

Radio Operating Procedure

As you should all be aware the clubhouse and committee boat are fitted with two way radios and the club has handheld radios for use in the safety boats. These operate on one of the marina frequencies of the Marine Band and are licensed by the Government. The radios therefore should really be operated by someone who holds a valid yacht licence or by someone being supervised by a licence holder.

Obviously it is not practical for every member to hold a licence, but we should ensure we all use the radios in the correct manner. There are a few holders of licences to operate marine band radios in the club so we can work round the need for everyone to hold a licence.

On each radio you will find individual operating instructions for switching on, but to use each radio it is the same procedure. To transmit you hold the microphone near to your mouth, press the button on the side of the microphone and speak clearly across the front of the microphone (NOT straight into it. When you have finished speaking don't forget to let go of the button.

You should always use the correct CALL SIGNS allocated to the club. This is a legal requirement and avoids confusion at other local sailing clubs who also use the same frequency. The only exception to this is the clubhouse where it was felt that in the event of an emergency the only people in the clubhouse at the time, might not be aware of its official call sign and ignore a request to call up the Emergency Services.

The call signs are:	Clubhouse	CLUBHOUSE
	Committee Boat	DELTA BASE
	Dory	DELTA 1
	Seahog	DELTA 2
	Jaffa	DELTA 3

To call the Dory from the Committee boat you should say:-

“DELTA 1 THIS IS DELTA BASE, OVER”.

The use of “OVER” is necessary to show you have finished, and to avoid both parties pressing their transmit buttons at the same time. It also indicates that you require a response from whoever you are calling. The Dory on hearing its Call Sign should then respond:-

“DELTA BASE, THIS IS DELTA ONE, OVER”

The committee boat then gives its message saying “OVER” at the end of each message exchange until no further response is required. Then they say:-

“Their call sign, OUT”,

instead of ‘over’ and NOT “over and out” as in the films. Alan Stone