

RISK ASSESSMENT

ESTABLISHMENT: YEALM YACHT CLUB

ACTIVITY/ENVIRONMENT: Passage Race

ASSESSMENT DATE: April 2019 by YYC Sailing Committee

ORIGINAL ASSESSMENT COMPLETED BY: Chris Tullett

Hazard <i>List significant hazards which may result in serious harm or affect several people.</i>	Who might be harmed? <i>List groups of people who are especially at risk from the significant hazards identified.</i>	Is the risk adequately controlled? <i>List existing controls or note where the information may be found. (e.g. Information, instruction training, systems or procedures)</i>	What further action is needed to control the risk? <i>List the risks which are not adequately controlled and proposed action where it is reasonably practicable to do more.</i>
Capsize placing participant at risk of drowning or hypothermia	Race entrants	Buoyancy aids must be worn for dinghy and dayboat entrants. Patrol/safety boats will attend any incident quickly and carry spare clothes and thermal blanket	
Injury as a result of collision or other accident	Race entrants	Tactical positioning of patrol boats carrying first aid kits at high risk parts of the course. Patrol boats carry a radio to communicate with other boats and shore staff	
Deterioration in weather conditions	Race entrants	OOD determines the risk of each individual boat class to prevailing and forecast conditions and whether to abandon race. Patrol boats vigilant to craft in difficulty.	In case of severe difficulties where patrol boats are unable to assist, coastguard is advised
Loss of radio communication by Patrol boats	Patrol/safety/organisers	Mobile phones used as back-up. Patrol boats briefed on risk and control measures prior to race	
Junior entrant does not have a parent present at the race	Entrants under 18	Parents or guardian of entrants under 18 years of age to notify race officer in writing of who is responsible for their child; otherwise junior entrants not permitted to sail at event.	
Incident causes boat to be abandoned	Race entrants	Boat is towed to nearest safe haven by a patrol boat for recovery	
Sudden danger in the location of event such as sudden squall, fog, large waves	Race entrants particularly small craft	Race entrants in the class/classes at risk make way to nearest safe haven. Patrol boats ensure all boats are accounted for.	
Boat driven on to rocks/underwater structure	Race entrants	Providing it is safe to do so patrol boat will rescue	Coastguard called if rescue is not possible. Patrol boat will remain in the area until safety teams drive
Risks and dangers prior to start of race	Race entrants	A pre race meeting for entrants will take place on the day prior to the race for entrants to discuss issues of safety and procedure.	

Patrol boat activity	Patrol/safety/organisers	Sailing instructions and race notices will be sent to all patrol/safety/organisers craft and a briefing will be given to patrol boats just prior to the race start	
Becalmed	Race entrants	Patrol/safety/committee boats to tow becalmed boats to nearest port	
Divers and dive boats on or near course line	Divers in water	Entrants advised to pay attention to divers and dive boats. Where necessary a safety boat to be stationed a safe distance away and display a red flag. Boats are instructed to pass to port	Local diving clubs and schools advised of race course and time beforehand so that they can prepare for passing boats

To ensure that all potential risks are kept to a minimum race entrants are required to read the race instructions and to sign that they have read and accept the rules and responsibilities. Parents or guardians of entrants and participants under 18 years of age are required to confirm knowledge and acceptance of their responsibilities.

Points to note:

- **YYC to ensure that an event does not go ahead without the provision of adequately manned patrol craft.**
- **Patrol craft to be in radio contact with race officer ashore whenever possible.**
- **Adults with mobile phones to contact emergency services if needed.**
- **Risk assessment form is available to all on the YYC website**
- **Safety boats are provided primarily for safety of the crews. They will only tow abandoned craft after all the crew are accounted for.**