Skills Card

Avoiding obstacles in the water in daylight

Brought to you by the Scout Team in conjunction with the Sea Scout Team

SEA SCOUTING

1 Check local charts for obstacles

- There may be rocks, wrecks or any number of obstacles that could cause you difficulty.
- Know the symbols for common obstacles

2 Watch for Cardinal Marks

- A cardinal mark is a sea mark (often a buoy) used to indicate the position of a hazard and the direction of safe water.
- Cardinal marks indicate the direction of safety as a cardinal (compass) direction (north, east, south or west) relative to the mark.

Safe passage North of this mark (arrows point up)

Safe passage South of this mark (arrows point down)

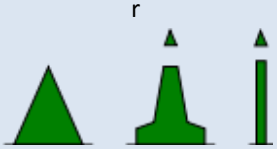
Safe passage East of this mark (arrows point away)

Safe passage West of this mark (arrows point together)

3 Know your other marks

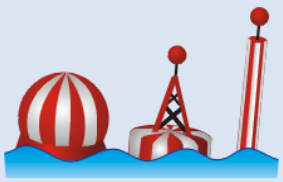
Pass this mark to your port side (when heading into harbour)

Pass this mark to your starboard side (when heading into harbour)



Isolated Danger

Open, deep, safe water ahead



4 Stay vigilant!

- You and your crew should always be attentive to any unexpected obstacles. They can cause injury, damage equipment and often mean having to call the rescue services.