

Hong Kong Adventure Corps

Standing Order

For

Tropical Cyclones and Heavy Persistent Rain Arrangements

Reference:

A. EMB Circular No. 15/2003 dated 1 April 2003.

General

1. This Standing Order is to draw the attention of the responsible personnel of the Hong Kong Adventure Corps to the arrangements to be made in the event of tropical cyclones and heavy persistent rainfall. The guidelines laid down in these instructions are to be followed by those who are responsible for organizing and conducting training for HKAC's cadet members.

Tropical Cyclone

2. When a tropical cyclone is approaching and about to affect Hong Kong, the following general procedures are to be followed.

Weather Condition	Action to be taken
When typhoon signal No. 1 is issued.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If training is in progress or has been planned and if the approaching speed of the typhoon is so slow that the Hong Kong Observatory forecasts that higher typhoon signal will not be issued before the planned finishing time of the training, operations may proceed as planned. 2. OCs are to issue warning orders to their subordinate commanders and OICs of affiliated School Units to ask them to monitor closely the changes in the weather conditions.
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No cadet training activities should take place. 2. Training in progress in camp or in the field

<p>When typhoon signal No. 3 is issued.</p>	<p>should cease and arrangements should be made to disperse the cadets if the weather and traffic conditions are safe.</p> <p>3. Planned training not yet started should be cancelled and cadets/parents so informed.</p> <p>4. Permanent Staff should operate as normal in camp and take all necessary precautionary measures to protect Corps properties against possible damage which might be caused by the approaching typhoon.</p> <p>5. Permanent staff will disperse when the Hong Kong Observatory issues the warning that typhoon signal No. 8 will be hoisted within two hours.</p>
<p>When typhoon signal No.8 is issued.</p>	<p>1. No cadet training shall take place under any circumstances.</p> <p>2. All personnel should have left HITC before typhoon signal is raised to No. 8.</p> <p>3. In the unlikely event that some Corps personnel are still in camp, they should stay indoor in a secured place until typhoon signal No. 8 is lowered.</p>

Heavy Persistent Rain

3. In the event that **AMBER/RED/BLACK** rainstorm warning has been issued, the following procedures are to be followed:

Rainstorm Warning Signal	Action to be taken
	1. Planned training and training in progress may continue under wet weather conditions

AMBER	<p>if the responsible personnel, in exercising his common sense, considers that the training condition is safe and if the cadets have appropriate wet weather gears.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Responsible personnel should closely monitor the change in weather condition by listening to the radio or contacting camp staff by telephone for the latest weather information. 3. If training takes place in the field, water activities should cease and stream/river crossing must be avoided to prevent casualties caused by flash floods.
RED or BLACK	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planned training should be cancelled if either of these signals is issued. 2. Training in progress should be stopped and cadets should be moved to a safe place indoor. No one should commute to field training areas. 3. Training should not be resumed or cadets should not be dispersed unless the weather and traffic conditions are safe.

Conclusion

4. The above procedures serve as guidelines for squadron and school unit personnel who are responsible for organizing and conducting cadet training activities. It should be borne in mind that **SAFETY ALWAYS COMES FIRST** in running such activities and the exercise of common sense is the key to avoid accidents.

Contingency Plan and SOP

5. In planning cadet training activities, responsible personnel should always put in place a **contingency plan** for adverse or deteriorating weather conditions. Furthermore, there should also be a squadron SOP (Standard Operational Procedure) for emergency communication with cadets/parents/instructors during inclement weather conditions or other urgent situations.

Notification

6. All Squadron OCs and School Unit OICs having their training affected by the Tropical Cyclones or Heavy Persistent Rain are to notify the Corps Headquarters.

November, 2005

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