Appendix C: Safety Boat Operation Guidance Notes

Preparation

- Collect keys, radio and safety kit from bridge
- Remove cover from boat and stow safely
- o Remove lock from engine (keys stored with ignition key and kill cord on bridge)
- Check all equipment is present (see safety boat kit list) and check that sponsons are fully inflated
- o Ensure fuel tank is full, secured and breather screw is open
- o Ensure all crew are adequately kitted and are wearing a buoyancy aid

Launching

- Move boat to slipway
- Lower boat down slipway, using an adequate number of people to ensure boat does not run away
- Consider using a line from the trailer to cleats on the pontoon to assist with lowering trailer if short staffed or slipway is unusually slick
- o Once in the water, ensure kill cord is attached to driver before starting engine
- Float the boat off the trailer, remove the trailer from the water and return it to the correct boat park space

Operation

- Always drive at safe speed, 5 knots max in the moorings (except in an emergency) and be aware of the effect of your wake on other water users or moored boats
- o Support activities as directed by Race Officer or Senior Instructor
- Ensure that boats in distress are attended to promptly

Landing

- Confirm with Race Officer or Senior Instructor before returning to pontoon/slipway
- o Ensure that enough people are present
- Float boat back on to trailer, switch off and trim engine up
- Use winch on trailer to bring boat to the bow roller
- Secure boat to trailer using both winch and painter
- Pull boat up the slipway, ensure plenty of people are present and take care due to slippery surface

Pack Down

- Wash Boat thoroughly, removing all mud and salt
- Flush engine with fresh water
- o Drain both cockpit and hull chamber, ensure bungs are replaced
- Top up fuel tank, using green tanks marked OSC E5 from fuel bunker, the fuel tank is to stay in the boat
- o Remove all personal items from the boat
- Cover the boat and lock engine to strongpoint
- o Return keys, radio and safety kit to the bridge
- Fill out safety boat logbook