



# SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN - SAFETY INSTRUCTION (SKIFFS)

## 1. DOCUMENTS

These instructions should be read in conjunction with the following Schedules:

### A. Description of Course Boats

## 2. SAFETY AND RESCUE COORDINATION:

- The Principal Race Officer is responsible for coordination of safety and rescue functions.

## 3. IN EVENT OF DISTRESS OR ACCIDENT:

- (a) Skiffs needing assistance must luff to windward if at all possible.
- (b) The crew stay with the boat at all times while the boat is capsized.
- (c) Crews should call for assistance before becoming exhausted.

### 3 A. ATTRACTING ATTENTION:

The use of the following signals to indicate that assistance is needed:

#### (a) Crew in boat:

Either both arms raised above the head and lowered to the sides cyclically at 5 second intervals, or a flag or other object, on a spar waved from side to side through an arc of 30 degrees either side of the vertical, cyclically at 5 second intervals.

#### (b) Crew in water:

One arm raised above the head for three seconds at 5 second intervals.

(c) When a boat is in difficulty with its sails lowered, some highly visible article, such as an orange or yellow garment, should be hoisted on a halyard to aid visibility to rescue craft.

## 4. PRO'S DISCRETION

- At all times the priority is to preserve participants from risk of death or injury, overriding preservation of vessels.
- The PRO has the discretion to direct any participant vessel to be beached, returned to the club ramp, or accept a tow if, ***in the opinion of the race officer*** the continued operation of that vessel by its skipper and crew is likely to prejudice the safety of its crew, the public or a safety vessel and its crew.
- This discretion will be exercised where appropriate irrespective of whether or not the action results in disqualification of the participant vessel.

## 5. COURSE BOAT SKIPPER'S DELEGATIONS:

- The Course Boat skipper may direct any participant vessel to act in accordance with orders of the PRO. The Course Boat skipper may direct on behalf of the PRO.

## 6. TOW PROCEDURE

- Tow will be established from a downwind approach to a capsized craft by the Course Boat.
- Members of the capsized crew may be seconded by the Course Boat skipper to assist with the tow.
- The tow line for 10 ft skiffs will be secured to the skiff by forming loop over the bumpkin/ spinnaker prod near the stem and securing the free end to the mast by at least 3 open turns, the free end to be held by a crew member remaining with the towed skiff. No knots are to be used.
- The tow line for 12ft & 18ft skiffs must be secured to the mast by at least two (2) open turns with the free end to be held by a crew member.
- The destination of the tow will be at the discretion of the Course Boat skipper.