

ROYAL BRIGHTON
YACHT CLUB

Yacht Race Management Handbook



SKILLS & PERSONAL ABILITY
REQUIREMENTS

Contents

A quick reference to the skills, qualifications and personal abilities expected across RBYC race management roles.

01	Rescue Boat Driver
02	Rescue Boat Crew
03	Mark Laying Boat Driver
04	Mark Laying Boat Crew
05	Start Boat Driver
06	Start Boat Crew
07	Race Tower Crew
08	Common Requirements for All Race Management Boat Roles

Rescue Boat Driver

Essential Skills & Qualifications

- Current powerboat licence (as required by state regulations)
- Competent boat handling in a range of weather and sea conditions
- Experience operating RHIBs and rescue craft
- Understanding of racing rules and race management procedures
- Ability to conduct sailor and vessel rescues safely
- Knowledge of man-overboard recovery techniques
- VHF Marine License.
- Ability to assess weather and water conditions
- Knowledge of local waterways, hazards and navigation marks

Personal Abilities

- Calm under pressure and during emergencies
- Able to enter, exit and move around the vessel unaided.
- Excellent situational awareness
- Good communication skills
- Leadership and team coordination abilities
- Physically fit and capable of assisting sailors from the water
- Comfortable to travel at high speed
- Reliable and punctual
- Safety-focused mindset
- Able to work independently when required

Rescue Boat Crew

Essential Skills & Qualifications

- Experience working from small boats
- Understanding of rescue and recovery procedures
- Competent swimmer
- Knowledge of correct use of safety equipment
- Ability to assist with towing and vessel recovery
- Basic marine radio procedures
- First Aid and CPR certification (desirable)
- Understanding of race course operations

Personal Abilities

- Strong teamwork skills
- Ability to follow instructions promptly
- Calm and composed in emergency situations
- Physically capable of assisting sailors and handling equipment
- Comfortable to travel at high speed
- Positive attitude and willingness to assist
- Flexible and adaptable to changing conditions
- Strong commitment to safety
- Able to enter, exit and move around the vessel unaided.

03

ROLE PROFILE

Mark Laying Boat Driver

Essential Skills & Qualifications

- Current powerboat licence
- Advanced boat handling skills
- Ability to use navigation apps (training provided)
- Understanding of racecourse layouts and race management requirements
- Knowledge of anchoring techniques and mark placement
- VHF Marine License.
- Ability to work with precise instructions from the Race Officer
- Experience operating in close proximity to racing fleets

Personal Abilities

- High attention to detail
- Strong organisational skills
- Effective communication skills
- Comfortable handling boats at high speeds
- Ability to work accurately under time pressure
- Patience and adaptability
- Safety-conscious approach
- Reliable and punctual
- Able to enter, exit and move around the vessel unaided.

Mark Laying Boat Crew

Essential Skills & Qualifications

- Experience working from small boats (Preferred)
- Ability to handle anchors, lines and racing marks safely
- VHF Radio license (Preferred)
- Understanding of race management terminology
- Ability to assist with mark relocation and retrieval

Personal Abilities

- Strong teamwork and cooperation
- Good physical fitness and manual handling capability
- Able to get in and out of vessel unassisted
- Ability to follow instructions accurately
- Good communication skills
- Adaptability to changing weather and race requirements
- Positive attitude and willingness to assist
- Safety-focused approach
- Able to enter, exit and move around the vessel unaided.

Start Boat Driver

Essential Skills & Qualifications

- Conduct a pre-departure inspection of the vessel and safety equipment.
- Position the Start Boat accurately in accordance with the race course plan.
- Deploy anchors as directed by the Race Officer.
- Maintain the vessel's position throughout racing.
- Operate the vessel safely at all times.
- Maintain the Start Boat's position despite wind, tide and wave action.
- Assist the Race Officer with course changes where required.
- Monitor nearby competitor safety.
- Maintain communication with Race Management, Rescue Boats and Mark Boats.
- Report any defects or maintenance issues.
- Current Powerboat Licence.
- Excellent boat positioning and anchoring ability.
- Experience operating in close proximity to racing fleets.
- Good understanding of race management procedures.
- VHF Marine License.
- Knowledge of local waters and navigation hazards.

Personal Abilities

- Calm under pressure.
- Physically fit and capable of performing the role.
- Excellent boat handling skills, especially at high speed.
- High situational awareness.
- Strong teamwork.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Patient and adaptable.
- Safety-focused.
- Reliable and punctual.
- Able to enter, exit and move around the vessel unaided.

Start Boat Crew

Essential Skills & Qualifications

- Understanding of racing procedures.
- Knowledge of race flags and signals.
- Basic marine radio procedures.
- Ability to assist with anchoring.
- Good organisational skills.
- Understanding of sailing terminology.

Personal Abilities

- Excellent attention to detail.
- Physically fit and able to work on an unstable platform.
- Able to enter, exit and move around the vessel unaided.
- Strong communication skills.
- Ability to follow instructions accurately.
- Organised and methodical.
- Safety conscious.
- Positive attitude.

Race Tower Crew

Essential Skills & Qualifications

- Understanding of sailing race procedures and start sequences.
- Knowledge of race flags, sound signals and their correct timing.
- Ability to operate timing, sound and flag systems.
- Ability to accurately record starters, finishers, race times and documentation.
- Understanding of sailing terminology and course information.
- Basic marine radio procedures and clear radio communication.

Personal Abilities

- Excellent attention to detail and accuracy.
- Physically fit and able to work on an unstable platform.
- Able to enter, exit and move around the vessel unaided.
- Able to remain focused for extended periods.
- Strong communication and teamwork skills.
- Ability to follow the Race Officer's instructions promptly.
- Organised and methodical.
- Calm under pressure and adaptable to changing conditions.
- Reliable and punctual.
- Safety conscious and aware of activity around the tower.

Common Requirements for All Race Management Boat Roles

Knowledge

- Understanding of sailing race management principles
- Familiarity with club safety procedures
- Understanding of emergency response protocols
- Knowledge of personal protective equipment requirements
- Awareness of child safety and member protection policies where applicable

Qualifications

- Hold any licences, certificates or accreditations required for the assigned role.
- Complete RBYC induction and role-specific training.
- First Aid and CPR certification (highly desirable).

Personal Attributes

- Professional and courteous conduct
- Good physical fitness and manual handling capability
- Strong commitment to participant safety
- Ability to work as part of a race management team
- Dependability and punctuality
- Good judgement and common sense
- Ability to remain focused for extended periods
- Respect for club equipment and resources
- Willingness to undertake ongoing training and development
- Able to enter, exit and move around the vessel unaided.

Notes

Training, accreditation and role development

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SAFETY • TEAMWORK • RELIABILITY

These requirements support safe, consistent and professional race management at Royal Brighton Yacht Club.