

## **15 Performing Rescues**

(see also Sections 13 and for “Operating the powerboats”, and “Patrol Boat procedures”)

See also the notice-boards, and Section 18 of this folder for a flowchart on what to do if there’s a Major Incident

### **15.1 Keeping a Lookout and Communication**

It is not necessary to attend every capsized, but each must be observed carefully, and attended immediately if there is any cause for concern; weather conditions must be allowed for, and the age and experience of the sailors involved. Windsurfers must wave both arms if they require assistance.

### **15.3 Dealing with a Capsize**

Powerboats have the authority to order sailors to return to shore, or bring them to shore.

#### **15.3.1 The approach**

When approaching a capsized craft, the patrol boat crew must account for the person(s) in the dinghy – can you see and communicate with them? The priority is to rescue persons, and if there are serious injuries, including hypothermia, they must be taken to shore immediately and the dinghy/sailboard left to its own devices; treatment of injury on the way to shore may be necessary, and communication to the O.O.D. on the seriousness of the injury is essential.

### **15.5 Entrapment**

Where persons appear to be trapped under a hull, the RYA advice is to right the dinghy as quickly as possible.