

CSA ON THE WATER EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Communication

On the water all csa volunteers should be equipped with two forms of communication, a cell phone and a vhf radio tuned to Channel 72. No outside agency monitors VHF communication. The Sheriff, USACE, IDNR, the Fire Department or EMT folks do NOT monitor any VHF channel and that includes channel 16. Channel 72 will be the CSA com link between the event chair, the whaler crews and the committee boat and Bob the Harbormaster who will be on shore during events. It is the only channel anyone should ever use because that is what the Harbormaster monitors. Calls for assistance to help righting a boat or to pull sailors from the water should use channel 72 as long as there appears to be no injury requiring medical attention. Whenever a situation arises, no matter the severity, it should be reported on channel 72 so that all whaler safety crews are alerted and standing by for further instruction from the committee boat. In some cases immediate assistance may be needed.

Serious Injury and medical emergency

In the event of an incident that appears to have caused an injury requiring immediate medical attention the person making that observation should call 911 asap. That call goes to the Clinton Co Sheriff and they will dispatch all other needed first responders like ambulance, EMT or Fire Department. That call should report the following;

- A description of the person or persons injured. “ we have a male, approximately age 40, in the water complaining of chest pains or unresponsive, or bleeding.”
- The location is; “ a mile out from the CSA harbor or two miles from the damn in the middle of the lake with a CSA marked whaler on site “. Or if you know them, give gps lat and longitude. Some VHF radios are gps enabled. Look on the screen.
- Advise that “we are on VHF channel 72” and our on scene contact is joe smith on our whaler”and he will coordinate or Rick is on our committee boat and he will coordinate.

- Ask them for advice on whether or not the person should be pulled from the water. Remember that trained EMT people can provide a back board and skills for a safe evacuation.
- Follow instruction as to where the ambulance may pick up. CSA may not be the nearest point of pick up.
- After that contact the committee boat, event chair and the Harbormaster Bob Winston on channel 72 to update them.

The decision to remove someone from the water who is unconscious, or who cannot communicate his or her condition should be made very carefully and carried out with extreme caution. Our boats are not equipped with back boards. Most have ladders but they require that an individual be agile enough to use them. If weather and water temperature are favorable it may be best to wait for professional help. Hauling someone in over the side could cause more harm. Of course, this is a judgement call that may be difficult to make.

If the person is in severe pain or can't move, try to get them on their back with their head above the water until help arrives. If they are unconscious check their breathing. You may need to pull them from the water to apply CPR IF you know how. At a minimum try to clear their airway of water.

An Injury that is not a true medical emergency

This means that in your opinion the injured can be safely evacuated to CSA for further evaluation and care without calling 911. This involves communication with the injured person and a joint decision between you, as to the nature and extent of the injury. But ask some questions of the injured person; pain? Where? Can you move everything? Bleeding-where? Cold? What is wrong? **WHEN IN DOUBT CALL 911.**

Bob Winston will be monitoring channel 72 on shore during regattas and other CSA on the water activities. He should be kept informed of any situation involving CSA participants, even if there is no injury. He may have to launch a whaler, summon help or provide equipment. If you cell signal is bad and you cannot make the call then radio Bob. Give him the facts as outlined above and he will make the 911 call.

HYPOTHERMIA CHART

Hypothermia Chart			
Water Temp (degrees)	Hypothermia Index	Exhaustion or Unconsciousness	Expected Survival Time
20 to 32 degrees	EXTREME	Under 7 minutes	Under 7-22 minutes
32.5 degrees	EXTREME	Under 15 minutes	Under 15-45 minutes
32.5 to 40 degrees	SEVERE	15 to 30 minutes	30 to 90 minutes
40 to 50 degrees	HIGH	30 to 60 minutes	1 to 3 hours
50 to 60 degrees	CAUTION	1 to 2 hours	1 to 6 hours
60 to 70 degrees	MEDIUM	2 to 7 hours	2 to 40 hours
70 to 80 degrees	LOW	3 to 12 hours	3 hours to indefinite
Over 80 degrees	NONE	Indefinite	Indefinite

The range 20-32 degrees is not on any official chart as most government sources do not track water temperatures that can reach the very cold conditions that Great Salt Lake can reach.