

Appendix A: HAVEN SERIES 2009 – SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- The *Current Offshore Special Regulations* may be found on the ISAF website (www.sailing.org). Copies can also be obtained from the Haven Series Secretary. Amendments to the Special Regulations are posted on the ISAF website
- Help with the implementation of the Offshore Special Regulations may be sought through the secretary. Pre-season advisory checks can be arranged.
- A functioning engine and VHF radio are required because of the proximity of commercial shipping in the deep-water channel. Race organisers in the Harwich area receive considerable cooperation from the Harwich Haven Authority and are maintaining a policy of keeping racing yachts out of the channel (see Sailing Instructions “Additional Safety Responsibilities” and “Use of Engine to Keep Clear”)
- Owners are reminded not to overlook the **servicing of lifejackets**. These deteriorate rapidly if damp, and gas bottles corrode. A lifejacket in poor condition is not reliable.
- Any advice or assistance, and the comments in this appendix, are advisory only. The definitive authority is as cited above, and nothing shall vary or supersede it, or detract from or diminish the owner’s and skipper’s sole responsibility for compliance.
- Owners who have taken advantage of the RNLi’s SEAcHECK, which uses the RYA Boat Safety Handbook (C8) as a reference, will find a similarity between the requirements of the Special Regulations and the equipment considered essential or recommended for cruising yachts. The standard of equipment for safe sailing offshore is similar whether cruising or racing.

Boats unable, through design, to comply with the safety requirements of the Series must apply in writing to the Haven Series Committee at the above address for dispensation. The Committee may impose alternative requirements.

Reference to the full Offshore Special Regulations is essential, but, for information, they provide the details in the following format:

Category 4 Monohulls (Points and Sunday Series and Britannia Race)

(Note that in addition to the requirements of this category, the Haven Points Series requires the provision of a propulsion engine with adequate fuel).

SECTION 1 – FUNDAMENTAL AND DEFINITIONS

Includes owner’s responsibility, decision to race, definitions, abbreviations, word usage

SECTION 2 – APPLICATION & GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Includes definitions of the categories of offshore events

SECTION 3 – STRUCTURAL FEATURES, STABILITY, COMMUNICATION & FIXED EQUIPMENT

Strength of build, ballast and rig, watertight integrity, stability, hatches & companionways, cockpits, cockpit drains, sea cocks, pulpits, stanchions, lifelines, bilge pumps and buckets, installed magnetic compass, navigation lights and communication equipment.

Note change to OSR 3.29 in 2008: The following shall be provided. A hand-held VHF transceiver, watertight or with a waterproof cover for emergency. A radio capable of receiving weather bulletins independent of a main radio transceiver.

SECTION 4 – PORTABLE EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES for the yacht

- Sail letters and numbers
- Soft wood plugs
- Fire extinguishers
- Main anchor – not just a kedge.
- Flashlight and spotlight (searchlight)
- First aid manual and first aid kit
- Foghorn
- Durable stowage chart
- Navigation equipment
- Echo sounder or lead line
- Radar reflector
- Tools and spare parts
- Yacht’s name on miscellaneous buoyant equipment
- Marine grade retro-reflective material
- Lifebuoy(s)
- Pyrotechnic signals
- Heaving line
- Cockpit or deck knife
- Deep reef in main, or trysail
- Storm or heavy weather sails

SECTION 5 - PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

Each crew member shall have a lifejacket and safety harness in accordance with OSR 5.01.

Note change to OSR 5.01.2 in 2008: A lifejacket shall have at least 150N buoyancy, a lifejacket light and a crotch strap or thigh straps.

SECTION 6 – TRAINING (OSR 6.4 (all categories) – “Routine Training on Board”)

It is recommended that crews should practice safety routines at reasonable intervals including the drill for man overboard recovery.

It is also strongly recommended that all crew members should undertake personal survival training (with a liferaft in a pool), at least once every five years. There has been very positive feedback from yachtsmen who have done so.

In addition, OSR 4.08.4 **requires** that “at least one member of the crew shall be familiar with First Aid procedures, hypothermia and relevant communications systems”.

Category 3 with liferaft (*Mercator & Stroombank*) includes the following:

- Liferaft* and optional grab bag
- Two anchors, at least one capable of holding the boat in adverse conditions
- Toe rail
- Additional accommodation requirements
- Radio – marine transceiver, which, if VHF, must be 25w and have both a masthead antenna and an emergency antenna
- An independent radio to above capable of receiving weather information bulletins
- A hand-held VHF transceiver, watertight or with a waterproof cover for emergency
- An Electronic Position-Fixing System (e.g. GPS)
- Propulsion engine and fuel
- Emergency water
- A compass in addition to the permanently installed magnetic compass
- Reserve navigation lights (*These to be of the same specification as the main ones. The provision of both masthead tricolour and bow / stern lights fulfils the requirement when powered by two separate ship’s batteries with a changeover switch. Small, dry battery powered ones do not*)
- Jackstays, clipping points and harnesses
- Watertight high-powered search or spotlight and watertight flashlight with spare batteries and bulbs
- Log
- Emergency steering
- 4 red parachute flares
- Cockpit knife

***Liferafts: OSR 4.20.2 lists that liferafts shall comply with one of the following standards:**

- SOLAS
- OSR Appendix A Part 1 for rafts manufactured before 1/03, often called ORC.
- OSR Appendix A Part 2, commonly referred to as ISAF rafts.
- ISO 9650 –see regulations for detail.

Liferaft Servicing: Liferaft servicing certificates shall state the specification that the liferaft was built to.

The above is a summary of the Offshore Special Regulations to be used as a check list only.

Please refer to the full regulations for the detail.