

US Safety Equipment Requirements

Note: Organizing Authorities are free to add items in beige tint, or other appropriate items, based on the conditions of their specific races.

Effective Date: 4/23/2014

For use by Inspectors

Section Name #	Requirement	US Ocean	US Coastal	US Nearshore	Vessel Compliance Y/N	Inspector Comments
Definition	1.0.3 Races intended to be sailed during the day, close to shore, in relatively protected waters.			x		
Overall: Responsibility	1.2 The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the "person in charge", as per RRS 46, who shall ensure that the boat is seaworthy and manned by an experienced crew with sufficient ability and experience to face bad weather. S/he shall be satisfied as to the soundness of hull, spars, rigging, sails and all gear. S/he shall ensure that all safety equipment is at all times properly maintained and safely stowed and that the crew knows where it is kept and how it is to be used.	x	x	x		
Overall: Inspections	1.3 A boat may be inspected at any time by an inspector or measurer of the Organizing Authority. If she does not comply with these regulations her entry may be rejected, or will be liable to disqualification, or such other penalty as may be prescribed by the race protest committee.	x	x	x		
Overall: Equipment and Knowledge	1.4 All equipment required shall function properly, be regularly checked, cleaned and serviced, and be of a type, size and capacity suitable for the intended use and size of the boat and the size of the crew, who will have practiced with the use of equipment. This equipment shall be readily accessible while underway and, when not in use, stored in such a way that deterioration is minimized.	x	x	x		
Overall: Secure Storage	1.5 A boat's heavy items such as batteries, stoves, toolboxes, anchors, chain and internal ballast shall be secured.	x	x	x		
Overall: Watertight Integrity	1.7 A boat's hull, including, deck, coach roof, windows, hatches and all other parts, shall form an integral watertight unit and any openings in it shall be capable of being immediately secured to maintain this integrity.	x	x	x		
Hull and Structure: Stability	2.2.3 A boat with moveable or variable ballast (water or canting keel) shall comply with the requirements of Appendix II.	x	x	x		
Hull and Structure: Dewatering pumps	2.5.3 A boat shall have a manual bilge pump of at least a 10 GPM capacity.			x		
Safety Equipment: Personal	3.1.2 Each crewmember shall have a U.S. Coast Guard approved Type III or Type V life jacket intended for small boat sailing or other active boating for each crewmember or an inflatable life jacket as described above.			x		
Safety Equipment: Navigation	3.3.1 A boat racing between sunset and sunrise shall carry navigation lights that meet U. S. Coast Guard requirements mounted so that they will not be obscured by the sails nor be located below deck level.	x	x	x		
Safety Equipment: Fire Extinguishers	3.4 A boat shall carry fire extinguisher(s) that meets U.S. Coast Guard requirements, when applicable.	x	x	x		
Safety Equipment: Sound Producing Equipment	3.5 A boat shall carry a sound-making device that meets U.S. Coast Guard requirements, when applicable.	x	x	x		
Safety Equipment: Visual Distress Signals	3.6.4 A boat shall carry U.S. Coast Guard flares meeting day-night requirements not older than the expiration date.			x		
Safety Equipment: Man Overboard	3.7.3 A boat shall have a throwing sock-type heaving line of 50' (15m) or greater of floating polypropylene line readily accessible to the cockpit.	x	x	x		
Safety Equipment: Man Overboard	3.7.4 A boat shall carry a Coast Guard approved Type IV "throwable device". If the device carried under 3.7.1 satisfies this requirement, then no additional device is needed.	x	x	x		
Safety Equipment: Emergency Communications	3.8.2 A boat shall have a watertight handheld VHF radio or a handheld VHF radio with waterproof cover. After 01/01/2015, this radio shall have DSC/GPS capability.	x	x	x		
Safety Equipment: Navigation	3.19.1 A boat shall have a permanently mounted magnetic compass independent of the boat's electrical system suitable for steering at sea.	x	x	x		
Gear: Anchoring	3.23 A boat shall carry one anchor, meeting the anchor manufacturer's recommendations based on the yacht's size, with a suitable combination of chain and line.	x	x	x		
Gear: Lights	3.24.3 A boat shall carry at least two watertight flashlights with spare batteries in addition to the requirement of 3.24.1.		x	x		
Gear: Medical Kits	3.25 A boat shall carry a first aid kit and first aid manual suitable for the likely conditions of the passage and the number of crew aboard.	x	x	x		
Gear: Dewatering	3.27 A boat shall carry a sturdy bucket(s) of at least two gallons (8 liters) capacity with lanyards attached.	2	2	1		
Skills: Man Overboard	4.2 Annually, two-thirds of the boat's racing crew shall practice man-overboard procedures appropriate for the boat's size and speed. The practice shall consist of marking and returning to a position on the water, and demonstrating a method of hoisting a crewmember back on deck, or other consistent means of reboarding the crewmember.	x	x	x		