

# **NATIONAL BOATING FEDERATION**

## **Safe Kids USA – Trip Report**

Ev Tucker, NBF Representative

September 29, 2011

On September 24, 2011, I travelled to Washington, D.C., to meet and discuss with SAFE KIDS USA boating safety issues effecting children and NBF's role, mission, and safety initiatives. I also wanted to assess whether the enactment of a MOU establishing a partnership between our 2 organizations would be beneficial.

I met with the following SAFE KIDS USA Staff Personnel:

Tanya Chin-Ross, Director, Public Policy

Dr. Angela Mickalide, Director, SAFE KIDS Worldwide Research & Programs

Emily Samuel, Program Manager, Water Safety.

After some initial comments by Ms. Chin-Ross, I was briefed on the mission, programs, and scope of SAFE KIDS USA (610 chapters) & SAFE KIDS WORLDWIDE (40 Countries). The PPT Briefing that was used is attached.

I then passed out copies of the "NBF New Member Packet" and discussed its contents in detail along with additional facts concerning NBF. Their response was very favorable!

During their briefing, it become obvious to me that NBF could materially foster increased emphasis by SAFE KIDS on recreational boating safety matters that posed a potential risk of injury or death to children. Their focus is on children 14 years and under. As we discussed the various current issues regarding mandatory PFD wear, mandatory Child PFD wear, USACE PFD test, new on the water activities, CG Strategic Plan, etc., I found that NBF could help them to stay current on the issues and provide useful advice that could affect their programs. NBF would also benefit in a number of ways, including being linked to their website, involved in their water safety programs, gaining another large

and influential organization's active support of boating safety initiatives.

Based on their presentation and ensuing discussion, I felt that the enactment of an MOU between us would be beneficial. The staff members present agreed and I offered to send them our MOU with NASBLA as an example of the type of MOU we had previously signed. They asked me to do so. I emphasized that the NASBLA MOU was just an "example" and the specific wording would be tailored to fit SAFE KIDS.

In closing I feel that the meeting was most useful and that NBF should partner with SAFE KIDS and that both websites should be linked as soon as possible,

Ev Tucker

NBF Treasurer