



Sailability Manly

Safety Boat Observer - responsibilities

It is preferable but not essential, that the Safety Boat observer has a power boat licence and is practicing to become a Safety Boat Skipper.

They must have good eyesight and the dexterity to throw a line.

The main responsibilities of this role are to back up the Safety Boat Skipper by:

Keeping a sharp look out at all times on:

1. The Access dinghies.

- How many are on the water today, what colours?
- Where are they?
- Are any sailing close to, or outside the Sailing Area?
- Do any need special observation e.g. Judith Geppert in the 2.3 Salvo?
- Are there inexperienced skippers who need special attention?
- If anyone is sailing erratically, call shore base and ask
- Watch for the distress signal, paddle in the air, and alert skipper immediately.
- During Man Overboard drill, be calm, constantly point to the person in the water, never take your eyes off them, be ready to grab their lifejacket, and keep head above water while rescue method is agreed with skipper.

2. Traffic on Manly Cove.

- The Ferries. When will they leave, is one approaching?
- Are any dinghies breaching the distance rule, or likely to?
- Are any yachts using the YA marks for racing?

Relay this information to the skipper continuously.

It is the Observers role to throw a towline to dinghy skippers who need a tow in a way that they can catch it easily.

Set up the Safety Boat from the start with a towline at the ready (lines of various lengths kept in the seat locker)

Ask the safety boat skipper if you can practice, and arrange with one of the dinghy skippers to catch the line in a safe location

When coming alongside the pontoon or jetty the Observer has fenders in place (jetty) picks up the mooring lines, and makes the boat fast.

It is NOT the Observers role to care for passengers.

Check there are five or less (in total) onboard and that they are wearing correctly fitting lifejackets. If a passenger has special needs, they must be accompanied by a carer.

Your attention must be on the water at all times.

Thank you. Your role has been essential in making this Sailing Day safe.

