



PADSTOW HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

HARBOUR OFFICE

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Padstow Harbour Commissioners Statement

Towing Inflatables

Very recently we have experienced two incidents which have resulted in a towing vessel being capsized whilst towing an inflatable.

As a result, we have consulted with stakeholders and governing bodies to identify suitable mitigation to reduce the risk of capsizing a vessel whilst towing, to as low as reasonably practicable.

Anyone who chooses to tow inflatables, it is recommended that they are towed by a bridle attached to the D Rings on the transom of your vessel. Please refrain from towing inflatables from wakeboard/ski towers or high ski poles.

Please also check with your insurance companies that the necessary towing insurance covers towing inflatables.

Below provides a link to the British Water Ski and wakeboard guidance on the use of towed inflatables:

<https://www.bsw.org.uk/resources/bsw-guidance-on-the-use-of-towed-inflatables/>

BWSW also offer an additional module which covers driving with inflatables, including safety rules, and signals and any important considerations when driving, and is included on their website:

<https://www.bsw.org.uk/coaching-and-qualifications/driving/sbd-3/>

Stay Safe.

Bryn Phillips
Harbour Master