

RECREATIONAL BOATING EVENT S.O.P.

Scope

This standard operating procedure is for social events organized by the RMYS office or individual members sending out invitations to a cruise or other on water event for multiple vessels. It does not cover racing.

Most commonly these events are typically cruising to a destination, followed by the return, usually the same or the following day. Off water activities, or activity when yachts and motor boats are moored are not covered by the SOP.

Organising Authority

The organising authority will either be the RMYS office, but more commonly a RMYS member or group of members. Invitations are sent on one of the RMYS facebook member forums, fliers, email or other means outlining what will be happening.

The event is open to all boats that meet the equipment safety requirements outlined by Marine Safety Victoria.

Safety

The decision of any boat to participate, or continue to participate in any recreational event is hers alone, and the skipper or master warrants the he/she is satisfied that the vessel is seaworthy and the crew are sufficiently skilled to take part in such event.

All participants acknowledge that all on water events have a degree of risk, which includes the potential for a fatality or injury. These can include drowning, hypothermia, sunburn, crush or impact injuries.

On the day of the event, the organising authority will check the weather forecast and be satisfied that the conditions are suitable. If not, the event will be postponed.

All entrants will abide by the Harbour Master Directions Port of Melbourne where applicable.

Organising Groups Tasks

The Organising Group will facilitate and coordinate social sailing events such as (but not limited to) dinners, parties, BBQs at different destinations, and will endeavour to make arrangements for berthing where possible.

When an event comprises a fleet sailing together, such that an Aquatic Events Advice is required in accordance with the Harbour Master's Directions, the Organising Group will complete and forward such advice at least five days before the event. If any temporary waterway rule change, exemption, or exclusion zone is requested, this will be submitted at least five weeks prior to the event.

Where extended cruises are organised, the Organising Group may provide advice on passage planning, routing guidance and pilotage. Whilst such advice is freely given to the best ability of the Organising Group, each skipper/master is to satisfy herself/himself as to its accuracy or validity, and not rely solely on such advice for the safety of his vessel.

OOD

In the event of an incident at any time, contact the RMYS office if open, or the Officer of the Day (OOD). If the office is unattended, the OOD must be contacted and will attend the office for on-shore requirements.

The allocated OOD for Saturday will be the acting OOD for the following day (Sunday) if there is any boating activity on that day. The Boating Administrator will advise the Sunday RO who is scheduled to work.

AMBULANCE

Should an ambulance be required for an on water incident that the vessel crew call 000 (not the Race Committee or land based staff - only if vessel does not have a mobile on board)

Additional Authorities

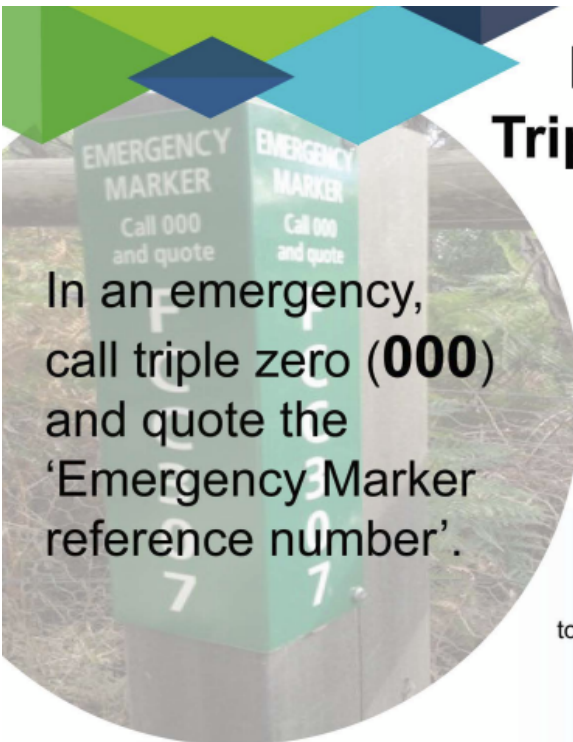
During the course of an incident, other authorities may contact the Race Management team or office. These can include the Water Police Squad and Rescue Coordination Centre located in Williamstown (03 9399 7500) who may identify themselves as 'RCC Melbourne', Air ambulance, Harbour Master, or any Victoria Police vessel from Williamstown who will identify themselves as 'VP10', 'VP1' or 'VP2' depending on which vessel is available.

Emergency Marker BAY 815 See below. (We are working on getting a Marker Bay where the red circle is)



See below for instructions for Emergency Marker 000 Process:

Emergency Markers & Triple Zero (000) process



In an emergency, call triple zero (**000**) and quote the 'Emergency Marker reference number'.

Nuisance calls

Each year there are thousands of nuisance and hoax calls to Triple Zero. This type of call is a serious offence and may result in delayed response to someone

Step 1:

Always call Triple Zero (000) in an emergency.

You will be asked which service you require:

"Police, Fire or Ambulance?"



Step 2:

Your call will then be connected to an ESTA communication centre.

You will be asked:

"Where is your emergency?"

Quote: Emergency Marker and the alphanumeric code on the sign.

The alphanumeric code will vary according to the location. The call taker will then verify your location.



You will then be asked:

"What is your emergency?"



Another option for providing location to ESTA is what3words <https://what3words.com/> which provides location in 10m².