

## **Guidance notes for Beach Marshals.**

### **Contents**

1. Introduction
2. Safety
3. Roles & responsibilities of the Beach Marshal

#### **1. Introduction.**

The aim of this document is to define the role and responsibilities of the Beach Marshal. The objective of this Code of Practice is to minimise risk to operators & bystanders in the vicinity of operation during boat launching and recovering. This is to ensure a smooth, efficient and safe operation.

With ever increasing awareness of the need to prevent accidents, the potential for action against Clubs or club members and the increasing interest being taken by the relevant authorities in the prevention of accidents, it is incumbent on sailing clubs and their members to examine their working practices and so far as is practicable minimise or eliminate potential hazards.

Members, in any event, would wish to maintain high safety standards within Marconi Sailing Club and it is for this reason the following guidance notes are issued. They should not be considered to be all embracing, but rather to form the basis for good practice. It is up to each member to ensure that the operations in which they are engaged are safely carried out.

These guidance notes do not apply to or consider the 'At Work situation' where any individual is carrying out the activity for hire or reward.

The instructions address two principal areas:

1. The use of safe working practices in order to ensure the safety of persons in the immediate area of activity, including where appropriate the adjacent waters.
2. The correct use of equipment to ensure it remains in good working order, which may, directly or indirectly, contribute towards safety.

#### **2. Safety**

- a. The nominated Beach Marshal must be fully familiar with the relevant Codes of Practice. (MSCP 62, 63, 72, 73, 87, 92)
- b. The Beach Marshal's main area of responsibility is in the area of the hard.
- c. The Beach Marshal shall always remain alert to the proceedings and immediately inform the dumper drivers should he be concerned about the safety of any of the activities, and suggest any remedies to improve the working practices in progress.
- d. The Beach Marshal will make the final decision concerning the suitability of weather conditions for safe working.
- e. The Beach Marshal must ensure that any other persons not engaged in the days' launch/recovery are at a safe distance from any working machinery. Use the moveable barriers as necessary.
- f. The Beach Marshal's decision is final should he decide any change to the days' working practice that he sees to be necessary on the grounds of safety.

**Beach Marshall Instructions**

---

- g. The Beach Marshal should consult the MSC Yearbook to ascertain any Dinghy/Catamaran activity which may coincide with the planned yacht movements and agree safe movements on the hard with the appropriate fleet captain.

**3. Roles & Responsibilities of the Beach Marshal**

- a. The Beach Marshal's role is to work with the appointed dumper drivers and any on duty OOD to oversee the safe and efficient working of the launching/recovery tasks.
- b. The Beach Marshal must have a list of those boats/owners that require launching/recovery. The Beach Marshal must work with the dumper drivers to check the type of boats on the list and decide the most efficient way to operate, by looking at the type of boats that are to be handled (Fin keel, bilge keel, trailer or travel hoist etc.)
- c. The Beach Marshal must work with the dumper drivers to hold a briefing meeting at the published time and ensure that all involved persons attend.
- d. The Beach Marshal will advise the sequence in which the boats should be moved and positioned on the hard once they have been launched/recovered to make the best use of the tide and time available on that day.
- e. The Beach Marshal shall ensure that the relevant Codes of Practice (MSCP 62, 63, 72, 73, 87, 92) are adhered to, and in particular:
- a. That all the appropriate signage is being correctly displayed
  - b. The correct wheel chocks and number are being used
  - c. The hydraulic pump & motors are not left running when not in use
  - d. The winches are being operated so that any possible damage to wire or winch is minimised
  - e. No dinghies are in the path of a launching or recovering cruiser.
  - f. That all persons are aware of the trip hazard of the winch wires.
  - g. To be aware of other club activities taking place.
  - h. Barriers, where necessary, are in place.
  - i. Be aware of any persons using the public footpath and be prepared to stop activity if deemed necessary.

END OF DOCUMENT

Reviewed on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 by the Health & Safety Committee

To be reviewed after 4 years. Next review due April 2028