

# BBSC HANDBOOK SECTION 1, PART 15: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

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### **Introduction**

1. This Emergency Plan has been prepared having regard to:
  - (a) rules 1 (Safety) and 4 (Decision to race) of the *Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020* (the Rules) and to regulation 1.02 (Owner's responsibility) of Australian Sailing’s *Special Regulations Part 1 for Racing Boats* (the Regulations);

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- (b) the Club's experience in conducting Category 7 and 4 races in accordance with the Rules and Regulations over a many years, including the length of the races, weather conditions and incidents that have occurred during the races;
- (c) the requirement of rule 1 (Safety) that a boat shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger and the capacity of boats participating in a race to do so; and
- (d) Marine Rescue NSW following its usual practices and procedures on receipt of a Distress or Urgency signal/call, including liaising with any other relevant authority.

### **Definitions**

**boat** means a keel, multihull or trailable boat participating in a **race**.

**Club** means the Batemans Bay Sailing Club Inc.

**Marine Rescue** means a Marine Rescue NSW organisation.

**Plan** means this Emergency Management Plan.

**race** means a race for keel, multihull or trailable boats listed in the program published on the **Club's** website or otherwise notified to **Marine Rescue NSW**.

**Rules** means the Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020.

**rule** has the meaning given to it in the **Rules**.

**Welfare Officer** means the Salvation Army's, appointee.

### **Aim**

- 2. To provide a fast and effective response to an emergency and support for a participant, or the participant's next of kin, who may be involved in an emergency.

### **Scope**

- 3. This Plan applies to each boat participating in a keel, multihull and trailable race conducted by the Club.
- 4. The procedures detailed in this Plan shall be followed in the event of an emergency.

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**Area covered**

5. The area covered by this Plan is the waters on the NSW eastern coast from the vicinity of Jarvis Bay in the North to the vicinity of Bermagui in the South including the waters of Batemans Bay and the Clyde River.

**A boat's responsibility**

6. A boat shall:
- (a) log-on with Marine Rescue, Batemans Bay, observe its procedures and inform it of the boat's intention to participate in a race; and
  - (b) maintain a listening watch on VHF channel 16 and Channel 74 for Club race instructions.
7. Prior to activation of this Plan, a boat shall observe rule 1.1 requiring her to give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

**Activation of the plan**

8. Marine Rescue NSW may activate the Plan:
- (a) in response to a Distress or Urgency signal/call by a boat; or
  - (b) if a boat fails to respond to a communication from Marine Rescue NSW.
9. A boat may activate the Plan by making a Distress or Urgency signal/call in accordance with the Marine Radio Operator's Handbook (summarised below) on **VHF channel 16 or 80**.

**REST OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY BLANK  
TURN PAGE FOR A DESCRIPTION OF:  
A DISTRESS CALL  
AND  
AN URGENCY CALL**

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### DISTRESS

**Signal: MAYDAY** (repeated three times).

This signal indicates that the boat or a person using it is threatened by grave and immediate danger and requests immediate assistance

**Distress Call:**

**This is:** boat's name and call sign.

Boat's **position**.

Nature of emergency.

**Repeat.**

**Active** the boat's EPIRB

### URGENCY

An injury to a crew member or substantial damage to a boat requiring external assistance.

Man overboard.

**Signal: PAN PAN** (repeated three times).

**All stations** (repeated three times)

**Urgency Call:**

**This is:** boat's name and call sign.

Boat's **position**.

Urgency **message**.

**Repeat.**

10. Nothing in this Plan precludes a boat experiencing an emergency from seeking assistance by other means – see Part 8 for NSW Marine Rescue phone numbers.

#### Activation stages

11. On receipt of a Distress or Urgency signal/call from a boat, Marine Rescue NSW having followed its usual practices and procedures will inform the fleet of a stage of activation of the Plan as outlined below and designate any boat that may be required to provide assistance.

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### **STAGES OF ACTIVATION**

#### **ALERT**

An incident has occurred or there is imminent danger of an incident. Each boat shall maintain a close listening watch on the VHF channel nominated by Marine Rescue NSW.

#### **STAND BY**

An incident or emergency has occurred and a boat may be required to render assistance.

Each boat shall maintain a close listening watch for instructions on the VHF channel nominated by Marine Rescue NSW.

#### **RESPONSE**

An incident or emergency is being responded to by the Police, Marine Rescue NSW or a designated boat.

Each boat shall maintain a close listening watch for instructions on the VHF channel nominated by Marine Rescue NSW, keep a look out for responding boats and obey directions transmitted by it.

#### **RECOVERY**

A boat or a crew member is being recovered by the Police, Marine Rescue NSW or an assigned boat.

Each boat shall maintain a close listening watch for instructions on the frequency nominated by Marine Rescue NSW, keep a look out for responding boats and obey directions transmitted by it.

### **Examples and actions**

#### ***Dismasted boat and an injury requiring medical treatment.***

12. A boat is dismasted off Black Rock. The crew cut away her mast and rigging and in doing so a crew member suffers a lacerated hand.

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13. A First Aid qualified crew member commences treatment of the injured crew member (assessing it as requiring medical treatment) while the boat makes way for Batemans Bay under her own power.
14. The boat makes a Pan Pan call, details the situation her position, course and speed.
15. Marine Rescue NSW, Batemans Bay:
  - (a) acknowledges the boat's situation;
  - (b) instigates the Plan's **Alert Stage**; and
  - (c) arranges an ambulance to rendezvous with the boat at the Batemans Bay marina

***A severely injured crew member.***

16. A boat off Durras has a crew member with a head injury suffered as a result of an involuntary gybe.
17. A First Aid qualified crew member commences treatment of the injured crew member and assesses the injury as requiring off-the-boat medical assistance.
18. The boat makes a Pan Pan call detailing the situation as requiring off-the-boat-assistance.
19. Marine Rescue NSW, Batemans Bay:
  - (a) acknowledges the boat's situation;
  - (b) instigates the Plan's **Response Stage** despatching one of its craft to rendezvous with the boat and lift the injured crew member for faster conveyance to treatment; and
  - (c) instigates the Plan's **Recovery Stage**.

***Boat sinking***

20. A boat has struck Sullivans Reef off Ulladulla resulting in major flooding. The crew's attempt to stem the flow of water is failing.
21. The boat makes a Mayday call, reporting her position and the estimated time she may remain afloat.

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22. Marine Rescue NSW Ulladulla:
- (a) acknowledges the boat's situation;
  - (b) instigates the Plan's **Response Stage** despatching its craft to rendezvous with the boat; and
  - (c) instigates the Plan's **Recovery Stage**.

**Contact details**

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*Marine Rescue NSW, Batemans Bay.*

**4472 3060**

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*Marine Rescue NSW, Ulladulla.*

**4455 3403**

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*Marine Rescue NSW, Jarvis Bay.*

**4441 5433**

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*Marine Rescue NSW, Narooma.*

**4476 1443**

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*Marine Rescue NSW, Bermagui.*

**6493 4506**

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*Salvation Army, Batemans Bay.*

Welfare Officers: Peter & Rebecca Gott

**4472 9644**

**0421 465 599 (Rebecca's mobile)**

**[rebecca.gott@ae.salvationarmy.org](mailto:rebecca.gott@ae.salvationarmy.org)**

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