

Regatta Safety: Planning, Operation and Emergency Response

Panelists:

Dan Cooney, Gowrie Group

Jeff Johnson, San Diego Yacht Club

John Craig, Principle Race Officer



Regatta Safety Plan: Panelists

Dan Cooney, Gowrie Group, dancooney@gowrie.com

Jeff Johnson, San Diego Yacht Club, sailing@sdyc.org

John Craig, Principle Race Officer, jrc.race@gmail.com



Regatta Safety Plan – Know your Facility

- Know your facility
 - Address, phone numbers, cross street
 - Map of property with locations labeled
 - Map of property with emergency resources labeled



Regatta Safety Plan – Know your Responders

- Know your responders
 - Who to contact
 - How to contact
 - Response time
 - Preferred rendezvous points
 - What would make their efforts easier



Regatta Safety Plan – Know your Venue

- Know your venue
 - Map of event venues with locations labeled
 - Map of event venues with rendezvous points labeled
 - List of ‘First responder’ names and numbers



Regatta Safety Plan – Know Your Plan

- Know your plan
 - On land
 - On water
 - Who needs to know
 - What needs to be known



Regatta Safety Plan – Know What Comes Next

- Know what comes next...
 - Who gets information
 - Who gives information
 - What to say and when to say it
 - 10 key items....



Regatta Safety Plan - Experience

The Five “E’s”

1. Educate
2. Evaluate
3. Exposure
4. Emergency
5. Evacuate



Sample Plan – San Diego YC (Pages 1-2)



Regatta Safety Plan

ON SHORE:

Life Threatening Injury or Emergency:

1. Survey environment – stabilize injury or move to safety if necessary.
2. Call 911 (from your cell phone or closest available club phone)
 - The yacht club address is:
San Diego Yacht Club
1011 Anchorage Lane
San Diego Yacht Club
 - Talbot St. is nearest cross street.
 - SDYC Front Desk phone number is (619) 221-8400.
 - Also give them your direct phone number as well.
3. Call Security (619-758-6322) and/or send someone to front gate to assist with direction to scene. Ask Security to call the General Manager with a brief description of who is hurt and how.
4. Monitor the injury and administer first-aid as required.

EMERGENCY AID LOCATIONS:

Oxygen:

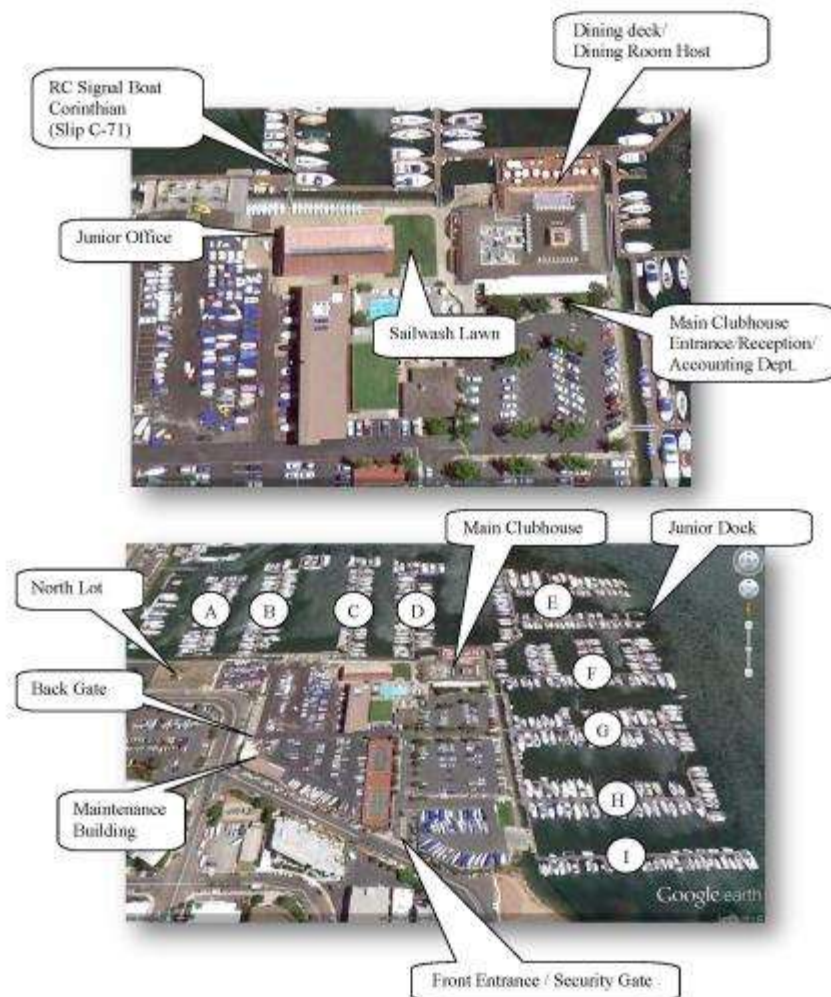
Dining Room host station; RC boat Corinthian (C-71)

