

MINIMUM EQUIPMENT & SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE YRA OF LONG ISLAND SOUND

It is the purpose of these recommendations to establish a uniform minimum equipment and accommodation standard for yacht racing on Long Island Sound. These recommendations are intended to supplement rather than replace government requirements and the Racing Rules of Sailing. The responsibility for providing and maintaining a safe and seaworthy vessel rests entirely on the owner. Neither the establishment of these recommendations, their use by race organizers, nor the inspection of a yacht under these recommendations in any way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the owner or owner's representative. The recommendations are offered as an aid to race organizers at YRA of LIS member clubs running events on Long Island Sound. Race organizers are free to add, delete, or alter any of these recommendations as they see fit to meet the requirements of a particular race. The membership of the YRA of LIS is reminded that possession of a YRA of LIS PHRF rating does not mean that the boat meets the applicable equipment specifications for an event, be they the PHRF Minimum Equipment Recommendations of the YRA of LIS or other specifications. Boat owners and their representatives are urged not to seek entry in a PHRF event unless their boat meets the applicable equipment specifications for the event, and they are reminded that it is their responsibility to see that their boat does meet the applicable specifications for an event. To assist race organizers, the YRA PHRF application now includes a check box where a boat owner is asked whether or not the boat meets Category C Minimum Equipment Recommendations. If the boat does not, the resulting certificate will include an annotation that the boat does not satisfy the recommendations. The response to this question does not affect the assigned rating.

One-Design Minimum Equipment Recommendations

One-Design classes are expected to provide their own equipment recommendations in their class rules.

IRC & PHRF Minimum Equipment Recommendations

Race Category Definitions:

- Category A - Races in which any part of the course is outside Long Island Sound.
- Category B - Distance and overnight races run wholly within Long Island Sound.
- Category C - Day races in Long Island Sound with time limits requiring start and finish within daylight hours.

RACE CATEGORY/ REQUIREMENT

- 1 GENERAL
- ABC 1.1 All recommended equipment shall function properly, be readily accessible and shall be of a type, size and capacity suitable and adequate for its intended use and the size of the yacht.
- ABC 1.2 Inboard engine installations shall be such that the engine can be securely covered when running and that the exhaust and fuel supply systems are securely installed.
- ABC 1.3 All heavy items including ballast and internal fittings such as batteries, stoves, gas bottles, tanks, engines, outboard motors, anchors and chain shall be securely fastened so as to remain in position should the yacht be heeled 180°.
- ABC 1.4 Sea cocks and valves shall be fitted on all through hull openings below the LWL except integral deck scuppers, shaft log, speed indicators and the like. However, a means of closing such openings when necessary must be provided.
- ABC 1.5 Soft wood plugs, tapered and of various lengths to fit all through hull openings must be attached to the appropriate fittings with a length of line.
- ABC 1.6 Sheet winches shall not be mounted in a way that requires an operator to be substantially below deck.

RACE CATEGORY/ REQUIREMENT

- 2 STRUCTURAL FEATURES
- ABC 2.1 The hull, including deck, cabin top 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. Centerboard and daggerboard trunks shall not open into the interior of the hull.
- ABC 2.2 Companionways, if extended below the sheer line, shall be capable of being blocked off to the level of the local sheerline. When such blocking arrangements are in place, the companionway (or hatch) shall continue to give access to the interior of the hull.
- ABC 2.3 Cockpits shall be structurally strong, self-draining and permanently incorporated as an integral part of the hull. They must be watertight; that is, all openings to the hull below the main deck level must be capable of being strongly and rigidly secured.
- ABC 2.4 Pulpits and stanchions shall be through bolted or welded, and the bases thereof shall not be further inboard from the edge of the working deck than 5% of the maximum beam or 6 inches, whichever is greater. Stanchion bases shall not be situated outboard of the working deck.
- ABC 2.5 Taut single wire lifelines shall be installed at a height of not less than 24 inches above the working deck for yachts over 28 feet LOA and 18 inches for yachts 28 feet LOA and less. These lines shall be permanently supported at intervals of not more than 7 feet.

