

## STEERSPERSON EXAMINATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Red text is reference to where the question/answer can be found.

1. You should stay to the \_\_\_\_\_ hand side when moving into or out of a practice area such as when moving up or down any channel or leaving the beach or dock. Adopt a \_\_\_\_\_ route around your designated dragon boat practice area. # 9 of page 6  
  
Right or left side  
Clock-wise or counter clock-wise
2. Each boat requires at least how many bailers? #8 of "Prior to leaving the beach" on page 7
3. Which of the following is NOT a method to make a left turn? Page 19
  - a) From neutral position, pull the "t-handle" towards yourself. Move right foot to the left side to get better leverage.
  - b) From neutral position, push the "t-handle" out. Move right foot to the right side as much as possible to push to that side.
  - c) From neutral position, rotate the top part of the "t-handle" away (counter-clockwise) from yourself.
  - d) With the right hand on the "t-handle" and the thumb at the top, rotate the thumb counter-clockwise.
4. As the steersperson, you must ensure: #5 of "Prior to leaving the beach" on page 7
  - a) That only the captain of the boat is required to learn docking and loading/unloading procedures when the boat is docked or beached at the shore.
  - b) All the team members have learned docking and loading/unloading procedures when the boat is docked or beached at the shore.
  - c) 50% of the team members have learned docking and loading/unloading procedures when the boat is docked or beached at the shore.
  - d) Only the steersperson has to know the docking and loading/unloading procedures when the boat is docked or beached at the shore.
  - e) All of the above.
5. Which of the following may you assume as the steersperson: first 10 bullets of page 8

06/01/2019

- a) All of your crew members know how to swim.
  - b) All of your crew members know the buddy system.
  - c) Others on the water know what they are doing.
  - d) Both a) and b).
  - e) None of the above,
6. In what order shall boats be loaded? Back to front or front to back? **Last bullet of page 8**
- Back to front OR front to back
7. Use of the paddles or steering oar to push off the dock or beach is allowable? **Bullet #4 of page 9**
- True or False
8. After the drummer exits the boat upon returning to shore, explain the exit procedures for the remainder of the dragon boat members: **Bullet #5 of "When Returning to Shore" on page 9**
9. How many practice sessions (minimum) of steering experience with a full boat of paddlers are needed to become certified? **Second bullet of page 11**
10. Which of the following safety violations will result in the loss of HDBA-certified accreditation?  
**Second paragraph, page 11**
- a) Allowing anyone on the boat without properly wearing an approved PFD.
  - b) Not properly displaying his/her assigned Certified Steersperson Badge or Apparel, when applicable.
  - c) Failing to check your boat when approaching the beach.
  - d) Steering on the wrong side of center channel/mid-channel buoys.
  - e) All of the above.
11. Facing the front, what position shall the "T-Handle" be rotated to for the neutral position? **#1 of "Neutral Position" on page 17.**
12. If the boat is moving forward, what is the command to stop the boat? **#1 of Lesson 4 on page 20**

13. In high side wind, where should the heavier paddlers be to help reduce crabbing sideways?  
Bullet #6 of "Tips" on page 10

14. Name the three steering methods. Second paragraph on page 19

15. The right "pressure" foot is placed on the \_\_\_\_\_ side you are trying to turn the boat. #7 of "Key Points" on page 20.

Same side or opposite side

16. Which of the following safety rules are you NOT responsible for while on the water? SAFETY FIRST! Section on page 6

- a) Approaching anchored boats closely is acceptable as long as you are careful. They are anchored and not moving.
- b) Have your drummer or one of the stroke paddlers keep a lookout for approaching traffic as you are coming around the corner of a dock with limited visibility.
- c) Always check over your shoulder to see that your course is clear before you turn or change to a new course heading.
- d) When you are overtaking another boat stay well clear of the boat you are overtaking.
- e) Be prepared to call out "hold water" or "check the boat" or "hold the boat".
- f) All of the above.

