



## Marine Teachers' Association of New South Wales Inc

Menai High School, 40 Gerald Rd, Illawong, NSW, 2234

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Transport  
for NSW

### The Boat Smart Program

The Boat Smart Program was initiated in 2009. With the aid of Government grants in partnership with the Boating Industry Association, 5 Boat Smart Hubs were established. Each Safe Boating Hub is equipped with a training vessel (5 seat), training dinghies, motors and safety equipment.

Each Hub is located at a facility, such as a local yacht club, to provide a ramp and classroom and cater for surrounding MTANSW member schools.

The MTANSW has an RTP Agreement to provide a Safe Boating Course that can lead to students obtaining a General Boat Licence. The agreement states that a student who completes all aspects of the course and receives the required documentation (signed and stamped certificate of completion) can apply for a boat licence, free of charge for the first year only. The course consists of a Practical Safe Boating training day and completion of the written Boating Licence examination.

Each Hub Co-ordinator is responsible for the boats and other equipment as well as running the written Boat Licence exam. Our current partnership agreement with Transport for NSW and the Centre for Maritime Safety allows the MTANSW to provide safe boating courses at a heavily subsidised rate (see booking forms).

Any MTANSW member school who wishes to book a Boat Smart Practical day must complete an enquiry form (which can be found on the MTANSW website) and email it to the Hub Co-ordinator in their appropriate area. The co-ordinator will then make contact to arrange a date, which may be subject to availability. Practical 'Safe Boating' days are restricted to a maximum of 20 students and there are certain requirements to be eligible for this program (see enquiry form).

Schools applying to participate in a Practical 'Safe Boating' day must be studying the Small Boat Handling topic in the Stage 5 or 6 Marine Syllabus which means students will have some basic boating knowledge prior.

Please keep in mind this is a teaching day for all our co-ordinators and you will be required to assist as a teacher yourself. This also means our Boat Smart days per term are limited to the time each co-ordinator can be released from their normal school commitments. Training days will also be limited by weather conditions on the chosen day.

#### **Boat Hub Coordinator Contact Details**

Ballina	Mick O'Connor	<a href="mailto:michaeloconnor@onthenet.com.au">michaeloconnor@onthenet.com.au</a>
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