

BOAT PATROL PROCEDURES & COMMUNICATIONS

ORDERS

- o The COXSWAIN or Facility Owner should Request Patrol Orders through POMS
- o Once Approved, add crew, trainees to the 5132 on POMS.
- o Request, by email, permission for non-auxiliary guests (if any) to go on patrol from the Order Issuing Authority (OIA).
- o Email or FAX a copy of the 5132 to both the controlling sector and the expected Radio Guard
e.g. Sector LA/LB & ARN (Aux Radio Newport), Sector SD & Radio Guard Lake Pleasant

CHECK IN (Day of Patrol)

- o Coxswain should Call Radio Guard by Cell Phone to confirm: OPFAC number, Crew, & Guests (POB's)
- o Leave Coxswain's and/or Boat Owner's Cell Phone Number (in case Secure communications are required)
- o Ask for Waivers (if desired) from Radio Guard. Permission may have to come from Controlling Sector
- o For Safety in cold water, carry exposure suits for all POB even if not required, mandatory if waivers are required

UNDERWAY REQUEST Radio Guard

- o When you call the radio guard by VHF RADIO you will need to provide the following information to the radio guard so there is a record.
 - o OPFAC Calling
 - o Number of people on the facility (POB Persons On Board)
 - o The GAR Score and Color (2-2 GREEN)
 - o The purpose of the patrol (Safety, training, security)
 - o "Request" the radio watch stander take your radio guard.
 - o Radio WatchStander
 - o Will repeat what you just said word for word to verify your request is understood.
 - o The radio watchstander will then ACCEPT RADIO GUARD, and set up Ops & Position reports (normally 30 minutes).
 - o Be sure you understand who should call who since policy differs over locations

OPS AND POSITION REPORTS

- o Operations
 - o If the boat is underway with no extraordinary activities, you are OPS NORMAL
 - o If the boat is underway and performing any function in addition to being underway, you are NOT OPS NORMAL e.g.
 - o Towing Evolutions (training)
 - o Engine Problems
 - o Taking on Water
 - o Sick POB, MOB
 - o Investigating a suspicious situation e.g. oil spill, diving in harbor, etc.
 - o SAR event
- o Position
 - o Latitude and Longitude of facility unless you are
 - o Inside a closed area (Lake, Harbor, River) use identifiers that are on charts (roads, towers, streets, etc.) so that anybody with a chart can determine your location, even without local knowledge

LOSS OF COMMUNICATIONS

- o Ops and Position Reports are MANDATORY and must stay on schedule
- o If you are underway in a radio dead zone, you must maintain communications by some other means e.g.:
 - o Cell Phone, Satellite Phone
 - o Relay VHF radio comms through another boat or facility
- o If you intend to moor (e.g. lunch break) in a dead zone, you must get permission to be out of contact and specify when you will be back in contact. You should not be underway while out of contact.
- o If there is no communication beyond 15 minutes past expected report time, the patrol may be cancelled

REQUESTING A BREAK

- o Stopping a Patrol Temporarily for any reason should be done by REQUESTING a BREAK e.g.
 - o Lunch or Dinner Break
 - o Picking up dropping off equipment, crew, etc.
- o Inform your Radio Guard when you are ready to get underway

CHANGING YOUR GAR SCORE

- o Any change in mission scope, underway conditions, crew preparedness should result in a re-evaluation of the GAR score
- o If the GAR score moves into the yellow (caution) region, the CG and Crew must assess the risk/reward of continuing the patrol

COMPLETING YOUR PATROL

- o Return to Base (RTB)
 - o Any Patrol, regardless of the initial purpose, must be available to support a CG mission of higher priority.
 - o Therefore the Coxswain should REQUEST a RTB before leaving the area of operations
- o Returning to your Slip / Trailer
 - o The Patrol is in force until all Facility Operations are completed e.g.
 - o Tying the facility into the mooring (slip) or Putting on Trailer
 - o Removing gear
 - o Cleaning the facility
 - o After action briefing
 - o Once all Operations are completed, the Coxswain should request SECURING the patrol which will terminate the mission. In other words, ASK to Secure the Patrol.