17. Which procedure will not be a part of the on-the-water portion of the steering test to become a certified steersperson in Hawaii? First section of page 11

- a) Having everyone paddle away from the dock or from the shoreline and keeping a straight line at full boat power
- b) Backing into a dock and beach/shore (taking no longer than 2 minutes)
- c) Keeping the boat straight for 30 seconds while having someone on dock hold the tail of the boat
- d) A planned capsize of the boat while far from shore and performing safety procedures

18. Figure 8 maneuvers are considered a sign of bad steering and a good steersperson does not need to know how to perform it. 4<sup>th</sup> bullet of "Physical Skills" on page 9

True or False

19. What position should you be in while steering? 1<sup>st</sup> bullet of "Tips" on page 10

- a) Squatting

06/01/2019

- b) Sitting
- c) Standing
- d) Anything that makes you comfortable

20. Steering barefoot is okay. No flip flops or slipper type shoes are allowed to be worn. **Last bullet of "Tips" on page 10**

True or false

21. What is the best way to handle an oncoming boat wake? **Page 21 Lesson 5 #4**

22. What is the procedure if the boat capsizes? **Page 29**

23. During a race, if a referee calls out to you to "hold the boat" or "check the boat" or "hold water", what should you do? **2<sup>nd</sup> bullet point on Page 24**

- a) Keep the boat moving until you confirm the referee is talking to you.
- b) Stop the boat immediately without delay and do not question why.
- c) Stop steering and let the boat drift.
- d) Slow down the boat and wait for further direction.
- e) All of the above.
- f) None of the above.

24. When heading towards the start line to get ready for a race, how far after the start line should you turn to allow for wide turns and avoid having your team have to back up to the start line? **Page 24 #3**

25. If you miss the flag in a race, you may stop, turn, or reverse the boat in order for the flag catcher to grab the flag. **Page 25 #15**

True or false

06/01/2019

26. Dragon boat should always keep to which side of the buoy line? [1<sup>st</sup> bullet on Page 26](#)

Right side or left side

27. After turning a capsized boat back over, what should be done if a safety boat is not present?

[Page 29](#)

- a) Everyone jump back on the boat and paddle back to shore.
- b) Everyone jump back on the boat and bail the water out as quickly as possible.
- c) Get only 2 or 3 light paddlers back on the boat to start bailing out water, while everyone else holds the boat stable until the boat rises.
- d) Everyone swim back to shore and leave the dragon boat for the safety boat to arrive.
- e) All of the above.
- f) None of the above.

28. What does “paddles up” mean? [Glossary Page 1](#)

29. When you hear the starter referee call out “All Boats Hold”, what is going on? [Glossary Page 2](#)

30. What does it mean to “draw”? [Glossary Page 2](#)

31. What does it mean to “push” or “pry”? [Glossary Page 2](#)

32. If you want all of your paddlers to stop paddling and rest the paddles on their laps, what do you say? [Glossary Page 2](#)

33. How do you brace the boat? [Glossary Page 2](#)

34. What is a PFD? [Glossary Page 5](#)

35. What does "Sit Ready" mean? [Glossary Page 1](#)

36. If you see 2 triangular pennants, what does it signify about the weather? [Pages 27-28](#)

- a) This is a small craft warning. Winds are predicted to be up to 33 knots (38 mph).
- b) Winds are predicted to be between 34 and 47 knots (or 39 to 54 mph).
- c) Winds are 48 knots (55 mph) or more.
- d) A tropical hurricane is coming and expect winds exceeding 64 knots (74 mph).

37. As steersperson, what is your first priority? [Page 21](#)

- a) Making sure your team wins.
- b) Accommodating the needs of all of your paddlers.
- c) Keeping an eye on the paddlers to make sure they are in sync.
- d) Safety is always the first priority.

38. During a race, when one boat is in a position to overtake another boat, it is the duty of the boat overtaking to keep clear of the boat being overtaken at all times. [Pages 23-24](#)

True or false

39. If there is a risk of collision because you or another boat is off course or for any other reason, what should you do? [1<sup>st</sup> bullet on Page 24](#)

- a) Call out "Hold the Boat", "Hold Water" or "Check the Boat" to tell all your paddlers to stop the boat immediately.
- b) Try to turn the boat away from the other boat.
- c) Keep going if it is not your fault. The other boat should avoid you.
- d) Yell at the other boat to tell them to get out of the way.
- e) All of the above.
- f) None of the above.