AED:

Security Gate; Dining Room host station; RC boat Corinthian (C-71)

First Aid Medical supplies:

Security Gate; Maintenance Building; Junior Office in Sailing Center; Corinthian (slip C-71) and in Main Clubhouse; Dining Room host station, Accounting Dept.



Sample Plan – San Diego YC (Pages 3-4)



Regatta Safety Plan

ON THE WATER:

Life Threatening Injury or Emergency:

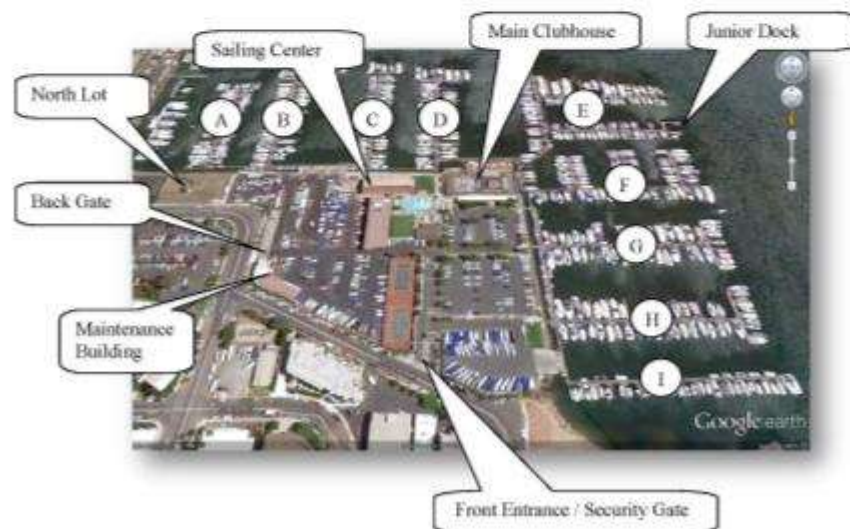
1. Survey environment – stabilize injury or move to safety if necessary.
 2. Contact the Race Committee (VHF Channel 69 or 16).
 - a. Advise them of your boat name, sail #, and position on the course.
 - b. Provide nature of emergency and gender/ age of person involved.
 - c. Provide best land based contact number (cell #) for person associated with emergency for future contact.
 - d. Race Committee will manage the incident on the water with its assets and contact Harbor Police to activate emergency response ashore.
 - ↳ RC Signal boat Corinthian is 43' trawler with her name on transom. It has oxygen, AED and basic medical supplies.
 - e. All boats on the race course are requested to maintain a working VHF radio tuned to VHF channel 16 and/or 69 at all times. Any boat may be called upon to assist in an emergency situation as directed by the Race Committee.
 3. If you elect to not involve the Race Committee, call Harbor Police (HP) on VHF 16 or at the Emergency Dispatch # listed below.
 - a. Contact the Race Committee to inform them of your status and any assistance you require.
- Rendezvous point for contact with medical assistance will be dictated by HP dispatch.
 - Rendezvous point from sea is typically Harbor Police Station on Shelter Island.
 - Rendezvous point from North and South San Diego Bay will vary, and will be given by HP dispatch. Medical asset availability, severity of injury, or bay location will affect pick up point.
4. Monitor the injury and administer first-aid as required.

