**Life Raft Carrying Drill** *as applicable*

* Have two students pick up life raft using proper carrying techniques
* Carry life raft for at least 20 feet
* Perform until all students carry the life raft
* Ensure mooring line is protected from being pulled

**Distribute Life Vest packages to students**

* Open life vest package
* Don life vests

**Discuss features of Life Vests**

* Single/double buoyancy (top tube and bottom tube) *as applicable*
* Water activated locator light – location. Not as bright as a flashlight. Local area only
* Battery for locator light, how it works
* Tab(s) to tighten the vest around your waist
* Red inflation tab(s)
* Manual inflation tube(s)
* Notice the graphics on the vest, they are upside down. Why is that?
  + intentionally, so user can follow instructions when wearing the vest
* Identify cartridge
* Unscrew cartridge
* Look inside unit and pull down the red inflation tab
  + visually see the pin protruding upward; this is how it inflates
* Have everyone reset the pin inflation mechanism
* Tighten cartridge back into the unit
* Inflate the life vest

**Life Raft deployment and inflation (designed for pool activity; adjust if done in a classroom):**

* Tie mooring line or use dog leash clasp on the side of the pool or use pool entry stairs railing, if available
* Have one student act as the crew member and brief two APBs
* Instruct the crewmember to inform the ABP's to jump into the pool and the crew member will inflate the raft.
* Once the life raft is fully inflated, instruct the crew member to brief the ABP's to inflate their life vest, jump into pool and swim to raft
* ABPs must swim to the raft and get themselves in
* Once students have begun to jump into the pool and swim to the raft, ensure ABPs are commanding all “passengers” to follow the seaworthiness techniques for the life raft

**Discuss features of the raft**

* Placards/markings around outside of life raft
* Have students identify all markings of the equipment
* Have someone explain the purpose of the center floor support

**As students enter the life raft, ensure all seaworthiness techniques are followed**

* Distribution of weight
* Deployment of sea anchor
* Inflation of center floor support
* Identify location of survival kit & bring it into the raft
* Have raft commander (flight attendant) distribute contents of survival kit
  + The student must state the name of the survival kit equipment piece they are holding and explain its purpose and how to operate it
* Distribute all canopy support rods
  + Ask students what is the best way to install the canopy support rods and why?
  + Answer: slide canopy rod through the grommet from within the life raft and up. This prevents loss of the canopy rod in case it slips out of the person’s hands. The canopy rod will fall into the life raft instead of overboard. Canopy rods do not float.
* Prepare to attach canopy
  + Ask: what is the appropriate way to raise the canopy for installation?
    - Answer: keep the canopy low within the raft and unfolded it. When ready to begin installation of the canopy, it must begin starting on the upwind side first, working towards the downwind side.
  + Ask: why is it important to begin installing the canopy on the upwind side, and not downwind or any other side?
    - Answer: installing the canopy on the upwind side allows for better control of the canopy. If the wind should grab the canopy out of a person’s hands, that portion will still be within the life raft. If the canopy is pulled from a person’s hands from the downwind side, part of the canopy would likely end up in the water. When the canopy becomes soaked, it will not be as effective at keeping everyone dry. Additionally, if it was a strong wind and it pulls the canopy from everyone’s hands, you run the risk of losing the canopy into the water.
* Erect the canopy
  + Ask: what you need to do first before directing the canopy?
    - Answer: align the canopy boarding window with the boarding station
  + Observe and ensure the canopy is raised starting on the (designated) upwind side of the life raft and progressively works its way back until it is completed.
* Seal all sides of the life raft with the canopy
  + Ensure the canopy becomes 100% sealed. Initially, keep the canopy sealed, do not open the entry point. *This is to demonstrate how warm the interior of the life raft will become when full of passengers.*
  + Next, have the boarding area opened to allow for ventilation. Notice it does help the inside of the life raft.

How many students \_\_\_\_\_\_ How much time needed \_\_\_\_\_\_ Equipment issues: Y N

**Instructor notes from drill; any difficulties:**

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