40. What is a good way to keep your boat straight during a race? [Page 24 #2 under Tips](#)

41. What is the responsibility of the Sweep, Team Captain and Captain of the Boat when the team enters/exits the boat for each race?
- a) To review safety first precautions and make sure that every person paddling has signed the waiver form prior to the first race of the day and submit any changes if necessary.
  - b) To make sure every person is wearing the PFD correctly, including getting a larger size PFD if one is required for a large size paddler and keeping the regular size PFD in the boat and returning the large size PFD back to the race officials tent after the race.
  - c) To make sure no one enters/exits the boat from the side of the boat, except with the approval from the race officials.
  - d) To make sure no paddler places their paddle in the water to help push the boat off the beach.
  - e) All of the above.
  - f) None of the above.
42. When the boat is (docked) at the beach, when should you place the steering oar in the U-bolt and in the water?
- a) As soon as you are in the boat, you are in the standing position, and everyone is ready to go wearing their PFD.
  - b) As soon as you are ready to go, the team is seated, wearing their PFD and paddles in the water.
  - c) As soon as possible, the boat is loaded, the team is wearing their PFD, paddles in the water to help reverse the boat and the boat is pushed off the beach.
  - d) As soon as the boat is pushed (reversed back) in the water, there is sufficient space where the steering oar will not touch the bottom of the ocean floor and the front of the boat is turned towards the race course (ocean) and the boat attendants have given you command of the boat.
43. When should you bring your boat to the start line?
- a) When the race officials call your boat to the start line or toots the horn to come to the start line.
  - b) When the team captain on the boat says the team is warmed up and ready to go, and wait for the signal from the race officials calls your boat to the start line.
  - c) When the last boat in the heat has entered the race course, everyone heads to the start line, regardless if the race officials calls all the boats to come to the start line.
  - d) When all the boats have had an opportunity to warm up, all the boats are on the water and

06/01/2019

- are lined up together and the race officials calls your boat to the start line.
- e) All of the above.
  - f) None of the above.
44. When will the race officials start the race?
- a) When all the boats are on the water, at the start line and no boat has a clear advantage or ideally no moving start.
  - b) When at least two (2) boats are within 25' of the starting line, boats are holding water and no boat has a clear advantage or ideally no moving start.
  - c) When the last boat catches up with the front two (2) boats, boats are holding water and no boat has a clear advantage or ideally no moving start.
  - d) When all the boats in the race are moving/drifted together within 25' of the starting line, boats are holding water and no boat has a clear advantage or ideally no moving start.
45. Where should your boat be at the start of the race and what is the width of your lane?
- a) Right side of the start flag and approx 25' to the right of the start line and end line flag.
  - b) Left side of the start flag and approx 25' to the left of the start line and end line flag.
  - c) Right side of the start flag and approx 20' on either side of the start line and end line flag.
  - d) Left side of the start flag and approx 20' on either side of the start line and end line flag.
  - e) Right side of the start flag and approx 15' on either side of the start and end line flag.
46. Who has the right-of-way if a boat crosses into your lane and what do you do in event of a collision?
- a) Safety first! The other boat has the right-of-way, yell out to your team to stop paddling or "hold water", yell out to the other boat that they are in your lane, yell out to your team to prepare for a collision and possible capsize, prepare to keep the boats separate using your hands, not the paddles, and instruct several paddlers to raise their paddles to indicate a protest is forthcoming,
  - b) Safety first! You have the right-of-way, continue paddling forward, yell at the other boat that they are in your lane and they are to stop paddling or "hold water", "check the boat" or similar command and get out of the way, yell out to your team to be prepared for the collision and possible capsize, prepare to use the paddles to separate the boat and instruct several paddlers to raise their paddles to indicate a protest is forthcoming.
  - c) Safety first! You have the right-of-way, yell out to your team to continue paddling, yell out to your team to prepare for the collision and possible capsize, prepare to use your hands to keep the boat separated and instruct several paddlers to raise their paddles to indicate a protest is forthcoming.
  - d) Safety first! The other boat has the right-of-way, call out "hold water", everyone on your boat yells "hold water", call to the other sweep to return to their designated lane, yell out to your team to be prepared for a collision and be prepared to capsize, stop paddling, prepare to keep the boats separated using your hands, not the paddles and instruct several paddlers



- to raise their paddles to indicate a protest is forthcoming.
- e) None of the above.

