



Marina Aquatic Center

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Windsurfing Skills Evaluation Procedures

The UCLA Marina Aquatic Center is primarily an instructional facility so most of our windsurf sailors have learned to windsurf on our Hifly and Bic windsurfers by taking our classes. This enables us to be sure that everyone windsurfing on our windsurfers in Marina Del Rey and designated off site locations is able to safely operate the windsurfer in the conditions they are likely to find there. If you have prior windsurfing experience and would like to be able to sail at the UCLA Marina Aquatic Center or designated off site locations then here is what you need to do to test out of our windsurfing classes.

Qualification Levels

Qualification Level	Equipment	MAX Wind	Sailing Area
Windsurfing I & II	Hifly 335 & Gastra Sails	4 - 8 knots	D-Basin, Entrance and Main Channel, Inside Bay at Alamitos in Long Beach
Windsurfing III	Bic Techno 293 or Equivalent Board Neil Pryde RAF sails or Equivalent Sails	8 - 12 knots	Entrance and Main Channel, Inside Bay at Alamitos in Long Beach, Lake Lopez, Inside Beach at Cabrillo Beach
Windsurfing IV	Bic Techno 283 or Equivalent Board Neil Pryde RAF sails or Equivalent Sails	10 - 15 knots	Entrance and Main Channel, Inside Bay at Alamitos in Long Beach, Lake Lopez, Inside Beach at Cabrillo Beach, Lake Isabella
Windsurfing V	Bic Techno 283 or Equivalent Board Bic Techno 273 or Equivalent Board Neil Pryde RAF sails or Equivalent Sails	15 - 20 knots	Entrance and Main Channel, Inside Bay at Alamitos in Long Beach, Lake Lopez, Inside Beach at Cabrillo Beach, Lake Isabella, Outside Beach at Cabrillo Beach

‡ Under No Circumstances may UCLA Equipment be sailed in other sailing areas regardless of the qualification of the sailor.

The testout for each qualification level will include testing on both theoretical knowledge and practical skills. Each level's skills and knowledge build upon the skills and knowledge learned in previous classes.



Theoretical Knowledge-

Pass the appropriate level written exam of general windsurfing theory and terminology including Navigation Rules. A score of 80% or higher is passing. All lower level exams must be taken and passed before moving on to the higher levels. There are many good books to review basic sailing theory and terminology. We also have an in-house manual that has information specific to the UCLA Marina Aquatic Center and its vessels. You can purchase this from the Dockmaster for a nominal fee.

Practical Skills -

To test out of each level of sailing classes you will need to demonstrate proficiency in sailing the vessel at the appropriate qualification level. At a minimum the practical exam will include:

Rigging/De-rigging -	Rig, de-rig, carrying and storing the windsurfer.
Launching/Docking -	Safely launch and dock the windsurfer off a dock or beach shoreline. Demonstrate awareness of wind direction and local traffic patterns. Our dock is generally a lee shore.
Tack & Gybe -	Tack & gybe effectively in the wind conditions. Stay and beat up wind on command.
Sail Trim -	Demonstrate appropriate sail trim for the current conditions and for any given point of sail.
General Seamanship -	At the instructor's discretion you may be asked to demonstrate any skills deemed appropriate for the level being tested out. This may include additional practical skills, knots, answering general knowledge sailing questions as well as judgment based scenarios.

The practical exam is just that, an exam. Either you are able to perform the required skills and answer the questions or you are not. It is not a lesson. The instructor will only teach you about local knowledge and the MAC's policies and procedures. A Skills Evaluation and Orientation Session will take two and a half hours including rigging and de-rigging. Allow additional time for the written exam. You must take the written exam(s) prior to the practical skills portion. Taking the written exams is free. The dockmaster may give you the written exam during regular business hours but it is best to call in advance to make sure they will be able to do so (weekends are generally very busy). Call the MAC to schedule a Skills Evaluation and Orientation.

When taking a practical exam you will be asked to pay a fee for the test out. You should bring a change of clothes. PFDs are available at the MAC. Wetsuits are available for rent.