

Safety Protocols:

Mandatory Safety Equipment in the Boat and on Person

- Sounding device (whistle) (drummer and/or steersperson)
- Throw Bag (attached to boat near the steersperson)
- Personal Floatation Device (worn appropriately on person at all times)
- Paddle

Should there be an emergency event:

Other boats shall NOT approach a boat in distress unless directed by an Official (Festival Coach, Dock Master or Rescue Team)

- **The drummer and/or steersperson:**

Will blow their whistle and call for help (walkie-talkie if available) to attract individuals on shore or in other vessels
Call for a Safety Count

- **The crew must:**

Stay with the boat

Do a Safety Count
Find your seat partner and stick together
Locate the person in the seat in front and behind
(the front seats, locate the drummer; the last seats, locate the steersperson)
Await rescue

Stay with the boat

Listen to the drummer and steersperson and work together as a group
Repeat Safety Count every 30 seconds until all are recovered and accounted for
Make sure PFD's are properly fastened
Do not attempt to swim to shore

Stay with the boat

Minimize heat loss by huddling close together
Reassure panicking crew members
Provide non-swimmers with additional buoyancy e.g. a handful of paddles

Stay with the boat

- **If someone is missing:**

Look around for the missing person – if you have already been counted in
Quickly resume safety count to be sure that there are not others missing
Each paddler will need to feel under the boat to help find the missing person
If necessary, one individual ONLY, should check under the boat
The Emergency Response Team needs to be notified, as soon as they arrive, that a person is missing
When the person is found and in distress, commence First Aid and / or CPR as required

Please note that if you find yourself under an over turned boat, there should be an air pocket available for you to catch your breath and get your bearings. Feel your way to the side of the boat and then surface on the outside.