



CRUISE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Introduction

1. This Plan is applicable to the conduct of coastal passages of RPAYC organised cruising events that require a Cruise Entry Form to be submitted and accepted prior to participation.
2. This Plan does not apply when a coastal cruise is in port nor does it apply to cruises which are conducted entirely in enclosed or sheltered waters.
3. Whilst the Plan is intended to cover the management of RPAYC cruises-in-company, much of the content is based on good seamanship and common-sense, both of which are relevant to risk management of any sailing event.

Scope

1. RPAYC cruise in company events within NSW waters as defined in Section 1.2 of the Royal Prince Alfred Vessel Club Incident Management Plan.
2. Cruise in company events extending beyond the waters defined above require a modified Cruise Management Plan covering the expanded cruise area.

Management Plan

1. A vessel is deemed to be participating in a cruise if:
 - a. It has completed and lodged the applicable Cruise Entry Form for the event and the entry accepted by the Sailing Office;
 - b. It has been audited for and deemed to comply with the event category requirements designated in the Notice of Cruise (event categories and requirements are specified in the RPAYC Cruising Regulations);
 - c. There are at least two capable crew (including the skipper) onboard;
 - d. At least one person on board holds a Marine Radio Operators Certificate of Proficiency (or equivalent);
 - e. At least one person on board has completed a Safety at Sea Survival Certificate (recommended);

- f. At least one person on board holds a current First Aid Certificate (recommended);
 - g. It is conforming to the daily sail plan as proposed by the Cruise Coordinator and agreed by the majority of cruise members;
 - h. It complies with all requirements specified by the event Notice of Cruise document; and
 - i. The skipper has logged on and remains logged on to the cruise or passage with the cruise coordinator.
2. A vessel is **NOT** deemed to be participating in a cruise if, notwithstanding that it complies with the criteria above, it is not conforming to the daily sail plan by:
- a. Not departing on the departure date as specified in the Cruise Instructions (CI);
 - b. Not planning to arrive at the passage destination by nautical sunset or the agreed time on the specified passage day;
 - c. Proceeding to a different destination; or is,
 - d. Not responding to radio calls from the Cruise Coordinator.
3. The cruise will be under the overall supervision of a Cruise Coordinator who may be the Rear Commodore Cruising (RCC) or some other suitably experienced person appointed by the RCC.
4. The main duties of the Cruise Coordinator are to:
- a. Appoint and brief a deputy on another vessel to assist him and to assume the Cruise Coordinator role and responsibilities in the event that the Cruise Coordinator becomes incapacitated or otherwise unable to effectively perform his duties;
 - b. Formulate a daily sail plan for the day's passage with due consideration being given to weather, tides, distances, times, ports and anchorages and plan being acceptable to the majority of cruise participants;
 - c. Monitor weather forecasts and encourage other vessels in company to do likewise;
 - d. Maintain contact at appropriate intervals, by day and by night, preferably by radio schedule (sked), with participating vessels whilst at sea and maintain a written log of position reports and any problems being experienced;
 - e. Log vessels on and off the passage and cruise and maintain a written log of vessels participating, leaving and rejoining the cruise or passage.
 - f. Formulate and advise an alternate plan in the event that weather and sea

conditions deteriorate during the day's passage;

- g. Where reasonably possible, and with consideration to the safety of vessels and their crews, render or arrange any assistance that may be required;
 - h. Maintain contact with any vessel temporarily leaving the cruise to the maximum extent possible;
 - i. Be familiar with all aspects of the RPAYC Incident Management Plan;
 - j. Act as the Incident Officer in the case of an incident occurring during the cruise;
 - k. Advise the appropriate NSW Marine Rescue stations of overall cruise plans; and,
 - l. After at least one warning and with due consideration, advise any skippers of vessels not conforming with the daily sail plan that their participant status in the event has been revoked.
5. The skipper of a vessel leaving the Cruise, temporarily or permanently, must advise the Cruise Coordinator of his intentions prior to actually leaving. Skippers of vessels leaving temporarily must, to the maximum extent possible, maintain contact with the Cruise Coordinator and advise him when the vessel rejoins the cruise. Should a vessel leave the cruise permanently then it should log-on with appropriate NSW Marine Rescue stations whilst at sea and log-off when safely in port, or at anchor and before the Marine Rescue station shuts down for the night.
6. Other than meeting all requirements for participation in a cruise as defined above, individual skippers must:
- a. Ensure that their vessel and all equipment including hull, spars, rigging, sails and engine, is fully found and thoroughly seaworthy;
 - b. Make the final decision regarding whether or not to take their vessel to sea, or remain at sea, or to cross a bar;
 - c. Monitor VHF channels 16 and 77 (or as specified in the CI) prior to putting to sea and until logging off on completion of the cruise/passage;
 - d. Log-on with the Cruise Coordinator prior to the start of a passage and log-off with the Cruise Coordinator on completion of the passage, when safely in port;
 - e. Be aware of the times for radio schedules and be ready to supply position reports and any other relevant information when called;
 - f. Monitor weather reports and forecasts when on passage;
 - g. Ensure their mobile phone is charged, turned on and within audible range of the helm throughout the day;

- h. Operate their vessel with care and in a seamanlike manner observing the requirements of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea;
- i. Ensure that all safety equipment is properly maintained and in-date and that all crew are aware of the location and use of safety equipment and MOB procedures;
- j. Ensure that their vessel is adequately crewed both for when cruising - in - company and if leaving the cruise temporarily or permanently;
- k. Ensure all crew wear their PFDs, harnesses and tethers whilst on deck or in the cockpit at sea and are clipped on when leaving the cockpit to work on deck and are clipped on at night or in bad weather both when in the cockpit and when on deck;
- l. Cooperate with the Cruise Coordinator and other skippers in deciding on daily sail plans (the option of leaving the cruise temporarily or permanently is always available if a skipper considers the sail plan unacceptable); and,
- m. Be familiar with the operational procedures described in the RPAYC Incident Management Plan and the responsibilities defined therein.

General

The requirements of this Plan may be added to by the Cruise Coordinator in the light of special or unforeseen circumstances.

A cruise will not put to sea if in the opinion of the Cruise Coordinator either the weather conditions or the weather forecast are considered unfavorable.

Incident Management

Incidents will be managed through the RPAYC Incident Management Plan. All participants must be aware of the IMP and their responsibilities as defined therein.

The primary emergency response will be provided by the relevant state police authorities, or by AusSAR, using normal, emergency maritime procedures. In addition, the Cruise Coordinator will coordinate any assistance from within the cruise and will act as the IMP Incident Officer until relieved by the NSW Water Police or another emergency response agency.

The RPAYC does not provide primary emergency response however a Club liaison officer will be available on a 24 hour basis to assist the cruise with any external PR aspects, including media and family. For this reason it is essential that the Cruise Coordinator maintains accurate data on boat/group location, crew changes, and plans, and regularly passes this information to the RPAYC.

Emergency Communications

NSW Water Police	000	
NSW Marine Rescue	(02) 9450 2468	
Cruise Coordinator	refer to Notice of Cruise	
Incident Officer	is the Cruise Coordinator	
RPAYC Incident Manager	Sailing Manager	902) 9998 3760