



# Using VHF Radios at SHSC

## Press to talk button

Only press and hold when you need to talk on the radio. Start speaking a second or two after pressing button. You will not hear any replies whilst you are pressing down on this button so let go when you have finished talking

## Channel tuning button – up/down

Select Channel P4 for use at SHSC. This means all powerboats and the club house can listen to all calls on the radio

## Power output H/L

Set to 1 watt (Low) to reduce the range of use and should be adequate for SHSC. If any difficulty change to 25 watt (H)

## Microphone

Unhook and hold approx 6cm/3" away from mouth

## On/off and volume control button

Make sure this is switched on before leaving the pontoon

## Squelch button - SQL

If you hear a hissing noise, turn the squelch control so that it just stops. Do not turn it to maximum otherwise distant or faint transmissions will not be heard.

## Operational area

The radios work by line of sight (of aerials) so if you cannot see the other boats or the club house then they probably cannot hear you on the radio





# Using the VHF radio

When you want to talk on the radio – speak clearly, concisely and not too fast, keep message brief and simple

1. Make sure no one else is talking on the radio, think about what you want to say
2. Press the push to talk (PTT) button and keep it held down. Wait a second before speaking.
3. First call the ‘person’ you want to talk to
  - I. For example - committee boat / safety boat / club house (call name twice in case it is not heard the first time)
  - II. State who you are e.g. committee boat / safety boat / club house (call name twice in case it is not heard the first time)
  - III. Say ‘over’ and **let go of the push to talk (PTT) button** so the channel is open for a reply
  - IV. wait for person to reply so you know they are listening for your message
4. Wait for reply
  - I. if no response try calling again
5. When a response has been made, give your message on the radio
  - I. Press the push to talk (PTT) button and keep it held down – wait a second then give message
  - II. At end of message say ‘over’ to wait for a response
  - III. Always remember to let go of the push to talk (PTT) button so the channel is open for a reply
6. At the end of the ‘conversation’ when no more replies are required the last caller should finish by saying ‘out’. This allows other users to know they can start a new call on this channel.



# Sample Calls

You on  
safety boat 1

Committee Boat,  
Committee Boat this is  
Safety Boat 1, Safety  
Boat1, radio check,  
over

Committee Boat, this is  
Safety Boat 1,  
received , out

Committee  
Boat

Safety Boat 1, Safety  
Boat1 this is Committee  
Boat, Committee Boat  
can hear you clearly,  
over

You on  
safety boat 1

Committee Boat,  
Committee Boat this is  
Safety Boat 1, Safety  
Boat1 over

Committee Boat, this is  
Safety Boat 1, could  
you confirm race  
course, over

Committee Boat, this is  
Safety Boat 1,  
received, out

Committee  
Boat

Safety Boat 1, Safety  
Boat1 this is Committee  
Boat, Committee Boat  
over

Safety Boat1 this is  
Committee Boat  
Course is ..... over



# Prowords for use on marine radios

Proword	When used
Correct	Used to confirm message repeated correctly
Correction	Spoken as you are talking to correct something you have said
I say again	Used to repeat a message particularly if important
Radio check	To check for strength and clarity of call
Received	To acknowledge receipt of message
Say again	Asking the person to repeat a message if not heard clearly
Wait	If person cannot respond they will ask you to wait xx minutes



# Remember

•Think before you start talking

•Wait a second after push PTT button

•Don't talk directly into the mic

•Be clear and concise

•Don't forget to say "over"

•Let go of the PTT button!

•If the mic gets very wet tap or blow the water out otherwise your voice is muffled

•If windy always turn away from the wind to speak and/or cover the mic with your hand