



DELL QUAY SAILING CLUB

Dell Quay, Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 7EE. Tel: 01243 785080

10 August 2016

DQSC Reference: DQSC/01/04/04/05

DQSC LTD SAFETY BOAT POLICY

1. Rationale

DQSC Ltd to manage and mitigate the risks involved with organised club sailing events, ie Dinghy Racing, Women on the Water, Blokes on the Water, Junior and Open Meetings will provide Safety Boat cover.

2. Provision of Safety Boats

The provision and safe operation of the Safety Boats shall be managed by Sailing Committee. The Sailing Committee shall:

- manage the provision of properly equipped and maintained Safety Boats,
- manage Safety Boat cover for all on-water DQSC events,
- manage the training and allocation of competent helm and crew.

3. Safety Boat Provision and Equipment

a. **Boats.** The club provides the following craft for Safety Boat operations:

- "Alfie" - 5.5m RIB with 50HP outboard.
- "Mary Ross" - 4.5m RIB with 50HP outboard.
- "Fred West" - Dell Quay Dory with 25HP outboard.
- "Dell Buoy" - Dell Quay Dory with 25HP outboard.
- "Carrot" - Jeanneau Newmatic with 15HP outboard.

b. **Equipment.** Each Safety Boat is equipped as described in the checklist (see Safety Boat Helm Duty Instructions).

4. Safety Boat Management and Allocation

a. **Planning.** During the season planning, the Sailing Committee will allocate one or more Safety Boats to each sailing event according to the expected number of entrants and sailing area. Typically this is:

- Normal club races - 1 Safety boat,
- Pursuit, Frostbite, Longmore - 2 Safety boats,
- Harbour, Up the Creeks - 3 Safety boats

b. **Additional Safety Boats.** The Race Officer may decide that additional Safety Boat cover beyond that rostered is necessary. This might occur shortly before a race where there are more entrants than expected, a large number of inexperienced racers, or where the prevailing weather conditions dictate.

(1) If this is the case then the Duty Officer or Race Officer will seek volunteers from those present.

(2) If there are no volunteers that are suitably qualified then the race will be abandoned.

(3) When an entrant to a race carries out a Safety Boat duty redress will be given.



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5. Crew Selection and Competence

- a. Every person that helms a Safety Boat must hold RYA PBL2 as a minimum.
- b. ~~It is highly desirable that Safety Boat helms should hold the RYA Safety Boat qualification. From March 2016~~ All safety boat helms should hold the RYA Safety Boat qualification.
- c. It is highly desirable that those operating the Safety Boats should hold a current First Aid qualification.
- d. The club offers the following training **to enable the DQSC Ltd Safety Boat Policy to be fulfilled:**
 - RYA Safety Boat course
 - RYA Power Boat Level 2
 - VHF Operator
 - First Aid
 - (1) The Hon Data Services Secretary will maintain a list of the relevant qualifications held by club members.
- e. **Crew Capacity.**
 - (1) The Safety Boat Crew ~~and helm of a Safety Boat~~ should be fit and able to enter the water to assist a casualty.
 - (a) **Dress.** Dress to meet the conditions of the day – noting that even during the summer months the water temperature may not be suitable for periods of immersion unless in a suitable clothing ie wet suit/dry bag.
 - (b) **Buoyancy.** The Safety Boat Crew must wear a **Buoyancy Aid** (DQSC Ltd has a limited supply for issue to the crew if required) and not a Life Jacket.
 - (2) The Safety Boat Helm should be fit and able assist a casualty when not attending to duties of helming the Safety Boat.
 - (a) **Dress.** Dress to meet the conditions of the day – noting that even during the summer months prolonged exposure to spray, wind etc may make normal clothing un-suitable.
 - (b) **Buoyancy.** The Safety Boat Helm must wear a **Buoyancy Aid** (DQSC Ltd has a limited supply for issue to the crew if required) and not a Life Jacket.
- f. No person under the age of 16 should helm Safety Boats.
- g. Members who volunteer should be familiar with the operation of the boats and confident in their ability to handle them in the likely circumstances i.e. at slow speed, high speed and in close proximity to casualties.
 - (1) DQSC utilises Dutyman to allow members to volunteer for the required duties.



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6. Safety Boat Maintenance

a. Annual Servicing of Engines and Hull by appropriately qualified trades persons shall be organised by the Sailing Committee on an Annual basis and when required during the year in response to defects.

b. Defects. All defects to the Safety Boats are to be reported via the Defects Books (in the club house foyer).

c. To manage minor defects and weekly servicing DQSC utilises a Safety Boat Boatswain.

(1) The Safety Boat Boatswain is appointed by the Sailing Committee.

(2) The Safety Boat Boatswain will:

- Maintain a visual inspection of boats and equipment
- Make arrangements for the repair of identified or reported defects
- Notify the sailing committee of constraints on availability of Safety Boats
- Record in the Maintenance book any issues reported or found during inspection that require action to be taken.