

Adelaide Survivors Abreast Inc

POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Subject: Medical Emergency (ASA 05)
Issue No: 2 **Date of Issue: February 2020**

The aim of this policy is to provide assistance for the governing body to ensure members are safe at all times.

This Policy outlines the processes for action during a medical emergency either on or off the water.

*Accredited Snr First Aid Officers: Stephen Holt, Mary-Ann Holt and Mark O’Gara
Of note, there will be at least one of the above members will be in the boat at all times.*

On the water

This Policy exists to guide paddlers and sweeps in the event of a medical emergency in the boat during a training session or a dragon boating event.

A mobile phone is to be taken aboard and held by the sweep, who is in charge of any emergency situation. The sweep, before leaving the shore, will nominate another member in the boat in the event of there being no drummer, to take charge in an emergency, if the medical emergency relates to the sweep.

In the event of a paddler experiencing a medical emergency or illness, it is important that other paddlers remain calm and listen to the sweep’s instructions.

It is the responsibility of a paddler who is feeling unwell, to alert their adjacent paddler and cease paddling immediately. The sweep needs to be informed immediately so that an assessment and judgement can be made as to what action is required.

The sweep will ascertain action after speaking to the ill paddler, and ensuring paddlers remain calm.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• will return the boat to shore if the paddler is not deemed able to continue paddling• ensure the ill paddler is comfortable• request fellow paddlers to assist the ill paddler in lying down (if appropriate) – paddlers’ bodies can be used to support the sick paddler | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• call 000 (ambulance) if an emergency and advise as per map the nearest vehicle access• whilst instructing paddlers to paddle to nearest short which has vehicular access• try and enable the ill paddler to lie down (if appropriate), using other paddlers’ bodies as best as possible |
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In the event of CPR being required, accredited Sweep with available Snr First Aid Officer/s as listed above will perform this once the paddler is able to be lying down on land. CPR can then be commenced whilst awaiting the arrival of the ambulance.

A debrief and/or counselling session will be offered to paddlers who witness a medical emergency and suffer emotional trauma as a result.

Sweep to complete relevant DBSA paperwork in reporting such an emergency.

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On land

- check the type of medical emergency
- if deemed necessary, Sweep/Coach to call, (or nominate another paddler) ambulance 000 asap and ensure ill paddler is made comfortable until its arrival
- CPR to be performed if believe appropriate, and in the event of a debrillator being required, Snr First Aid Officer/s to access this (on the left wall inside the boat shed roller-door)
- a debrief and/or counselling session will be offered to paddlers who witness a medical emergency and suffer emotional trauma as a result
- sweep to complete relevant DBSA paperwork in reporting such an emergency