- ABC 2.6 A fixed bow pulpit must be installed. Lower lifelines need not extend through the bow pulpit. Upper rails of pulpits must be at no less height above the working deck than the upper lifelines, except that in the case of sprit boats, the upper rail forward of the forestay may be up to 10 inches lower than the upper lifelines. Upper rails and bow pulpits shall be securely closed while racing. The bow pulpit may be fitted abaft the forestay with its bases secured at any points on deck, but a point on its upper rail must be within 16 inches forward of the forestay on which the foremost headsail is secured. Bow pulpits are not required on catboats, but lifeline protection must extend as far forward as the mast.
- ABC 2.7 Stern pulpits or lifelines arranged so as adequately to substitute for a stern pulpit shall be installed.
- ABC 2.8 All lifelines shall be taut and inelastic. Intermediate lifelines, if installed, must be at least 9 inches above the main deck.

RACE CATEGORY/ REQUIREMENT

3 EQUIPMENT TO BE CARRIED ABOARD

- ABC 3.1 Fire extinguishers to be readily accessible and of the type and number required by the U. S. Coast Guard.
- 3.2 Bilge pumps:
- A 3.2.1 Two bilge pumps, one of which is manual and operable with all cockpit seats, hatches and companionways closed.
- B 3.2.2 One manual bilge pump operable with all cockpit seats, hatches and companionways closed.
- C 3.2.3 One manual bilge pump.
- ABC 3.2.4 Two buckets of stout construction each with at least 2 gallons capacity and each to have a lanyard.
- 3.3 Crew overboard equipment
- C 3.3.1 At least one USCG approved type IV throwable horseshoe buoy, ring buoy or buoyant cushion device within reach of the helmsperson and ready for instant use.
- ABC 3.3.2 A Lifesling or equivalent crew overboard recovery equipment that is secured to the vessel by a floating line with a minimum length of 100 feet. This equipment shall be within reach of the helmsperson and ready for instant use.
- AB 3.3.3 One of the following:
 (a) A "MOM 8" or "MOM 9" or equivalent equipment and at least one USCG approved type IV throwable horseshoe buoy, ring buoy or buoyant cushion device both within reach of the helmsperson and ready for instant use.
 (b) a USCG approved type IV throwable horseshoe buoy equipped with a drogue, whistle and a self-igniting light attached by floating line to a crew overboard pole with a flag, all within reach of the helmsperson and ready for instant use.
- ABC 3.4 A personal flotation device with whistle attached for each member of the crew.
- AB 3.5 Two flashlights.
- ABC 3.6 Compass.
- AB 3.7 Spare Compass.

- AB 3.8 Emergency Tiller.
- ABC 3.9 Suitable anchor and rode.
- A 3.10A second suitable anchor and rode.
- ABC 3.11 Foghorn.
- AB 3.12 Heavy weather jib and reefable mainsail or storm trysail, such that the yacht may be worked to windward in heavy weather.
- A 3.13 At least one of the following:
 a) A life raft or inflatable dinghy, both of which must have bottle inflation and be capable of carrying the entire crew.
 b) A survival suit for each member of the crew.
- ABC 3.14 Pyrotechnic Signals - the minimum U.S. Coast Guard requirement for the yacht.
- ABC 3.15A VHF radio.
- ABC 3.16A radar reflector with a 12 inch diagonal minimum dimension or equivalent echoing area of not less than 6 square meters.
- ABC 3.17 Navigation lights: to be shown as required by current governmental regulations and mounted so as not to be masked by sails or the heeling of the yacht.

4 SAFETY EQUIPMENT TO BE WORN

- AB 4.1 A personal flotation device and safety harness shall be worn whenever one of the following conditions exist:
 a. between the hours of sunset and sunrise.
 b. when alone on deck.
 c. when the mainsail is reefed.
 d. when the true wind speed is 25 knots or above.
 e. when visibility is less than one nautical mile.

Safety Recommendations

The YRA of LIS also wishes to direct the attention of all competitors to the following provisions of the ISAF's Racing Rules of Sailing, 2005-2008 concerning the safety of crews while racing:

FUNDAMENTAL RULE 1 - SAFETY

1.1 - Helping Those in Danger

A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger.

1.2 - Life-Saving Equipment and Personal Buoyancy

A boat shall carry adequate life-saving equipment for all persons on board, including one item ready for immediate use, unless her class rules make some other provision. Each competitor is individually responsible for wearing personal buoyancy adequate for the conditions.

FUNDAMENTAL RULE 4 - DECISION TO RACE

The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone.