

## THE COMPASS

### How to live the “Proposition Marine” in a group

“The creation of a seascout group or unit is always a problem: equipment, diplomas etc...”

If you agree in a way with this statement, then this tool is for you. It has been designed to demonstrate that there is no problem but only solutions!

#### WHAT A MARINE GROUP?

The French Seascout groups are not a sailing schools within the movement. The “Scouts et Guides de France Marins” are firstly “scouts et guides” who live the projects they have chosen ...

The “Proposition Marine” is just a way of living Seascoutism, chosen by each unit willing to stress on maritime environment and on learning navigation as a mean of activity. For these units, the nautical practice is a tool used for self-fulfilment of each young people. They acquire skills and take responsibilities (crew leader for example).

Consequently, Seascout groups have the same structure as " classical " ones, and the units will apply the same pedagogy as in “classical” units. The Seascout specificities will be revealed only by the kind of activities, projects and personal progression.

#### HOW TO OPEN A SEASCOUT GROUP?

Attention ! The creation of a Seascout group or unit can not be made by a single person ... It is a project hold by a whole “territorial team”, liaised with the Seascout National Team (in French: E.N.M.: Equipe Nationale Marin).

Do not put the cart before the horse: to open a seascout group, it is necessary to open at first a group of “Scouts et Guides”! Of course, it is also necessary to choose the right place, with preferably water in the surroundings (river, lake, sea).

Then it is advised to establish ties with local authority, local church and other local networks in order to build a strong team including group leaders and scout leaders (driving forces) ... Once ready, the next step is to start enrolling young people and introducing seascout activities.

It is not required to open your group in September (in particular for the groups around the Channel or the Atlantic Ocean). Usually, nautical activities begin only in Easter, so you can very well start the activities in March-April or on the summer camp.

## **THE GROUP IS NOW OPENED, WHICH ACTIVITIES...**

The activities done by the “Scouts et Guide” are driven by the project of the young people; consequently, a seascout group is not forced to navigate or to follow this as a compulsory program ... However, we can say that a scout group is actually a Seascout group when it offers activities or projects for each branch in these four areas:

**Up North:  
Navigation**

**West:  
Social open-mindedness,  
Meetings, Service**



**East:  
Environment  
Sea, Ocean or river**

**South:  
Science and Technique.**

Concretely, you will find ideas of activities in the document "Activities by branch", which also summarizes the global vision for each seascout branch.

Please keep in mind:

- Seascouting is firstly scouting! · the acquired skills will never be lost but not everybody is meant to become a winner of a solo world-around race. Thus even if there is a need to bring young sailors to get diplomas, it is important that youngsters not interested by sailing technical aspects do not feel in failure;
- Means used for navigation are not necessarily property of the group, sailing school equipments can also be used, or boats of another association of the same city or finally with another seascout of “scouts et guides” (in particular for camps);
- the practice of nautical activities involve respect for tight regulations, tighter than for land groups.

Once the activities are launched, once the group runs, it is important to set up:

- a representative " Research for fundings " so that the practice of the nautical activities and trainings of leaders do not put pressure on families;
- a nautical experienced person, in charge to complete the action of the group leader. It is a teacher who has some experience in sail, and who will accompany the leaders in their training. It is also a link with the Seascout National Team to report equipment or regulation matters;
- a partnership with the local sailing school because it useless (in a first phase) to buy boats while there are some around ... Besides, it will allow the group to start nautical activities even if the leaders are not trained yet.

## **ONCE ACTIVITIES ARE LAUNCHED, WHAT PEDAGOGY?**

As written above, the pedagogy to be used is the one of all “scout et guides”, the marine dimension being integrated into branch tool kits ... Thus not necessary to reinvent the powder, just have the leaders implementing the branch pedagogies and going to training course. Do not hesitate to contact educational guides to help you setting up the branch pedagogy.

## WHAT TRAINING COURSES FOR THE LEADERS?

### · DIPLOMAS REQUIRED FOR THE NAUTICAL ACTIVITIES

These diplomas are necessary if the unity(unit) navigate in "autonomy", (no sailing school partnership with sailing teachers, because in such case, the leader just leads the group without being responsible for nautical activity) ... Thus, in a starting phase, these diplomas are not yet needed. Later, yes.