Harbor Police (HP)

Emergency (619-223-1133)
Non-emergency (619-686-6570)

US Coast Guard:

Emergency (619) 295-3121
Non-emergency (619-278-7033)



Sample Plan – San Diego YC (Pages 5-6)



Communications Plan

ON THE WATER:

Life Threatening Injury or Emergency:

- After activating the 9-1-1 system, or stabilizing the situation (getting injuries moving toward help) an informed member of the Race Committee should notify the Club Manager as soon as possible by telephone (ie not broadcasting on VHF). The Club Manager will notify the Commodore (Flag Officers).
- Race Committee should record time and location of incident, and continue to note subsequent communications or events as they occur. All recorded facts should be submitted to the General Manager/Regatta Manager/Event Chair when ashore.
- When appropriate, document the phone number/name of contacts at Coast Guard or Harbor Police that are contacted/involved with the incident.
- If injuries are being transported to hospitals, make note of where they will be transported. This should be relayed to General Manager/Regatta Manager/Event Chair as soon as possible so this can be communicated to emergency contacts.

MEDIA:

- All requests for information by any means (phone, email, text, personal request, etc.) should be forwarded to the Regatta Manager, General Manager, and Commodore. A single spokesperson will be designated and respond.
- Club media outlets like Facebook that allow public postings/comments should be turned off to prevent propagation of rumors and misinformation from our own media properties.
- As soon as information is known, a written statement or links to statements by official authorities (ex Coast Guard) should be posted to all club media outputs (website, Facebook, etc.). These statements should be updated if additional information becomes known that will further reassure interested parties or dispel speculation.
- Clubs or organizations that may be associated with the event, incident or injury should be contacted as soon as possible. Let them know the facts, and request they refer all inquiries to the information focal point decided on (Sailing Office?), or learn where they would like inquiries sent. Suggest they congregate in a single location.
- All press releases should list a point(s) of contact for further information.
- It is important to keep the following strategies in mind when communicating:
 - Provide any information about the event thru a single spokesperson for the duration of the event. This may include several communications thru different media. That voice should be the Commodore (Flag Officer), or General Manager. Other persons knowledgeable of the event should remain in close

Sample Plan – San Diego YC (Pages 7-8)

contact with spokes person to advise / assist with questions as the situation requires.

- Address the media and public with only the facts known at the time. Avoid speculation.
- Address the media with a prepared statement that is written out ahead of time. Get help with statement to edit out non-factual statements or statements that may have unintended consequences or create further misinformation.
- Do not comment on rumors, causes, outcomes, or other questions that require assumptions.
- With numerous inquiries, or in the event of a death, a press conference may best serve inquiries. The fewer times the story is told the better.
- A single person other than the spokesperson should be the focal point of collecting or researching information (ex. Calling the Coast Guard for further details), or receiving requests for further information.

PARTICIPANTS:

- Protect the identity/privacy of those involved, until relatives are notified and approve of the release of names.
- Emergency contacts should be notified as soon as possible, preferably by a person with knowledge of the event (Event Chair, Regatta Manager, General Manager, Commodore). They may be notified sooner by crew or others associated with the incident, but the organizing authority should still reach out. The person calling does not have to be the appointed spokes person.
- Tracking devices/data collected for boats involved should be monitored but removed from public inspection.

- A communication to competitors may be appropriate to provide emotional support, solicit information surrounding the event/incident.
- In the event of a large number of injuries/casualties (from multiple boats, three or more?), the festivities or reception for the event may be canceled or modified to provide support for competitors/those affected. This decision should be in consultation with the Organizing Authority(ies), Club leadership, or other persons/organizations involved.









