

APPENDIX 4 BOATING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

Introduction

Most boating incidents take place through the culmination of several factors leading up to a single point when unsafe situations combine and pass a critical point resulting in an emergency situation. Identifying these factors and correcting them immediately is the best course of action.

General Procedures (Personnel Injury)

The nature and severity of personnel injury shall be the determining factor for the mode and method of patient transport.

Make contact with victim, if safe, rescue as required.

1. Establish ABC's. (Airway, Breathing, Circulation) Then apply first aid as required.
2. Determine severity and select the mode of transport. (Self transport, USCG, or EMS)
3. As applicable, contact the pre-designated land base, USCG channel 16 VHF, or EMS 911. Or local equivalent
4. Coordinate with EMS for patient transfer site and ETA.
5. Notify the Boating Safety Officer or the designated Assistant.
6. Complete the Accident Forms as required.

General Procedures (Non-urgent Disabled or Damaged Vessel)

For non-emergency related damage or disabling situations it is the responsibility of the operator to suspend the mission and assess all conditions then take appropriate action. The operator must communicate the situation to the designated mother-ship or land-based point of contact. A communication schedule shall be established to monitor the situation until safe moorage is obtained.

1. Apply measures to minimize or correct the situation and contact land base or mother ship.
 - Location
 - Nature of problem
 - Type of assistance needed
 - Number of persons on board
 - Establish a communication schedule based on severity.
2. Arrange USCG assistance if another assistance provider (such as Vessel Assist) is not available. Hail USCG on VHF Channel 16 and follow their directions.
 - Same as #1 above.
 - Request notification of the land base that is holding your float plan.
2. Notify the Boating Safety Officer or the designated Assistant.
3. Complete the Accident Form if required.

Emergency Procedures (Collision, Fire, Flooding, Grounding, Crew overboard)

Severe situations that can lead to the loss of life and property are collision, fire, flooding, grounding and crew over board. Each of these situations requires the operator to immediately initiate measures to correct the situation. Additionally, the USCG and/or another designated agency shall be notified to facilitate rescue and/or assistance.

1. Initiate control measures to prevent/minimize loss of life and the vessel.
2. Contact USCG Channel 16 VHF
 - MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY!
 - Location (Speak slowly and repeat position)
 - Nature of distress
 - Vessel name, ID number & description
 - Number of people on board
3. Request notification of the Boating Safety Officer or the designated Assistant as soon as possible.