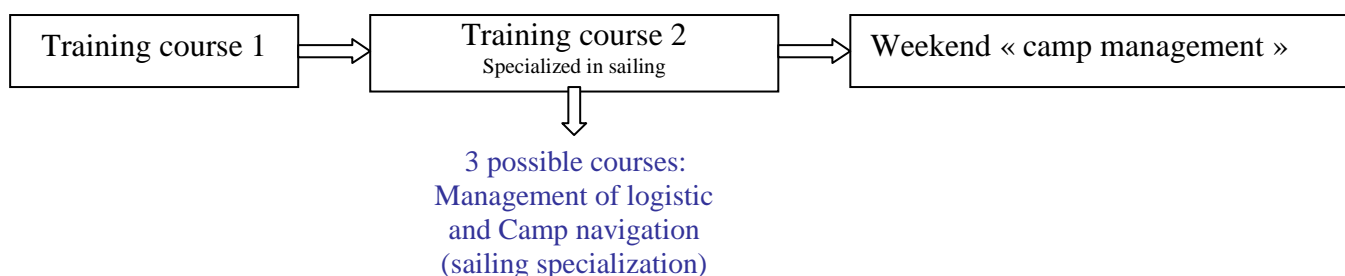
UNIT	TYPE OF NAVIGATION	NAVIGATION OF BOATS	OFFICIAL TITLE AWARDS	REQUIRED DIPLOMA
8-11 years old	Discovery from the point of view of water of the sailing school or on river.	Up to 10 optimists or 4 collective dinghies	Light sail in bounded area max. 2 miles of coast shelter	1 "BAFA qualification Voile" OR 1 "Chef de Quart »
11-14 years old	Water games not too far from coasts	Up to 4 collective dinghies with 1 security boat	Light sail in bounded area max. 2 miles of coast shelter	1 « BAFA qualification Voile OR 1 "Chef de Quart »
	Jumps from an island to another one in the "gulf of Morbihan".	Up to 4 collective drifters with security boat	Nautical ride out of bounded area. Max . 2 miles of a shelter.	1 "BAFA qualification Voile" OR 1 "Chef de Quart » + 1 crew leader by boat.
14-17 years old	games or regatta near coast	Up to 4 yachts	Light sail in bounded area Max. 2 miles of a shelter.	1 « BAFA qualification Voile OR 1 "Chef de Quart »
	Coastal cruise during camps.	Up to 4 yachts.	Coastal cruise out of bounded area. Max. 6 miles of a shelter.	1 "Patron de Flotille » + 1 "Patron d'Embarcation" by boat
17-20 years old	coastal Cruise in autonomy	1 yacht	coastal Cruise out of bounded area Max. 6 miles of a shelter.	1 "Chef de Quart » OR 1 "Patron d'Embarcation" under the supervision of 1 "Patron de Flotille » onshore.

### · THE TRAINING PROGRAM PROPOSED TO LEADERS

The ideal it is even to have different type of leaders:

- a good nautical teacher,
- a leader of camp,
- a technician (who repairs the engine),
- an animative " high-octane gasoline ".

Leader training is the one of all "scouts et guides" leaders :



## THE TECHNICAL DIPLOMAS Proposed to seascout leaders and youngsters:

### . "Patron d'embarcation"

- Condition: from 16 years.
- Theory: idem as official offshore patent for powered boat.
- Practical: laborers: same as coastal official licence for powered boat, but with sails.

### . "Chef de quart"

- Conditions: - from 18 years. - it is a matter of knowing how to manage a fleet in light sail. - it is necessary to be already a holder of the patent "Patron d'embarcation" to cross(spend) this diploma in the form of continuous evaluation during three days.

**Chef de Quart = Patron d'Embarcation + « BAFA qualification Voile »**

### . "Chef de flottille"

- Conditions: - from 19 years. - it is a question of knowing how to manage a fleet of cruisers in coastal cruise. - it is necessary to be already a holder of the patent " **Patron d'embarcation** " and the exam is an oral examination in front of a jury, of a virtual nautical camp and a practical test on yacht.

**Chef de Flottille = Chef de Quart + BAFA qualification Voile + Experience**

**All these diplomas are recognized by the Ministry of Sport.**

## THE ADMINISTRATIVE FORMALITIES BOUND TO the FACT OF BEING SAILORS?

. At the time of registrations: · think of mentioning well to the service members that the group is seascout group, and think of verifying that the young people are registered with the code M (130M for a marine pioneer) for the navigation, the marine visa ...

The marine visa is a tool which allows the "Commission Marine" of Seascout National to authorize the navigation by verifying the validity of diplomas and regulation constraints. This visa is recognized by the maritime Authorities and the Ministry of Sport and allows the sailing unities to navigate. Besides, in case of accident, it allows the association to be coherent in its reaction because the navigations are declared.

· For the activities of year, the visa is to be filled at the beginning of the year and is valid for a zone of navigation given during all year. · For the camp, every camp leader declares his navigation - by mean of the visa - one month before camp start so that the camp can be authorized.

## THE SEASCOUT PATENT

You read all document and started the adventure as a new seascout group...

Then you should do not need nothing more to be patented "seascout" to benefit from advantages of the seascouts and be recognized within the association!

You will find Patent criteria of labellisation in the document called: " Labellisation of the groups".

L'Équipe nationale Marins  
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