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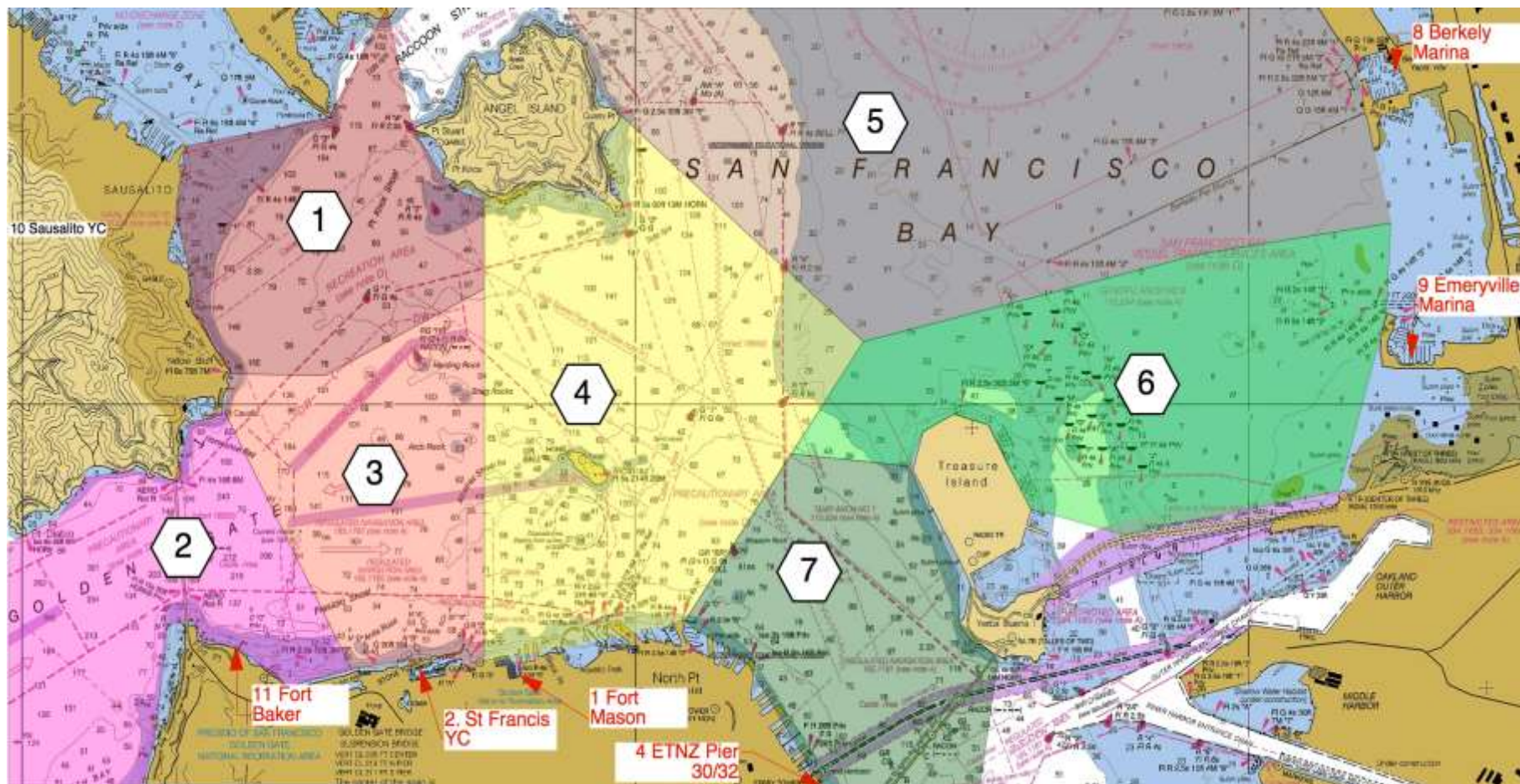
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“Regatta Safety Plan”

