

## I-LYA Jr. Bay Week Safety Meeting Notes December 5, 2015

My sincere thanks to everyone that attended our Safety Meeting on December 5, 2015.

We discussed the need to have a safety symposium led by US Sailing. This would be a tune-up for coaches, parents, competitors, and other volunteers. Suggest the meeting to be held at SSC perhaps in April. Amy Gross-Kehoe is available.

We covered a long list of topics. Here is a helpful reminder of the items discussed. Our goal is to spread the word among regatta hosts, competitors, helpers and volunteers.

--US Sailing recommends host/venue clubs provide 10:1 competitor to safety boat ratio

--Jr. Regattas should have a 5:1 ratio

--Gear bags – each safety boat should be well equipped; gear bag borrow has happened in the past; however, clubs must bring their own safety gear

--Entrapment avoidance – One of the biggest hazards in Jr. Sailing – Quick disconnect harnesses were discussed

--Rule of thumb “Optimal” righting time for a capsize is 30 seconds, after that chance of turtling the boat is greater

--Turtle avoidance – Faster righting, coach boats, safety boats quickly get to kids in need

--Masthead flotation – affixed to head of sail – great for rookies, underweight – boat won't turtle

--Easy rule of thumb for kids that are having trouble – 3 tries then intervene

--Pinny use – recommend all clubs adopt, high school and college mandate use

--Zone Defense – coverage on the course – front, middle, back of the fleets – consistent reminder

--In case of rough weather and building breeze PRO should communicate with safety boats/director. As safety boats are called to escort kids ashore, safety is diminished – risk lack of coverage on the course.

--Coach boats – all coach boats should be +1, no more lone ranger coach boats – each club must monitor/mandate

--Non-sailing family learning curve – how to maximize involvement, help, competency

--Helmet use – de-sensitize use; make it more common and acceptable

--Launch timing – don't send the fleet until the committee boat is anchored

\*\*While not addressed specifically at our meeting, the Gowrie representative recommends that all safety boats, coach boats and possibly spectator boats install propeller guards on their engines to reduce propeller accidents.