family membership if you want everyone to take courses.
2. Please fill in the "Primary Active Member Information" section for the primary member.
3. Fill in the "Additional Active Family Member(s)" section if you are applying for a Family Membership.
4. Fill in the Personal Skills if you have special expertise that you would like to volunteer to the squadron.
5. Fill in the Boating section if you would like us to have a record of your boat.
6. Sign and date the form.
7. Send the form and your check for membership (made to "HPS") to: Cliff McKibbin, 44 Copplestone Rd, Avon, CT 06001.

**Primary Active Member Information** (Please print)

Name (First, Middle, Last)		DOB (MM/DD/YY)	
Mailing Address		Sex (M/F)	
City, State, Zip			
Home Phone	Cell Phone	Work Phone	
Email Address		Have you ever been a member of USPS/ABC? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Spouse Name		SeaScout? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
<b>Personal Skills willing to share</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting/Finance <input type="checkbox"/> Photography <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking/Public Relations <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising/Marketing Skills <input type="checkbox"/> Printing/Publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Religion <input type="checkbox"/> Art/Drawing/Drafting <input type="checkbox"/> Government/Military <input type="checkbox"/> Medicine/Nursing <input type="checkbox"/> Computers/Audio Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/Transportation Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Management/Personnel/Purchasing <input type="checkbox"/> Education/Instruction/Administration <input type="checkbox"/> Law <input type="checkbox"/> Writing/Editing/Grant Writing			
Do you own a boat? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <i>Being a boat owner is not a requirement of USPS membership, but if you have a boat, we would love to know more about it.</i>	Boat Length ____Ft ____In	Boat Name	Boat Type <input type="checkbox"/> Power <input type="checkbox"/> Sail <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

**Additional Active Family Member(s)** (Primary and Others must live in the same household)

Name	DOB (MM/DD/YY)	Sex (M/F)

**Volunteer areas:** Areas where I/we will help the squadron succeed (Please check all that apply)

- Hospitality       Membership       Education       Communications       Photography  
 Newsletter       Public Relations       Community Service       Programs for Youth       Boating Activities  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Referred by \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_