

Safety Boat Instructions and Guidance

- Ensure that the Safety Boat helm wears a **Kill Cord** around their leg at all times whilst afloat with the engine running.
- **Radio Check** to be carried out upon going afloat and before leaving the harbour, and Beachmaster advised when leaving the harbour with number of persons on board.
- Be vigilant at all times and provide rapid and effective safety support for all competitors and others when and where required.
- Look out for back markers.
- Put the safety and welfare of people before boats and equipment.
- Offer help if requested or if in apparent difficulty.
- In the event of a capsize ensure crew are visible and accounted for.
- Look out for serious injuries (i.e. needing assistance).
- In the case of a serious injury or medical emergency call **Code Red** VHF radio with your call sign, position and details of emergency.
- If a sailor is trapped under an inverted hull, the boat should be righted as soon as possible. The most effective way to free an entrapped sailor is often to right the boat.
- When retrieving a person from the water or operating in close proximity to people in the water, the engine should be turned off
- Safety boat crew members should only enter the water if considered absolutely necessary.
- Patrol areas and roles will be allocated by the RO or ESO
- Do not leave your assigned area without checking with RO or ESO.
- **In strong winds** look out for crews being overpowered and fatigues, especially after multiple capsizes
- With the permission of RO or ESO tow to nearby buoy, committee boat mothership or tow home. Then return to sailing area.
- **Fog /poor visibility** mark Harbour entrance and committee boat on GPS
- - Sailors advised to collect at committee boat or nominated point and wait to be escorted in a group.
- - Search sailing area slowly, using an appropriate sound signal and listen for responses
- **Damaged or abandoned boats**
- - To be marked with tape if to be abandoned (on rudder fittings)
- - Inform Race Officer or Safety Lead.
- - If reasonable take to nearby buoy or committee boat for later tow
- **Missing Persons/Boat**
- - A search plan will be implemented by the RO or ESO
- - At end of day call Beachmaster when returning to Harbour with number of persons onboard

SAFETY BOAT CHECK LIST

The Helm and Crew should undertake the following checks before taking the Safety boat from its mooring.

- Condition of hull: air pressure, plugs and bungs
- Location of all equipment on board:
Anchor rope, tow rope, two paddles, flares, first aid kit, spare kill cord, whistle, knife, radar reflector (if applicable), fire extinguisher
- Fuel – Fuel locker code is 2863, see Appendix C for refuelling information.
- Engine. Fuel connections, visual check of the propeller, coolant Circulation
- Radio. Battery level, radio check with Beachmaster, Race Committee Boat or other Club rib.

Call Beachmaster by VHF when leaving the harbour and returning at the end of the day advising the number so persons onboard.

At the end of each day. Fuel tanks should be filled (see Annex D) The boat should be returned to its mooring clean, with all lines tidy, the engine raised and turned to port.

All boats must be maintained in good condition, all rubbish removed and any defects should be reported to the Race Officer, Event Safety Officer or Lead Coach/Instructor

Safety boat call signs will be by boat name as listed below for club racing, training and club activities. Alternative call signs will be allocated for Championships depending upon the role of each boat.

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Committee Boat | Mary Gurine |
| Safety Boat | Harry |
| Safety Boat | Bev |
| Safety Boat | TYST/Rockfish |
| Safety Boat | Winaretta |

The RYA Guidance for Major Incident Procedures at RYA Affiliated Clubs and Recognised Training Centres Incorporating EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

[HERE](#) it is published on Management and Safety page of the RTYC website

<https://rtyc.org/management-and-safety/> Copies are held in the Race Office, Club Admin Office, Training Room, on Race Committee Vessel “Mary Gurine” , in Beachmaster box, and on all Safety Boats.