

2.5 Transport & Trailers

Will you and your boats arrive safely or will you be let down before the competition even starts?

Responsibilities

Personal

- Follow the club's guidance on loading the trailer

Club

- Ensure that any vehicle or trailer used by the club is maintained in a roadworthy condition
- Insure the trailer
- Confirm that all drivers have the appropriate vehicle licence and insurance for the trailer type, length and load
- Confirm that all drivers are competent in towing and/or minibus driving
- Provide all drivers with information on towing and loading the trailer



Coach

- Educate members in the loading and checking of the trailer

Trailer and Minibus Drivers

- Have the appropriate licence and insurance for the vehicle, trailer and load
- Develop experience in towing and driving unfamiliar vehicles before committing to transporting boats and people
- Understand the regulations and responsibilities of trailer towing and minibus driving

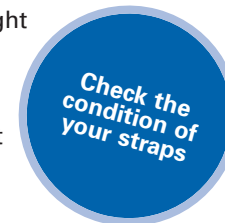
Club Water Safety Adviser

- Advise the club on its responsibilities
- Ensure that the trailing of the club boats is reviewed as part of the annual club safety audit

Minimum standards to be adopted

- Information and diagrams showing the recommended arrangement for loading, including the allowable load projection, must be displayed in the club/boathouse and towing vehicle
- A copy of the trailer insurance and any club vehicle insurance must be displayed in the club/boathouse and towing vehicle

- A method must be available and used to check the nose weight of the trailer
- Adequate projection markers and lights must be available
- Adequate ties in good condition must be available
- Information regarding the Maximum Allowed Mass (MAM) must be fixed to the trailer
- Before each trip the driver must check the tyres (including spare), lights, projection markers and the security of the load, jockey wheel and brakes
- The vehicle used for towing must be appropriate for the length, load and type of trailer
- All trailers must carry a spare wheel and suitable tools and jack for changing a wheel
- Drivers must always carry a passenger to help with navigation, manoeuvring, and any emergency, which may arise
- Always be aware of the dangers of high winds and icy road conditions and consult the weather forecast before setting off



Further good practice

(In addition to minimum standards to be adopted)

- Have a loading plan prior to loading the trailer
- Copies of the 'ARA Trailer Drivers Handbook' should be made available as a reference document
- All drivers should make reference to the interactive tutorial for trailer drivers on the ARA website or CD
- Information regarding the weight of the empty trailer, the recommended tyre pressures and jacking points should be fixed to the trailer
- Always carry a spare set of bulbs and a copy of the electrics coupling plug wiring diagram
- Always check the regulations of the countries when travelling abroad

Further information

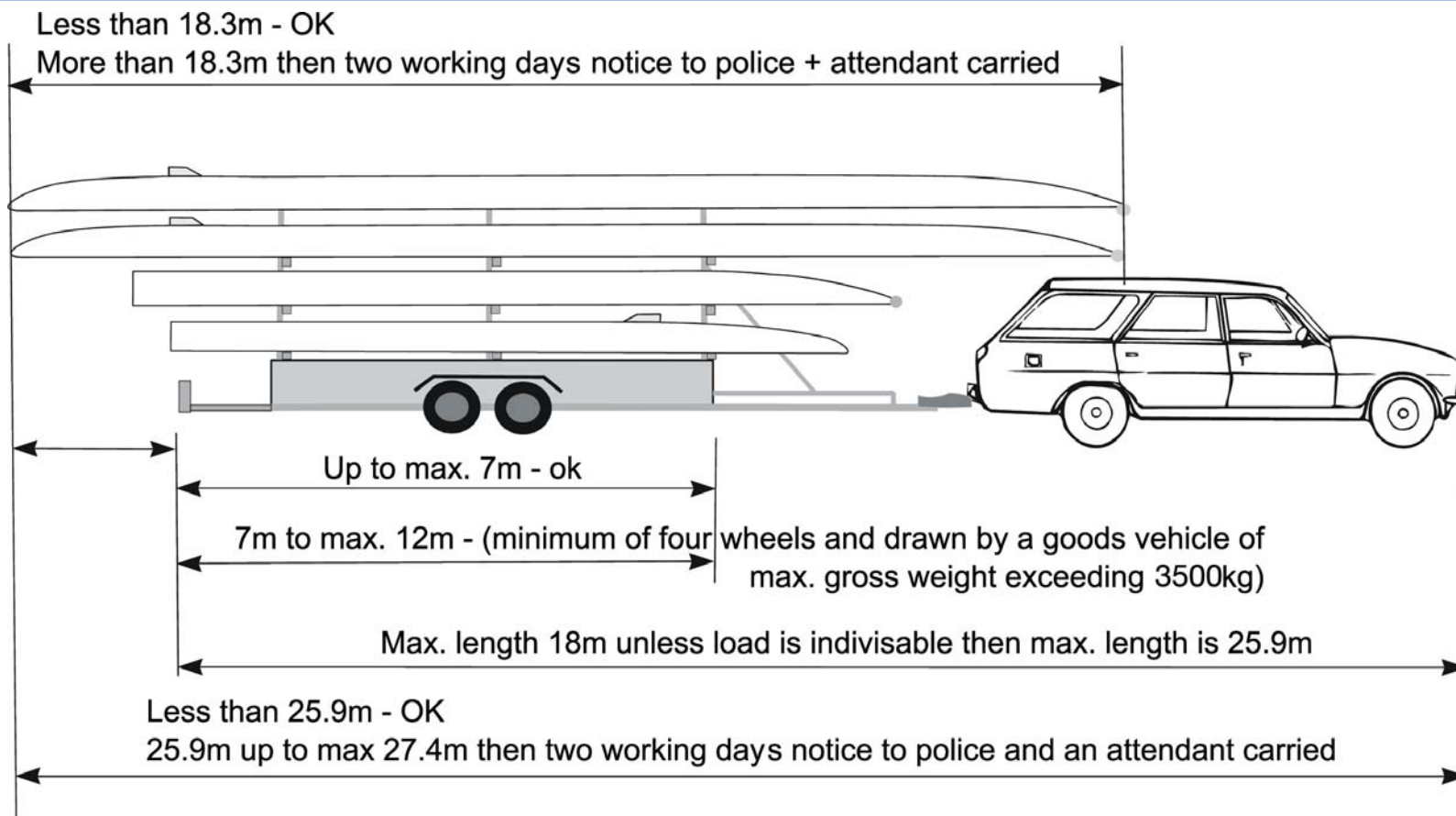
ARA website

- ARA Drivers Handbook
- ARA Boat Trailers & Towing

Other

- ARA Boat Trailers & Towing CD
- DVLA Driving Licence Requirements for Towing Trailers in GB
- Caravan Club – www.caravanclub.co.uk

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Projections over 1m must be marked so that they are clearly visible from the rear and side including night time. Brightly coloured rag or tape, warning triangles and illuminated marker boards for night driving are essential.

Any projection over 3.05m requires two working days notice to police.