

**Skilling up for Dutyman duties (including beachmaster, rib driver/assistant, committee vessel / Jury duties) Modules:-**

This module will be run by Saki Curtin.

**Beachmaster role:-**

Delivered via practical demonstrations at the club.

- Overview of a rigged optimist/topper/laser.
- The key things to look out for from a safety perspective.
- There are certain items that could preclude a sailor from going afloat that need to be checked.
- Sailors not to go afloat until their boat has been checked by the beachmaster.
- Management of the slipway both from a launching and retrieval perspective.
- Storage of trollies while sailors are afloat and for ease of recovery.
- Only proceed with launching once agreed with the Race Officer and once sufficient safety cover afloat.
- Advise the race officer of numbers which have gone afloat.
- For larger events we use a tally board – each sailor takes a tally (rubber wrist/arm band) from the tally official when launching and returns it upon return to the slipway.
- Confirm to race officer / safety lead that all sailors are safely ashore post racing.

**Rib driver / assistant role:-**

Delivered via practical demonstrations at the club.

- To become a **rib driver** for one of the club ribs you need to have done your level 2 powerboat course at a minimum. Mark Ring in the club can be contacted with regard to booking a place.
- Once obtained you can assist with both rescue and mark laying duties. Initially it is recommended that you go out with an experienced rib driver in order to build up your hours, confidence & experience.
- Once confident you can then provide the same assistance to a newly qualified rib driver.
- There are a number of key requirements of a club rib driver which will be gone through as part of the module and these include items such as:-
  1. Assisting with mark laying;
  2. Assisting with safety/rescue;
  3. Towing;
  4. Signing out/in of the rib;
  5. Monitoring of the VHF & eyes on the water;
- To become a **rib assistant** you don't need a lot of experience just enthusiasm and willing. An experienced helm will provide guidance on board. Some key roles of the assistant are:-
  1. Keeping a watchful eye out for any sailors in difficulty and advise the helm;
  2. Assist with towing sailors either singularly or multiple sailors via a daisy chain;
  3. Watching sailors under tow;
  4. Assisting in mark laying;
  5. Assisting in rescue/recovery;

### **Committee vessel roles:-**

#### **Race Officer ("RO"):-**

- Provides a briefing to sailors and race management team before going afloat;
- Ensures adequate resources available to ensure safe racing;
- Ensures he/she has all the required flags/equipment, etc;
- Decision maker on standing down any fleets based on weather and safety matters;
- Provides the beachmaster with approval to launch the fleet;
- Proceeds to the race course with safety ribs shadowing the fleet to the race area;
- Sets up the committee vessel on station and begins assessing the wind;
- Decides on the type of course to be set (i.e. Outer loop, Inner loop, Windward/Leeward, Olympic);
- Once wind is stable, he/she provides instructions to the mark laying ribs to set up the chosen course;
- Provides details of the course on the blackboard on the committee vessel;
- Ensures all required flags are attached to lanyards ready for hoisting;
- Gets racing underway with the assistance of the ARO & RT.
- For multiple fleets the process is mirrored for each subsequent fleet.
- The RO keeps a constant eye on proceedings for a change in the wind conditions, such as the RO may have to shorten or abandon a race;
- As the first boat heads for the finish the RO ensures the finish flag is flying and the RT is ready to take results called by the RO;
- Once racing is finished the RO instructs the rescue ribs to shadow/tow the fleet home;
- The RO ensures the mark laying ribs have collected all the marks;
- The RO shadows the fleet home ensuring all sailors reach shore safely;
- The RO has ultimate responsibility for the fleet while afloat;

#### **Assistant Race Officer ("ARO"):-**

- The ARO generally follows the RO's instructions but key duties may include:-
- Assisting with anchoring the committee vessel;
- Attaching the flags to the lanyards;
- Assisting with drawing the course on the blackboard;
- Hoisting / lowering flags during the starting sequence;
- Providing race course information to RO as may be relevant;
- Providing sound signals during the starting / finishing sequence;

#### **Results taker ("RT"):-**

- Main function is to document sail numbers & finishing times (if appropriate) once called by the RO;
- Call back of finishers to the RO / ARO as appropriate;
- Sometimes a video camera and voice recorder are used;
- Once results are compiled they can be photographed and sent to the results inputter (or class captain, as appropriate) ashore for expediency in having results uploaded;

#### **Jury role:-**

- Provides on the water adjudication of any infringements of the rules;
- Provides protest committee support for any shore based protests at events;