

Questions, queries and observations from our watchkeepers

Radio

1. On receiving an alert cancel the Alarm. DO NOT press ACCEPT, select IGNORE

2. At the start of each watch press and CHECK the VOLUME on main radio

3. When called for a radio check should we ask for a position? eg “Wavedancer this is St Ives NCI, reading you loud and clear, request your location, over”

Only if out of sight when they call.

4. Should any watch do radio or phone checks with St Agnes?

A watch on Monday used to do this.

Day Book and Register

5. Why do we sign both, plus initial our names and sign every page in the logbook?

The LOG BOOK is a legal document for the Coroner in the event of a tragedy.

DAY BOOK – The Day Book will be renamed DAY AND ATTENDANCE BOOK, which will mean we will not require the attendance book.

Equipment

6. Is there a list of all the equipment we should check, and how often should it be checked?

All equipment is checked off on the A Watch list. Any issues passed on under ICE laws.

It is important to check the volumes on the radios.

Paul regularly checks all the equipment.

7. Should there be labels on the drawers and cupboards stating what should be in each?

Not considered necessary. All drawers have recently been checked and tidied, surplus items removed.

8. Should the gate at the steps be closed on all watches, not just the singles?

Watchkeeper's choice.

9. Are we allowed to use the megaphone?

Yes, but might not be heard in a strong wind

HMCG

10. If HMCG calls us about an incident, should we log it as an incident, or just note it in the logbook?

Log as incident. Ask FCG for incident number.

11. When calling HMCG at closing should we pass a weather report?

Only if they request one.

Tides and Weather

12. When broadcasting the last weather report should you include the next high tide after C watch, even if it is on the next day?

Yes

13. What is the definition of Neap or Spring tides for the logbook?

5.6 anything below is a Neap

14. Where should you look when assessing the Sea State and Swell?

A couple of hundred metres to the NE

15. Why do we write out the Inshore weather forecast when it is on the screen?

If there is a power cut, we have it to hand. It also needs to be checked every six hours and changes made.

16. Should each watch wipe the tides board so that the next watch makes an independent check?

No, but it's a good idea for each watch to check the tides

Logbook

17. If a boat cannot be named don't write "unidentified", leave the Name column blank. (Do provide description in the Notes column)

18. Should A watch write "Defib checked" and "Keysafe locked" on opening?

Yes, for insurance purposes.

19. Should A & C watch record boats moored in Roads, including number of tenders, on opening?

Only yachts and visiting craft. Bearings taken beginning and end of the day to check they are not drifting. Contact either SIV Harbour Master or FCG if he cannot be reached. If nothing in the roads you can write 'No visiting vessels in Roads'

20. If no other entries made how often should a Full Scan of Bay be conducted and entered?

Every 20 - 30 minutes.

21. On a full scan is it enough to write NTR, or nothing to report?

There usually is something, but "No Change" covers any previously reported craft

22. Would it be a good idea to enter "Out SIV/Hayle" on left of column, "Into SIV/Hayle on right" to make it easier to see where the boats are?

Good idea but will affect statistics as only counted once, leave as it is.

23. Does it matter if we miss or don't record trip boats or large fishing boats when the bay is busy with leisure users?

No, these are our lowest priorities when watchkeeping

Training

24. If a watchkeeper finds that the previous watch made an omission or mistake, how should they deal with it?

Complete any missing details. If happening every week contact SM who will speak to the watch in question. Do not write in the Day book.

25. If you had made an omission or mistake, would you like to know, and if so, how should you be told?

By email or telephone, we all make mistakes.

26. Would it be good to have an annual visit and catch up with each watchkeeper by the training manager joining them on a watch?

Training Officer already doing this. Good idea.