

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS OF IRISH RUFFIAN ASSOCIATION

The following are the minimum requirement in terms of safety equipment to be kept on all boats. Clause 2 below details additional requirements for offshore or overnight races.

1 SAFETY GEAR

- 1.1 Suitable anchor, minimum weight of 6kg (or in the case of a *Fortress* anchor 1.8kg.) with 1m of chain attached; and a minimum of 27m of anchor warp of at least 9mm diameter.
- 1.2 One engine, inboard or outboard, of at least 3hp. in full working order and at least 5 litres of fuel.
- 1.3 Suitable transom bracket for effective use of outboard motor, if carried.
- 1.4 Manual bilge pump of modern design as manufactured by “Whale” or others in working condition and operable from the cockpit.
- 1.5 Mooring rope minimum length 10m and at least 9mm diameter.
- 1.6 Suitable life jacket or buoyancy aid for each person on board appropriate to his or her weight.
- 1.7 One bucket and lanyard.
- 1.8 All flares purchased after 1st January 1997 shall comprise as minimum, an inshore distress pack as supplied by Pain Wessex or similar, comprising 2 red hand held flares and 2 orange hand smokes. All flares shall be in date and stored in a suitable waterproof container.
- 1.9 One ladder, rope or otherwise, already securely fitted or capable of being secured to the toe rail.
- 1.10 At least one marine type compass, properly fixed to boat, and suitable for navigation.
- 1.11 One AFFF fire extinguisher, minimum capacity 2 litres and, when gas appliances are carried, one multi purpose powder fire extinguisher of minimum size 2 kgs, all manufactured to IS290 with visible contents gauges securely fitted to the bulkhead by

transport brackets. All to be in-date and services in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.

- 1.12 Sharp knife to be carried and stored in an accessible position.
- 1.13 A First Aid Box shall be carried containing as a minimum, a basic first aid booklet, small roll of cotton wool, small role of gauze, zinc oxide tape, small pack of strip dressing, triangular bandage, headache remedies, small "optrex" small "TCP" or "Dettol", scissors, tweezers and safety pins.
- 1.14 Fog horn and spare gas cylinder.
- 1.15 Suitable toolkit containing, as a minimum, bolt cutters capable of cutting 5mm stainless steel rigging, pliers, screwdrivers and hacksaw.
- 1.16 One heaving line, min length 16m and of a floating type, or a safety throw line as supplied by Sowester or similar and readily accessible to the cockpit.
- 1.17 All heavy equipment such as batteries, stoves, gas bottles, fuel tanks outboard motors etc. to be securely fastened down.
- 1.18 At least one horseshoe type lifebuoy pushpit mounted, within reach of the helmsman and ready for use.
- 1.19 A boson's chair shall be carried.
- 1.20 Note. It is recommended, but not mandatory, that safety lines be rigged and used along with suitable harnesses in heavy weather conditions; also that a suitable VHF radio be carried whilst at sea.

2 MINIMUM ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT FOR OFFSHORE OR OVERNIGHT RACES

- 2.1 One flashlight, water resistant, suitable for signalling, with spare batteries and bulb.
- 2.2 Navigation lights to be shown as required by the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at sea, mounted so that they will not be masked by sails or by the heeling of the yacht.
- 2.3 Soft wood plugs, tapered and of various sizes.
- 2.4 Emergency navigation lights and power source sufficient for the duration of races.
- 2.5 Yacht's name shall be painted on all miscellaneous buoyant equipment.

- 2.6 At least one horseshoe type lifebuoy equipped with drogue, whistle, and self-igniting light having a duration of at least 45 minutes within reach of the helmsman, and ready for use.
- 2.7 Life raft or partially inflated rubber dinghy.
- 2.8 Radar reflector. If this is octahedral it must have a minimum diagonal measurement of 46cm. If not octahedral, the reflector must have an “equivalent echoing area” of not less than 10m. The minimum effective height above water is 4m.
- 2.9 Spare compass.
- 2.10 Charts, lights list and piloting equipment
- 2.11 Lead line or echo sounder.
- 2.12 Speedometer or other distance measuring equipment.
- 2.13 All hatches shall be permanently fitted so that they can be closed immediately and will remain firmly shut, even in the event of a capsize to 180 degrees or a “pitch-pole”. The main companionway hatch shall be fitted with a strong positive securing arrangement which shall be operated from below. Washboards in the companionway shall be permanently attached to the boat and capable of being secured from below.
- 2.14 Toilet securely installed, or fitted bucket.
- 2.15 Bunks, securely fitted, at least three.
- 2.16 Cooking stove capable of being operated in a seaway.
- 2.17 At least one 2 gallon water tank, plus at least one additional container capable of holding 2 gallons. This additional container must be kept full of water for emergency use. Emergency portable rations for at least one day.
- 2.18 The main battery must have a capacity of at least 30 amp Hour.
- 2.19 Minimum of a coastal distress pack for sailing within 7 miles of land as supplied by Pain Wessex or similar, comprising 2 red parachute flares, 2 red hand held flares and 2 orange hand smokes all to be in-date and stored in a suitable waterproof container.

It is the responsibility of all members of the Association to co-operate with the Safety Officer in terms of allowing their boat to be inspected and any failures to either co-operate or pass inspection will be noted.