

ORC MINIMUM EQUIPMENT & ACCOMODATION STANDARDS - CATEGORY 4
(as adapted by the Off Soundings Club for its use)

STRUCTURAL FEATURES:

1. (6.1) Hatches, companionways and ports must be essentially watertight, that is, capable of being strongly and rigidly secured. Cockpit compainways, if extended below main deck level, must be capable of being blocked off to main deck level.
2. (6.2) Cockpits must be structurally strong, self-bailing and permanently incorporated as an integral part of the hull. They must be essentially watertight, that is, all openings to the hull below the main deck level must be capable of being strongly and rigidly secured.
3. (6.22) The maximum cockpit volume below lowest coamings shall not exceed 9% LOA times Beam times Freeboard in way of the cockpit. The cockpit sole must be at least 2% LOA above the waterline. If you are unsure of meeting this requirement, ask your measurer to verify it.
4. (6.32) Cockpit drains adequate to drain cockpit quickly but not less in combined area (after allowance for screens, if attached) than the equivalent of two one-inch diameter drains.
5. (6.52) Soft wood plugs, tapered and of various sizes.
6. (6.6) Lifeline and pulpits:

Yachts of 35 feet LOA and above shall have bow pulpits and 24 inch double lifelines in accordance with Paragraph 6.61.

Yachts less than 35 feet LOA shall have bow pulpits and at least 18 inch single lifelines in accordance with Paragraph 6.62.

Yachts whose shrouds are so placed that they must sheet genoas outside lifelines when closehauled, may drop forward lifelines to a lower attachment point.

Note that stern pulpits are not required by Category 4, provided that lifelines of the required height are carried aft to at least the mid point of the cockpit.

ACCOMODATIONS:

7. (7.12) Toilet, permanently installed, or fitted bucket.
8. (7.2) Bunks, permanently installed.
9. (7.42) Galley facilities.
10. (7.53) Water in suitable containers.

GENERAL EQUIPMENT

11. (8.1) Fire extinguishers, readily accessible and of the type and number required by the country of registry, provided there be at least one in yachts fitted with an engine or stove.
12. (8.23) One manual bilge pump.
13. (8.32) One anchor and cable.
14. (8.42) At least one flashlight, water resistant, with spare batteries and bulb.
15. (8.5) First Aid Kit and manual.
16. (8.6) Foghorn.
17. (8.7) Radar reflector.
18. (8.9) Shutoff valves on all fuel tanks.

NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT

19. (9.1) Compass, marine type, properly installed and adjusted.
20. (9.6) Lead line or echo sounder.
21. (9.8) Navigation lights, to be shown as required by the International Regulations for Preventing Collision at Sea, mounted so that they will not be masked by sails or the heeling of the yacht.

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

22. (10.22) Heavy weather jib and reefing equipment for mainsail.
23. (10.4) Tools and spare parts, including a hacksaw.
24. (10.62) Radio Receiver capable of receiving weather bulletins.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

25. (11.1) Life Jackets, one for each crew member.
26. (11.51) Life ring(s), at least one horseshoe-type life ring equipped with a waterproof light and drogue within reach of the helmsman and ready for instant use.
27. (11.61) Distress signals to be stowed in a waterproof container, and meeting the following requirements for each category, as indicated:
 - (11.64) Four red hand flares.
 - (11.65) Four white hand flares.
 - (11.7) Heaving Line (50 foot minimum length, floating-type line) readily accessible to cockpit.