



**2023 Discount Yachting Winter Series  
2023 Novice Return Series**

**Notice To Competitors 1  
Distress Flare Practice Drill**

**This NTC specifies the conduct of the ORCV on water Distress Flare Practice Drill to be held just before the first Fixed Marks Race on Saturday 24 June 2023.**

The ORCV on water Distress Flare Practice Drill (**Drill**), including the use of parachute flares, will be conducted just before Race 1 of the Winter Series. The ORCV has received Permit Approvals from relevant authorities and all **Drill** participants shall adhere to the following conditions.

## **Location**

The **Drill** will be conducted in the vicinity of the Royal Brighton Breakwater and the **Drill** area will be situated:

- Between 0.75 and 1.75 nm to the west of the Breakwater.
- No further north than RBYC4 nor south than RBYC2.

The Committee Vessel for the **Drill** will be **Harry T** from RBYC. The Committee Vessel will be positioned at the eastern edge of the permitted **Drill** area.

All yachts participating in the **Drill** shall be positioned to the west of the Committee Vessel, with suitable clearance distances from the Committee Vessel and other yachts.



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### Timing and Procedures

The Drill will conclude immediately before the commencement of the VHF Channel **82** Sign-On Schedule.

All yachts participating in the Drill shall monitor VHF Channel 82 from 0915 for receiving instruction from the Committee Vessel.

The **Drill** is expected to commence at **0930** and conclude by **0945**.

**However**, no flares are to be discharged until:

- Radio advice of Drill commencement has been received from the Committee Vessel on VHF Channel **82**.
- **AND**
- An orange smoke flare has been discharged on the Committee Vessel.

Flares shall **cease** being discharged when:

- The Drill end time of **0945** has been reached.
- **OR**
- Radio advice of Drill cessation has been received from the Committee Vessel.
- **OR**
- Any aircraft is observed in the vicinity of the **Drill** area.

The following flare types may be discharged during the **Drill**:

- Red hand held.
- Orange smoke.
- Parachute or rocket, where the projectile cannot exceed a height of 1000 feet.

### Responsibility and Safety

The person in charge of each yacht participating in the **Drill** is responsible for the actions of their crew and the safe conduct of the **Drill**.



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Crew members who have not previously participated in a flare practice **Drill** shall be supervised and assisted by another crew member with appropriate experience.

All flares shall be discharged in accordance with the manufacturer's operating instructions and in a manner which minimises the possibility of injury or damage, having regard to the possibility of equipment malfunction including delayed ignition.

Flares shall not be discharged to windward.

The ORCV strongly recommends that all crew discharging flares wear:

- Safety glasses.
- Protective leather gloves – flares get hot!
- Suitable enclosed footwear.

Buckets of water shall be provided within ready reach of **Drill** participants, to be used for the cooling of discharged flare cartridges.

## **Environment**

Discharged flare cartridges are messy and require appropriate disposal.

All used flare cartridges and, to the extent practical, associated plastic waste shall be taken ashore for appropriate disposal.

Paul Roberts

ORCV Sail Captain

19<sup>th</sup> June 2023