



Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron

FLEET RESCUE START AND COACH
POWERBOAT POLICY

February

2020

Fleet Rescue Start and Coach Powerboat Policy

RQYS FLEET RESCUE, START, AND COACH POWERBOAT POLICY

This Policy shall apply to any Staff Member, Volunteer, or Member or any other authorised person, using a Squadron registered powerboat for any purpose.

Definitions:

Rib – A rigid inflatable boat or “duck”. Can be Tiller Steered or Wheel Steered.

Start Boat – The Squadron’s Fleet of Start/Finish boats. Specifically Vic Frizzell, Myora, and Goodwill.

General

1. Skippers Requirements

- a. Skippers shall hold a valid Recreational Marine Drivers Licence
- b. Skippers shall obey all relevant Laws as they relate to operating Boats in Queensland
- c. Skippers should not operate vessels under any influence of alcohol
- d. It is Recommended that skippers complete further Powerboat training through RQYS or through Australian Sailing or such other provider including, but not limited to:
 - i. Australian Sailing Powerboat Handling Certificate
 - ii. Australian Sailing Safety Boat Handling Certificate
- e. Skippers shall considered Masters of the Vessel and hold the Legal Responsibilities for checking that boats comply with the Legal Requirements
- f. Skippers shall use all reasonable care when utilising RQYS Vessels
- g. Use of the vessel shall be approved by the RQYS Sailing Manager or RQYS Marina Manager whose authority may be delegated to other staff.
- h. Brief or discuss Safety on board in relation to the day. i.e. assess the conditions for the necessity for any additional safety or other equipment such as additional Water.

2. Requirements while operating the vessel

- a. Kill Chords are to be worn at all times when operating a vessel alone unless the vessel is in idle for the purposes of completing a task.
- b. Where operating a Rib or similar boat with multiple persons aboard a Kill Chord is required unless the Skipper deems it appropriate not to wear.
- c. A suitable Lifejacket is to be carried for each person in the vessel. These are not held aboard in all circumstances so skippers must ensure that appropriate lifejackets are present before they leave the dock.
- d. Lifejackets are to be worn by those using Squadron Vessels except in reasonable circumstances as discussed by the Skipper, with the Crew. E.g. those operating the Start Vessels.
- e. Boats are to be fully fuelled at the end of each use except where otherwise directed. This is an important safety consideration if the vessel needs to be used at short notice.

3. Propellar Guards

- a. Propellar Guards are fitted to some Squadron Vessels, specifically those that are engaged in Learn to Sail Activities but **NOT TO ALL BOATS.**
- b. Skippers are to be **PROP AWARE.** Whether there is a Propeller Guard on or not skippers are to turn engines off where there are sailors in the water in their vicinity.

4. Maintenance Reporting

- a. Any defects or issues are to be reported to the Sailing Office either by Radio or other method where necessary.
- b. Reporting shall include as much detail as possible to ensure an adequate repair

- c. Repairs shall be endeavoured to be communicated back to users via a report available in the Volunteer Equipment Room.

5. Start Boats

- a. Specific Requirements and Training are required for Start Boats and any requirements that are taught with that training supersede this Policy.