



Rescue Swimmer Personal Protection and Equipment Rigging

Module 3

Learning Objectives

Rescue Swimmers will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- the donning, use and purpose of the PPE
- rigging, use and purpose of equipment needed
- the attachment/deploying and retrieval and the use of the rescue line
- the characteristics of the rescue line
- the use of the double carabiner
- the reason a dorsal attachment of the rescue line



Protect the Head



Helmets (preferred BS EN 1077:2007 Class Head vs Hull protection.

Swim Goggles –

Enables the RS to see danger under the surface, protects eyes, enables below surface manipulation of tethers and carabiners.





PFD

Rescue Vest (PFD) – SpinLock Foiling PFD already being used by the most advanced sailing teams in the world (Non-Inflatable)

Fitted with: Radio, AIS, Light, Flashlight, Knife (Optional) Air, Flare, and Smoke. In most cases, a kit bag will be attached.

Characteristics include - Hi-Vis fabric Zippered front panel covers buckles to reduce snag hazards, grab handle to assist rescue team members retrieve the wearer, heavy-duty buckles, quick-release rescue harness, SOLAS Grade reflective material, Large zippered pocket, front lash tabs, 22 lbs. of buoyancy.

The Combo Harness (Option A)



Spinlock Harness,
combined with a dorsal
fall arrest connector
shall be utilized by the
rescue swimmer.



The Harness (Option B)



Combo Harness -
industrial fall protection works well with a Spinlock Foiling PFD. The Rescue Line clips onto the back of harness. While being retrieved the dorsal attach is the most optimal to protect both the RS and the PIW.

The Harness (Option C)

The Final Option – Tie a Figure Eight on a bite. Attach to harness with a soft-shackle to the rear of the harness and lash the ends to the loop.



Lanyard

Using the 24 – 48 inch Double Lanyard, it gives the RS multiple options:

- a. clip to and push RFD towards a panicked PIW at a safe distance.
- b. also be used to support lower body weight during the 'Final Hoist'.



Fins

Rescue Fins – Provide power to get through waves and surf.

Standard Equipment for open water rescue, United States Lifesaving Association (USLA).

Adjustable heel straps allowing for easy donning and removal and for cold water foot ware



Rigging Kit A

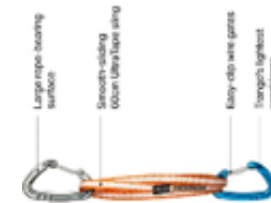
Friction Free Loop/with line –
Attached to a halyard.



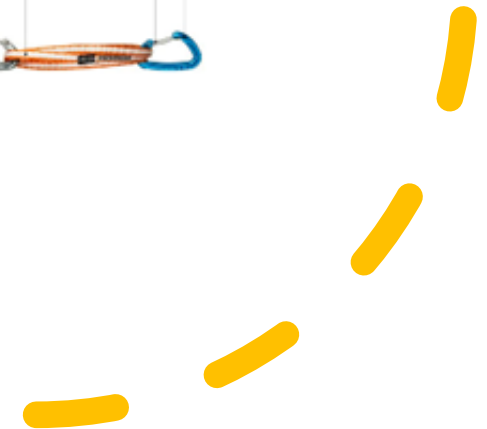
Rescue Line - This line is dedicated to the Rescue Swimmer Vest.



Carabiners – Aerial rescue type - excellent for use in a double hoist (**or Soft Shackle**)



Rescue Swimmer Kit Bag – highly visible, contains the PPE for the Rescue Swimmer, RS kit shall remain sterile.



Rigging Kit B

Reflective Wrist Bands – Reflective bands enable greater visibility and aid in assisting in understanding hand signals in low light/visibility situations.



Rescue Sling - The use of the Rescue Floatation Device (RFD or Rescue Sling)

