



# Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron

ON WATER COMMUNICATIONS  
POLICY FOR SQUADRON RACING

March

2020

# On Water Communications Policy for Squadron Racing

1. When RQYS conducts on-water activities, by its Club Sailing, Academy, or Regatta operations, there shall be a shore-based person with communications with those on-water.
2. All RQYS vessels shall carry an operable VHF Radio
3. This may be by VHF or Mobile Phone.
  - a. RQYS Maintains two private VHF Channels RQ 90 and RQ91
  - b. RQYS Utilises public channels 72, 77 and others as needed
4. Where necessary RQYS will utilise a dedicated Volunteer or Staff Radio Operator
  - a. RQYS will monitor any “Race Frequencies” relevant to its operation
  - b. RQYS may not monitor any channels not in use for its own purposes
  - c. RQ CHANNEL NAME will be used as the RQYS Base Station call sign
5. Where Mobile Phone communications are to be relied on there shall be consideration given to the necessary waterproofing, storing, and upkeep of the phone in question.
6. Where, for any reason, there is a breakdown in communication with RQYS base vessels shall revert to standard operating procedure for vessels and utilise universal distress channels such as VHF 16 and external services to RQYS Sailing Operations such as Marine Radio Moreton Bay VZ4RQ, Coast Guard, VMR or any other operator.
7. Squadron Division Yachts shall have Radios for racing and shall be left on and at an audible level of volume.
8. Where a vessel is loaned by the Squadron, she shall have a Radio that is operable on the correct frequencies
9. Spare Radios will be available at the RQYS Sailing Office
10. Where there are registered Coach and Support Boats at a regatta Communications shall occur on an Open frequency OR there shall be a dedicated Coach and Support Boat communication frequency.