

ELYC rescue duty notes

DUTY START TIME

Report for duty one hour before the first race is scheduled – find the OOD and other rescue crew and liaise with them. You need to be changed, and on the water in time for competitors leaving the beach.

GEAR REQUIRED

Ensure you arrive with the correct clothing (drysuit /wetsuit & buoyancy aid are mandatory plus as many layers and hat as necessary) and plan ahead for your food and drink requirements. You will get wet and you may have to spend some time in the water during a rescue. It is always colder than you expect!

GRANARY STORE WHITEBOARD

Rescue officer will post instructions for the day on this board, stating which RIB(s) to use – the RIB(s) should be fuelled up and ready to go. Write any feedback about missing equipment or anything not working here.

PRE LAUNCH CHECKS

To confirm that the RIB(s) are ready for use, in particular check:

- the fuel tank is at least 2/3 full.
- sponsons are up to pressure – they shouldn't be rock hard, but shouldn't be soft either!
- the following basic equipment is on board:
killcord, painter, towing bridle, towrope, knife or cutting tool, 2 x paddles, boathook, flarebox.
- requirement for any additional marks that you may need to take with you.

RADIO

Just before or after launching conduct a radio check – preferably with OOD, otherwise with another boat but ensure you make radio contact with OOD at the earliest opportunity. Use channel 37 (M1) for all communications unless you have agreed another channel. In an emergency, if you need to contact the coastguard use channel 16, coastguard will instruct you which alternative channel to switch to. Transmit on low power in normal conditions (eg. between the Leithies and the Lamb). If communication becomes muffled in rough conditions try wiping excess water off the mike.

GENERAL / GOOD PRACTICE

- The helmsman must attach the kill cord to himself before engaging gear.
- Ensure that all ropes are coiled and secured to the boat by a cord, and do not trail ropes in the water (especially the painter!!).
- Observe the speed limit in the harbour area and fairway.
- Operate the boat smoothly, without excessive speed, and watch out for flotsam, floating ropes, creels etc.
- RIB(s) need to provide cover for club competitors until they have all returned to the beach.
- Competitors should help with launch and recovery if required.
- Do not remove the motor cover unless under specific guidance of a rescue or club officer, or someone authorised by them.
- Leaving RIBs at moorings: preferably don't do it! But if there is good reason to do so - make sure RIB is moored from the mooring eye/U bolt located on the OUTSIDE of the rigid hull. (ie. so that the mooring line has a direct pull from the eye without rubbing on the sponsons) - the motor MUST BE FULLY RAISED (ie. it should NEVER be left down)!!

PUTTING BOAT TO BED

Wash down boat, trailer and motor including a good flush through (using hose & outboard 'ear muffs', run motor and monitor cooling water jet for ~1 minute).

Park in the space that you found boat in.

Tidy up the boat, remove any rubbish, coil ropes neatly and ensure that the radio is turned off.

Leave all hatches open to allow ventilation.

MANOUEVRING IN THE STORE

Do not use tractor to move RIB in the store!

Going in, you may use tractor to push boat up ramp into the store and stop with the trailer wheels just above the ramp. The jockey wheel is still way outside, but you can pick that up and manhandle from there. Coming out is the reverse, you can manhandle boat till the wheels are just above the ramp & the jockey wheel is way outside, then you may hitch up tractor.