

## **1. APPLICATION**

- 1.1 This safety management plan applies only to yachts and crews participating in the discover sailing program in conjunction with Hamilton Island (CYCHI) sanctioned Racing / Training events.
- 1.2 The area includes waters within the sight of the viewing rotunda atop “One Tree Hill” on Hamilton Island (Map AUS 252) and course areas as defined by CYCHI Yacht Division Courses as “around the local islands” including Henning Island, Plum Pudding Island, Fitzalan Island, Dent Island, Hamilton Island and Whitsunday Island.
- 1.3 The specific area for the discover sailing program is highlighted in the below map (refer map 1.1)
- 1.4 This plan does not apply to other divisions or to events conducted outside the area defined by 1.2 or requiring higher levels of safety than Category 6 as defined by AS Special Regulations – Safety.

## **2. LIMITATION**

- 2.1 Participation in any CYCHI discover sailing event shall only take place if the qualified instructors are on hand
- 2.2 Sailing will not take place when there is a current or forecast Gale Warning or Strong Wind Warning as issued by the Bureau of Meteorology.
- 2.3 Sailing will be at the discretion of the instructors should the winds be in excess of 25 knots and a strong wind warning or gale warning does not exist
- 2.4 Sailing will not take place if the instructors feel the conditions are deemed to be unsafe due to unforeseen circumstances
- 2.5 If conditions are not suitable for training, the session will be moved to the school.

## **3. GENERAL SAFETY OBLIGATIONS**

- 3.1 All participants are required to abide by General Safety Obligations on and off the course including:
  - a) Ensuring all safety checks have been completed before sailing.
  - b) An experience instructor has checked the vessel before sailing
  - c) You must ensure your boat is operated in a safe manner.
  - d) The weather, strong winds, thunderstorms, rain.
  - e) All instructors are to carry a sharp knife on them while the session is in full swing.



#### 4. REGULATION AND COMPLIANCE

- 4.1 The following shall apply to all participating yachts and crew for the duration of the training event:
- AS Special Regulations
    - Life jackets are to be worn whilst sailing
    - A safety powerboat **MUST** be in the immediate area of the sailing vessels prior to launch
- 4.2 The following shall always apply to all vessels:
- Transport Operation (Marine Safety) Regulations 2004
  - International Regulations for the Prevention of Collision at Sea (COLREGS) 1972
  - Whitsunday Port Procedures Manual – [www.msq.qld.gov.au](http://www.msq.qld.gov.au)
  - Direction issued by the Regional Harbour Master (RHM) Whitsunday/Airlie Beach.

## **5. SAILING INSTRUCTOR**

- 5.1 Shall be a person nominated by CYCHI to control the event. This person is our safety co-ordinator and he/she will make any final decisions in relation to safety issues.
- 5.2 Other duties they will perform are to monitor radio communications and initiate rescue procedures if required.
- 5.3 Instructor's must carry a Leatherman (Sharp Knife) on them at all time.
- 5.4 The instructor/s require to hold the relevant up to date qualifications in line with the discover sailing criteria
  1. First Aid
  2. Australian Sailing Powerboat handling certificate
  3. Working with children (blue card)
  4. AS Instructor qualification
  5. Assistant Instructor qualification and / or AS Instructor sailing qualification
  6. Queensland Recreational Marine Drivers Licence (Boat Licence)

## **6. TRAINING CONTROL HEIRARCHY**

- 6.1 The Regional Harbour Master (RHM) Whitsunday will have primary control over any sailing followed by:
- 6.2 Sailing Instructor
- 6.3 CYCHI Commodore or delegate
- 6.4 Sailors

## **7. RADIO COMMUNCATION**

- 7.1 During any discover sailing events a minimum of one vessel is required to maintain radio communications on marine VHF Channel 73 and radio watch on marine VHF Channel 16.

## **8. RESCUE / SAFETY SUPPORT**

- 8.1 In the first instance a vessel shall use all means available including on board rescue and safety equipment to ensure the safety of all on board and affect repair and rescue if required.
- 8.2 A participating vessel shall be required to assist any boat in reasonable proximity that is requesting or directing assistance.
- 8.3 CYCHI always provides a compliant support vessel on the course. If there is an incident, they are to immediately attend to the problem vessel and take the role of co-ordinator.

## **10. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION – PORT ACTIVITY**

- 10.1 The RHM Whitsunday or his delegate through Hay Point VTS shall have control over all vessels at the event including:
  - All official, participating and rescue ships.
  - Temporary suspension of an event if required to allow safe passage of port vessels.
  - Cancellation or moving the event if weather conditions are unsuitable.

## **11. SUSPENSION**

- 11.1 The CYCHI reserves the right to cancel an event for any reason.  
EG: If conditions are deemed unsuitable. (see clause 2.2)
- 11.2 The instructor/s will endeavour to provide as much notice as possible to all participants.

## **12. LOCAL RESCUE PROCEDURES**

- 12.1 The discover sailing instructor/s are responsible for assessing the circumstances pertaining to the vessel and participants deciding if assistance is required.
- 12.2 If assistance is required the instructor/s shall initiate notification by radio (VHF CH73 primary and CH16 secondary) or other means available to it in the following order:
  - 1. If a serious emergency exists, contact emergency services on "000", "112" or marine VHF CH 16
  - 2. Additional assistanceThe instructor/s will notify the Commodore CYCHI and any other committee members who can monitor the situation, assist onshore services and coordinate CYCHI support vessels if required.

## **13. FIRST AID**

- 13.1 All yachts and support vessels Comply with AS Special Regulations and Discover Sailing Centre Operating Standards and Guidelines.

## **14. EMERGENCY**

- 14.1 Any instructor deciding that an EMERGENCY exists shall initiate emergency call procedures direct to the available emergency channels.

## **15. PRE-EVENT BRIEFING**

- 15.1 A safety briefing for all sailors is compulsory prior to any event.
- 15.2 The briefing will be conducted by the event instructor/s and include:
  - a) Sailing Instructions for participants.
  - b) Safety checks on all vessels
  - c) An update on local shipping movements provided by Whitsunday port Authorities. (if applicable).
  - d) Weather conditions
  - e) Emergency procedures
  - f) If conditions are too bad, relocating the session to the school.

## 16. EMERGENCY CONTACTS

16.1	Regional Harbour Master Mackay Hay Point on VHF ch 16		07 4944 3700– VTS
16.2	Marine safety Queensland (MSQ) Airlie beach		07 4946 2200
16.3	Emergency Services		000
16.4	Ambulance Hamilton Island		000
16.4	Hamilton Island Safety and Security		07 4946 9999
16.5	Queensland Fire and Rescue		000
16.6	Whitsunday Water Police		07 4967 7222
16.7	CYCHI Commodore	Craig Traill	0417 549 869
16.8	CYCHI V/Commodore	Ben Staddon	0428 431 379
16.9	Instructor	Rex Phillpott	0435 883 242
16.10	Instructor	Andrew Bensley	0450 446 823
16.11	Assistant Instructor	Stuart Green	0423 461 807
16.12	Australian Sailing	Ben Callard	0417 053 015 / 07 33936785

## 17. EMERGENCY CONTACT VESSELS

17.1	Mars Charters	Richard/Broaden	1800 202 909
17.2	HI Watersports	Mark Harvey	0416 086 242
17.3	HI Watersports	Andrew Harvey	0414 893 805
17.4	Explore Group	Phil Andrews	0448 822 377
17.5	Hamilton Island Barge	Henry Danvers	0410 544 923
17.6	Hamilton Island Marina		07 4946 8353