



# Dinghy Safety

A MESSAGE FROM ROYAL FRESHWATER BAY YACHT CLUB



## *Unsupervised Sailing*

Here are a few tips to stay safe when sailing a dinghy alone or in small groups with minimal or no supervision:

- + Know your dinghy and confirm it is seaworthy. Thoroughly check all rigging before heading out
- + Know the weather and your capabilities in the predicted conditions. Check the tides and know which way they flow. Make sure there is plenty of daylight remaining.
- + Check out the location you want to sail from. What are the important land marks? What are the local hazards?
- + Know your skills, particularly how to right the dinghy after a capsize and get back in
- + Minimise your risk of getting separated from, injured by, or trapped under your dinghy or sail. Can you self rescue if things go wrong?
- + Wear your life jacket and appropriate clothing. Think about food and drink
- + Let someone onshore know our plans and when to raise the alarm. Sail with a buddy.
- + Carry a method of communicating with others in case you need help



*Safety - its everyone's responsibility*