



Colorado Sail & Yacht Club Safety Recommendations and Guidelines

2015

Authority



- Bylaws of Colorado Sail & Yacht Club
- Article III (Government) Section 3 (Club Officers)
- Safety Chairperson. The Safety Chairperson shall provide safety recommendations for all club activities. In addition the Safety Chairperson shall develop and maintain safety guidelines as well as make recommendations to the Commodore and Race Chairperson relating to safety for all on-the-water events.

Club Activities - On the Water



- Races
 - Series races (Spring, Summer, Fall)
 - Regattas
 - Special races (Fagawi Race, Pursuit Race)
 - Dinghy races
 - Junior regatta
- Raft-ups
- Come Sail With Us event

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Club Activities – Social Events



- First Saturdays
- Annual wine and cheese party
- Mardi Gras, St. Patrick's Day outings
- BBQs after series races
- Parties after regattas
- Commodore's Ball

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Safety – On the Water Events



- The first rule of safety for all sailing:
 - The skipper of his / her boat is responsible for:
 - Go / no-go decisions
 - Deciding whether to stay on or get off the water
 - Conduct of crew while on the boat
- All information in this document is general in nature and not intended to be inclusive of all safety information. Preparation, preplanning, and safety remain the duty of each skipper.

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State Park Requirements



- Approved PFDs for each person aboard
 - Children under the age of 13 must wear an approved life jacket while onboard a vessel that is in the water
- Approved throwable PFD
- Effective whistle or horn
- Fire extinguisher (requirement varies by boat)
- Valid boat registration
- See complete list at <http://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/Boating/SafetyEquipment.pdf>

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Race Safety Before Start



- Race Committee, Race Director, Safety Officer will decide if it is safe to leave the docks
 - Based on what is best for RC and racing in general
 - Each skipper decides whether his/her boat leaves dock
- Current and imminent weather will be considered
 - Presence, distance, and movement of any lightning
 - Wind speed
 - Precipitation and cloud appearance
 - Air and water temperature
 - Weather forecast and radar

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VHF Radios



- CSYC strongly recommends each racing boat have an operable VHF radio
- Monitor channel 68
- Race committee may give instructions about courses, starts, abandonments over radio
- Boats without radios won't get redress for missed communications

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Radio Check-In (New for 2015)

- For series races only; not for regattas
- Boats may check in with RC by radio
- Intended to reduce congestion around RC boat
 - Especially as early-starting fleets near their start sequence and later-starting fleets still checking in
- RC will also strive to announce courses over radio, for same reason
- Flags and course board on RC boat still official

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Proper Check-In

- After RC boat raises “L” flag with one sound:
- Check in by radio on Channel 68, or
- Sail past RC’s stern on starboard tack within hailing distance
- Tell RC your sail number, and number of people aboard
- After RC responds, clear the area

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Race Safety After Start



- If time allows, there may be additional starts
 - Stay clear of start / finish line until your sequence begins; failure may result in 30% penalty or DSQ
- If weather changes, RC, Race Director, and Safety Officer will confer on abandonment
 - If abandoning, RC will fly “N” flag over “A” flag with three sounds, and announce on radio
 - Look for your fleet members, help anyone in distress, return to docks ASAP, meet at CYSC bulletin board on B dock for head count

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The Racing Rules of Sailing



- “A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.”
- CSYC recommends that the crew of each racing boat become familiar with the RRS
- Violations of the RRS can create collision hazards during a race

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Safety for Dinghy Races



- Safety decisions before and after the start will be made more conservatively for dinghy races, including the Junior Regatta
- Dinghies can't return to shore as easily as keelboats, without auxiliary power
- Dinghies are more likely to capsize, and dinghy sailors more likely to enter the water, in rough weather

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Safety for Raft-Ups



- The largest boat anchors the raft-up
- Smaller boats tie up alongside larger boats
- Same number of boats on both sides of anchor
- Watch out that rigging doesn't collide
- Use lots of well-placed fenders

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Other On-The-Water Safety



- Keep a sharp lookout at all times
 - Chatfield has lots of fishing boats
 - Power boaters don't always know right-of-way rules
- For night races (Fagawi), all boats should comply with lighting rules and regulations
- CYSC recommends that sailors wear PFDs

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Safety – Social Events



- If you've had too much to drink, don't drive

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Emergency Numbers



- 911 – Police, Fire, Medical
 - State your location and description of emergency
 - Operator may ask you to stay on line until help arrives
- Douglas County Sheriff – 303-660-7505
- Jefferson County Sheriff – 303-277-0211
- Colorado State Patrol – 303-239-4501 (Golden Troop Office Dispatch)
- Chatfield Marina – 303-791-5555
- Chatfield State Park – 303-791-7275

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Chatfield Reservoir Jurisdictions



- Original South Platte River channel separates Douglas and Jefferson Counties
- East side of lake is in Douglas County
 - Marina, campgrounds, marks 1, 2, & 7
- West side of lake is in Jefferson County
 - Swim beach, NW boat ramp, marks 3, 4, & 5
- Mark 6 is on the county line
- Give your location and emergency dispatchers will send personnel from correct jurisdiction

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