



# Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron

On Water Emergency  
Communications Policy  
& Procedure

February

2020

# ON WATER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS POLICY FOR MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS, STAFF AND SAILORS

## POLICY

RQYS Identifies that there are a number of issues and risks around incidents that occur on-water, and the need for communication with emergency services.

The most important point of contact that is to be made is one where the Emergency services have the highest likelihood of communicating with someone in a position to provide First Aid or in the immediate vicinity of any person injured on the water.

The ability to direct communicate with Emergency Services should be, where possible, the first contact, with a subsequent follow up with RQYS to ensure ease of passage for Emergency Vehicles.

## PROCEDURE

The following should be used by those conducting or involved in activities on-water.

1. Where possible Communications with emergency services should occur **directly from those attending** a person who is injured or in need to medical support. This means that if possible, a person with the injured person should dial 000. If there is any doubt that Emergency Services have been contacted there should be a contact made.
  - a. **A clear meeting point should be established:** The emergency pickup point for RQYS is the Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron, address is 578 Royal Esplanade Manly. The FUEL WHARF is the designated location for transfer.
  - b. If there is a need for an alternative pickup location this should be communicated subsequently with the RQYS Reception.
  - c. Vessels coming into the harbour with an injured person should endeavour to **use any safe means to ensure a prompt return**, noting that in the majority of cases the injured person is back to the dock prior to the Ambulance arrival.
2. Once direct Communications with Emergency Services are underway there **must be contact made with RQYS** via Phone on 3396 8666 or via VHF
3. It is prudent to communicate broadly that there is an injury, in case of WAGS or Division Yachts this can be done via the Race Frequency
4. **Where direct Communication cannot be made with Emergency Services RQYS will relay.** It is important to provide the following.
  - a. The injured person's Name, nature of the injury, and any developing information.
  - b. What is the response plan from those attending i.e. bringing the person to shore at speed, slowly bringing them ashore to prevent further injury etc.
5. Following any incident, a report or debrief shall be conducted with the persons attending and with any relevant parties.