

## VHF RADIO PROCEDURES

**All powerboats must carry handheld VHF radio** –collect from Bridge

- Transmission is only permitted on the **Marina channels M2** (aka P4) [and **M1** (aka 37a) if reception is poor or crowded out by other users]
- Remember **VHF channels are public channels** and it is important that proper language and procedures are observed - you never know who might be listening.
- Make sure that bridge and safety boat are **both tuned to same channel** and that safety boat team know how to use their set!
- **Maintain listening watch** during race/session. If Safety Boat does not answer your call try switching base station or portable to HI power (should not be necessary within river), return to LO power asap.

### GOING AFLOAT

- **Base station at Bridge to be turned on**, adjust volume and squelch [*Note 1*]
- **Do a radio check** between bridge and all powerboats before departing pontoon [*Note 2*]
- ICOM handheld sets to be carried **attached to powerboat driver** (belt clip or lanyard). These are waterproof provided they are not dropped, or
- STAR M handheld sets to be **placed in waterproof pouches** and attached to powerboat driver

### CALL SIGNS

*Base station - DABCHICK*  
*Club Boat - ANDREN*

*Club Zodiac - OSCAR*  
*Club Boat - ROBERTS*

### COMING ASHORE

After use the **3 ICOM handhelds** to be returned to bridge switched **OFF** and placed on the 2 chargers on top of bridge cupboard following instructions on noticeboard above it.

You should aim to have at least 3 fully operational handhelds available for use every day during training periods.

Turn off **base station** after session/race, **but leave its mains power switched ON**.

Record any problems and note number of hours of operation. Any problems should be reported to and dealt with by **Heather Patrick (01394 450120)**.

#### *Note 1*

Turn 'squelch' (outer ring of volume on/off control) until a hissing noise then adjust gently in opposite direction until it disappears. The same applies to portables, but they are pre-set so fiddle as little as possible. ...

*Note 2....*

#### *Note 2*

*When Safety Boat team collect their portable and are still within hailing distance/ashore carry out a radio check thus:*

*Eg. OSCAR –THIS IS DABCHICK – DO YOU RECEIVE?-OVER*

[always say OVER when expecting a reply and OUT when you're not, never 'say over and out'] Wait for Safety Boat to confirm they can hear you and say :

OSCAR THIS IS DABCHICK RECEIVING YOU LOUD AND CLEAR- DABCHICK OUT.

*Use this formula when communicating with Safety boat at all times eg*

*OSCAR, THIS IS DABCHICK, DABCHICK – OVER.*

*Wait for their acknowledgement and then give your message as briefly as possible,*

*always begin with their call sign twice and identify yourself twice, eg*

*OSCAR, OSCAR THIS IS DABCHICK, DABCHICK-LADY FLORENCE NEAR RAYDON MARK, BE AWARE-OVER.*

*The recipient must acknowledge the call before whoever has initiated it signs off with OUT.*