

CRUISING EVENTS SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

The following are the minimum safety requirements for vessels participating in the Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania (RYCT) cruising events. These include all Marine and Safety Tasmania requirements for non-commercial vessels operating in Tasmanian waters, and additional items determined by the Cruising Sub-Committee to be appropriate for these events. These will help ensure that participants have a safe and enjoyable passage.

SEA-WORTHINESS

Boats shall be seaworthy and designed and built to resist capsize. They shall be strongly built, watertight and particularly with regard to hulls, decks and cabin trunks, capable of withstanding solid water and knockdowns. They shall be properly rigged and ballasted.

EQUIPMENT GENERALLY

All required equipment shall function properly, be regularly checked, cleaned and serviced, when not in use be stowed so as to minimise deterioration, be readily accessible, and be of a type, size and capacity suitable and adequate for the intended use and size of the vessel.

Ballast, tanks, ballast tanks and associated equipment shall be permanently installed. Heavy moveable items such as batteries, stoves, gas bottles, tool boxes, anchors, chain and auxiliary motors shall be securely fastened.

FIXED EQUIPMENT

1. Navigation lights

Navigation lights shall be shown as required by the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (Part C and Technical Annex 1). All boats shall exhibit a steaming light, sidelights and a stern light at the required times.

2. Through-hull openings

Seacocks should be installed on all through-hull openings below the waterline, except for integral deck scuppers, logs and depth sounders. A means of closing all below-waterline through-hull openings, such as tapered soft wooden plugs, shall be provided at each opening.

3. Bilge pump

A vessel shall have at least one bilge pump.

4. Marine radios

Vessels shall carry a VHF radio transceiver.

5. Compass

Each vessel shall carry a marine magnetic compass, independent of any power supply, permanently installed and correctly adjusted.

6. Barometer

A barometer is highly recommended.

PORTABLE EQUIPMENT

7. Personal flotation devices

A personal flotation device type 1 (PFD1) complying with Australian Standard 1512 or an equivalent or better overseas standard such as EN396 must be provided for each person on board. It is compulsory to wear a PFD in any recreational motor boat or motor-propelled tender that is less than six (6) metres in length and is under power. The Tasmanian Marine and Safety Authority (MAST) has indicated they will accept any PFD that complies with the international SOLAS requirements. If the PFD is acceptable to MAST, then it is acceptable in the RYCT cruising events.

It is compulsory for children under the age of 12 years to wear a PFD in a recreational motor boat or motor-propelled tender of any length while under power.

Boaters are not required to wear a PFD while they are within a deckhouse, cabin or secure enclosed space.

8. Heaving line

A heaving line shall be readily accessible in the cockpit. It shall consist of at least 15 metres of floating line with a buoyant object at one end.

9. Lifebuoy

A lifebuoy shall be carried within easy reach of the helm and be ready for instant use.

10. Torch

Vessels shall carry a water-resistant, buoyant torch with spares batteries and globes.

11. Anchor, rope and chain

An anchor with a high holding power such as a spade or plough shall be carried, with a minimum of 10 metres of chain and 20 metres of line. A second anchor and rode of similar size and capacity is highly recommended.

12. Bailer

At least one solidly constructed metal or plastic bucket of at least 9 litres capacity and with 2 metres of rope attached must be carried. It may be used to bail out water, to fight fires, or as a sea anchor.

13. Radar/reflector

A radar reflector is recommended.

14. First aid kit

Vessels shall be equipped with a first aid kit whose contents and storage shall reflect the likely conditions and duration of the passage and the number of people aboard.

15. Fire extinguishers

All vessels with an engine shall carry fire extinguishers as follows:

Vessel length	Minimum number and capacity	Minimum equivalent rating
8-12 metres	Two 0.9kg	5BE
Over 12 metres	(a) Three 0.9kg or (b) One 0.9kg and one 1.5kg	5BE/10BE

16. Flares

The following flares shall be carried as a minimum:

2 x red hand flares

2 x orange smoke flares

Flares must be approved to Australian Standard AS2092.

Red hand flare

These can be seen from a range of up to 10km at sea level on a clear, dark night and up to 20km from the air. It burns for over 60 seconds with an intense 15,000-candela red light. They can be seen in daylight over a shorter range.

Orange smoke flare

The smoke flare is for day use only. It provides a vivid and expanding cloud of dense orange smoke visible for more than 60 seconds and can be seen from 4km away at sea level and even further from and aircraft. Always hold the flare to leeward when using it.

17. Oars/auxiliary propulsion

Oars/paddles or an auxiliary motor must be carried on all vessels less than 6 metres in length to provide a second means of propulsion. Owners of larger vessels should also consider some means of auxiliary power as an effective safety device.

18. Fog horn

Each vessel shall carry a foghorn.

Last Reviewed: 16/07/2018