

## Capsize Drill Review

### If you are in a patrol boat coming upon a capsized boat:

- Make sure everyone is okay, while keeping the propeller of your boat away from the people in the water.
- Ask they want help. \*NOTE ANY VESSEL THAT RECEIVES ASSISTANCE IS AUTOMATICALLY DISQUALIFIED FROM RACE SO ASK FIRST\*
- If everyone is okay and they want help, place a life vest under the top of the mast to keep the boat from going all the way over (turning “turtle”). *Again, this should be done with the motor away from the people in the water.*
- If the mast is starting to sink, try to grab the sail or stay and pull yourself to the end of the mast in order to place the life vest.
- Once the mast head is secure, help guide the boat occupants through the righting procedures noted below.

### If you are in the capsizing boat

- Jump onto the main sail.
- Swim or pull yourself to the top of the mast.
- Make sure everyone is okay.
- Catch your breath, discuss what needs to happen next and assign roles.
- The most agile person goes to the boat and uncleates the sails (and, if needed, takes the spinnaker down) and climbs from the cockpit to the top/side if the boat using the the seat, center-board trunk, mast (etc.) as steps.
- Once on top the boat drop your feet down to the centerboard staying close to the boat and holding a jib sheet or stay.
- At this point, the person at the mast should swim back to the boat; lie on the seat, holding the outside rail of the boat; and bracing themselves inside the boat so not to fall off the seat when the boat comes up.
- Once the person on the seat is secure, they should inform the person on the centerboard.
- The person on the centerboard takes ahold of the jib sheet and or stay and slowly walks to the end of the centerboard bringing the boat upright.
- Use the ladder in the back of the boat to get back into the boat and lift the ladder.
- Make sure everyone is okay before sailing off.

### **LIFE VESTS ARE CRITICAL TO MAKING THESE TASKS EASIER. ALWAYS WEAR THEM**

*Note: There are other methods that work but the key is making sure that the mast does not go under. Depending on wind, the person at the mast end can lift the top of the mast enough for the wind to fill underneath and right the boat.*