

How to respond to crew overboard

A Man Overboard (MOB) drill is a crucial safety procedure that every boater should practice regularly. It simulates a real MOB situation, allowing the crew to practice their response and increase the chances of a successful rescue.

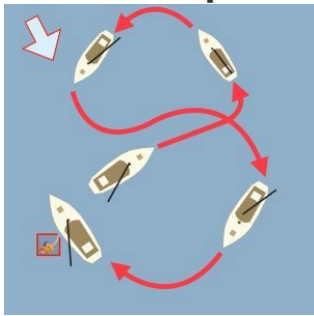
Preparation and Briefing:

- **Assign Roles:** Clearly define roles for each crew member:
- **Spotter:** Maintains constant visual contact with the MOB. This is the *most* critical role.
- **Helmsman:** Steers the vessel.
- **Thrower:** Deploys flotation devices and other equipment.
- **Recovery Team:** Prepares for the recovery itself, including readying lines, ladders, or other equipment.

Equipment Check: Ensure all necessary equipment is readily available and in good working order:

- Life rings or other flotation devices
- Whistle or horn
- First aid kit
- VHF radio
- GPS (and know how to mark a waypoint quickly)
- Boat hook, life sling, or other recovery gear (if available)

How to respond to crew overboard under sail



Responding to a **crew overboard (COB) under sail** requires immediate and decisive action. Here's a step-by-step guide to handling the situation efficiently:

1. Immediate Actions

- **Shout "Crew Overboard!"** to alert the crew.
- **Throw flotation devices** (life ring, throwable PFD, or anything that floats).
- **Assign a spotter** to keep eyes on the person in the water and continuously point at them.

2. Maneuvering the Boat

Depending on wind conditions and boat type, you have a few recovery methods:

Quick Stop (Best for Immediate Recovery)

1. **Head up into the wind** to slow the boat.
2. **Release sheets to depower sails** but don't tack.
3. **Turn back toward the COB** while keeping them in sight.
4. **Use a controlled approach** under reduced sail power.

Figure-8 Maneuver

1. **Sail about 2-3 boat lengths past the COB**, then tack.
2. **Circle back** on a reach-to-reach course.
3. **Approach the COB on a close reach, slowing down for recovery.**

Quick Turn (Heave-to Recovery)

1. **Tack immediately** (without releasing the jib), stopping the boat.
2. **Drift downwind towards the COB**, keeping them in sight.

3. **Adjust as needed for a controlled recovery.**

3. Recovering the Person

- **Approach from downwind** so the boat drifts toward the COB.
- **Use a line or life sling** if they're too far to reach.
- **Bring them aboard using a swim ladder, transom, or halyard if needed.**

4. After Recovery

- **Check for injuries or hypothermia.**
- **Administer first aid as necessary.**
- **Notify emergency services if needed.**

How to respond to crew overboard under power

1. Immediate Actions

- **Shout "Crew Overboard!"** to alert the crew.
- **Throw flotation devices** (life ring, throwable PFD, or anything that floats).
- **Assign a spotter** to keep constant visual contact and point at the person in the water.
- **Hit the MOB button** on GPS (if available) to mark the location.

2. Maneuvering the Boat

Your goal is to return safely while avoiding propeller danger.

Williamson Turn (Best for Low Visibility or Night)

1. **Turn 60° to port or starboard.**
2. **Then turn hard in the opposite direction** to make a figure-eight loop.
3. **Line up for a slow approach** toward the COB.

Anderson Turn (Quickest for Immediate Recovery)

1. **Hard turn toward the COB.**
2. **Make a tight circle** to return quickly.
3. **Reduce speed** as you approach.

Straight-Line Stop (For Calm Conditions and Immediate Rescue)

1. **Pull throttle to idle** to stop forward momentum.
2. **Turn toward the COB and drift closer.**
3. **Use a slow, controlled approach.**

3. Recovering the Person

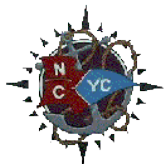
- **Approach from downwind**, stopping the boat slightly **upwind** of the COB.
- **Turn off the engine** or keep it in neutral before bringing them alongside.
- **Use a life sling, swim platform, or boarding ladder** for retrieval.
- **If unconscious, use multiple crew members to hoist them aboard.**

4. After Recovery

- **Check for injuries or hypothermia.**
- **Administer first aid as necessary.**
- **Call for emergency medical assistance if needed.**

First response: “Y, T, P, S, C”

- **Yell** to alert the crew.
- **Throw** a Type IV or any other buoyant device toward the MOB.
- **Point** to keep the MOB in sight.
- **Set** the MOB button on the GPS.
- **Call** on VHF 16.



North Cape Yacht Club: Emergency Card

11850 Toledo Beach Road | 734-242-5081 | 41.83°N / 83.41°W

Emergency or Life Threatening Injury – Steps

1. **Render assistance**
2. **Make contact** with coaches or program staff for assistance
3. **Call for Help & Emergency Medical Attention:** *(Who to call and order should be customized for location.)*
 - o **9-1-1**
 - o **Local US Coast Guard:** VHF#16, 419-729-2034
 - o **Club House:** VHF #16, 734-242-5081
4. **Monitor and administer first-aid** (*1st Aid Kits – Bar/Both Restrooms/Safety Boats | AED – Bar/Men's Restroom*)
5. **Send someone** to meet/direct Emergency vehicles – (One at Y/Island at entrance | One at Gate [OPEN] | One by Club Doors)
6. **Transfer** injured to care of Emergency Team
7. **Debrief and inform** key people: Commodore, GM, Sailing Director, family of injured
8. **Complete an incident report**

Be prepared to tell 9-1-1:

- **Current location** of injured person
- **Description of boats** (if requesting on-water help)
- **Where you plan to bring injured person ashore** (see below)
- **Age/gender/number** of injured people
- **Type of injury/situation**
- **Your name and call back number**

Emergency Response Pick-Up Locations:



	Location	Action
A	Y-Island	Spill in road at sign
B	Gate	OPEN GATE
C	Club House/Beach	Direct Responders

Emergency Numbers	Organization's Numbers
911	Main Number: 734-242-5081, VHF#16
Monroe County Sheriff: 734-240-7400	Manager – Dave Disbennett: 419-350-3446
Coast Guard Toledo: VHF#16, 419-729-2034	Commodore Brad D'Arcangelo: 419-944-9424
Coast Guard Detroit: VHF 16, 313-568-9560	Co-Chair: Craig Mueller-513-833-6917
LaSalle Fire Department: 734-243-6507	Co-Chair: Dar Burgoyne-419-376-3984

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