47. At the end of the race, what does the steersperson and captain of the boat do?

- a) Remind the flag puller/catcher to drop the flag into the water after flag puller/catcher has shown control of the flag for at least 3 seconds.
- b) Look and listen for any instructions to stop and wait on the water and/or to proceed to the beach from the race officials or boat attendants on the beach to determine if the beach is clear for docking/landing.
- c) If there is no instruction to wait and the beach is clear, then bring the boat quickly to the beach and dock the boat on the designated buoys or tires.
- d) Remove the steering oar from the U-boat and place the steering oar inside the boat.
- e) All of the above.

48. When may a team protest?

- a) During the race by raising their paddles, continue paddling if possible, the team captain to file the protest with the race official immediately after the race, be prepared to pay a fee and respect the final decision of the race officials.
- b) Immediately after the race by the team captain and/or captain of the boat to the race officials, be prepared to pay a fee and respect the final decision of the race officials.
- c) All of the above.
- d) None of the above.

49. When may a team be disqualified; before, during or after the race?

- a) Do NOT attend the required meetings. Unless excused, Team Captain, Captain of the Boat, Steering sweep or representative does not attend the required meetings.
- b) Arrive late! If you hear last call from the race officials, then you are late and the team is NOT at the start line/beach and ready to load the boat. Team must be ready to load the boat at least 10 min before their race heat.
- c) Not following Safety first!
- d) Too many persons on the boat.
- e) A running/rolling start that creates a possible advantage to the team.
- f) Any person, other than the flag puller/catcher touches the flag.
- g) Poor sportsmanship. Leave the competition on the water. Once the race ends, dragon boat paddlers are one community; comprised of family and friends and supporters of all water/ocean-related activities.
- h) Team not listening and abiding by the race officials instructions.
- i) Not wearing PFD correctly.
- j) Jumping or falling off the dragon boat, including near the beach or while the boat is docked/beached.
- k) Not respecting and taking care of the dragon boat equipment: head of the dragon, tail of the

06/01/2019

- dragon, drum, steering oar, steering arm, PFD, paddles, etc.
- l) Using an unapproved/uncertified HDBA steersperson.
  - m) Not placing the PFD at the boat of the boat when exiting the boat and not placing the paddles in the middle and perpendicular to the seat.
  - n) Colliding with another boat or crossing into another lane.
  - o) Using paddles to separate the boats.
  - p) Using the paddles to hit a paddler in another boat; intentionally or unintentionally.
  - q) Allowing the steering sweep or paddle to touch the bottom of the ocean floor.
  - r) Team Captain and Captain of the Boat does NOT take the required exam and does NOT submit their exam scores at least one week prior to the race day (75% passing - honor system).
  - s) All of the above. Paddles up!
50. What instruction does the steering sweep, team captain and/or captain of the boat convey to the team?
- a) Attend the required meetings. Unless excused, Team Captain, Captain of the Boat, Steering sweep or representative attends all of the required meetings.
  - b) Be on time for practices and park in the designated parking areas with your team name and mobile number placed in the driver dashboard.
  - c) Be on time at the start line. Do not wait for the race official to say last call. If you hear it, then you are late. Be at the start line/beach and ready to load the boat 10 min before your race.
  - d) Safety first! Always safety first to the team, to the other teams and to everyone else!
  - e) Review capsized procedures.
  - f) Remove the PFD and place it neatly at the front of the boat.
  - g) Place paddles on the seats in the middle of the boat and perpendicular to the seats.
  - h) Make sure all equipment is accounted for: PFDs, drum, drumstick(s), paddles, bailers.
  - i) Exit/enter the boat correctly.
  - j) Return any oversized PFD to the race official tent.
  - k) Be prepared and available to assist the race officials to move the boat, steady the boat, hold the boat, carry the boat, clean the boat, etc.
  - l) Help clean the boats and equipment at the end of the last race.
  - m) Bring refreshments to the race officials and boat attendants.
  - n) Congratulate the other teams on a race well done. Safety first!
  - o) Good sportsmanship. Leave the competition on the water and develop friendships on the beach. Once the race ends, dragon boat paddlers are one community; comprised of family and friends and supporters of all water/ocean-related activities.
  - p) Have fun and be respectful.
  - q) Encourage and help increase the Dragon Boat participation and support; volunteer, financial and grass roots invitation!
  - r) A loud and appreciative "mahalo" to the race officials and volunteers.
  - s) All of the above. Paddles up!