2020 ‘Round Whidbey Safety Equipment Requirements (SER’s)

Section name	SER #	Requirements
Overall	1.1	These SERs do not replace, but rather supplement, the requirements of governmental authority, Classification Society certification, the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS), class rules and Rating Systems. Use of these rules does not guarantee total safety of the boat and her crew. Particular attention is drawn to the description of equipment requirements for inshore racing which includes that adequate shelter and or effective rescue is available all along the course. This is not included in more onerous requirement categories.
Respons-ibility	1.2	Under RRS 46 the responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or continue racing is hers alone. The safety of a boat and her crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Person in Charge who shall do his best to ensure that the boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by an experienced and appropriately trained crew who are physically fit to face bad weather. The person in charge shall also assign a person to take over his responsibilities in the event of his incapacitation.
Inspection	1.3	A boat may be inspected at any time by an inspector or measurer appointed for the event. If she does not comply with these requirements, her entry may be rejected or she may be subject to a protest filed by the RC.
Equipment And Knowledge	1.4	All equipment required shall function properly, be regularly checked, cleaned and serviced, and be of a type, size and capacity suitable for the intended use and size of the boat and the size of the crew. This equipment shall be readily accessible while underway and, when not in use, stored in such a way that deterioration is minimized.
Secure Storage	1.5	Heavy items shall be permanently installed or securely fastened.
Strength Of Build	1.6	A boat shall be strongly built, watertight and, particularly with regard to hulls, decks and cabin trunks, capable of withstanding solid water and knockdowns. A boat shall be properly rigged and ballasted, be fully seaworthy and shall meet the standards set forth herein. A boat's shrouds and at least one forestay shall remain attached at all times.
Watertight Integrity	1.7	A boat's hull, including, deck, coach roof, windows, hatches 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.
Hull Openings	2.1.1	A boat's companionway(s) shall be capable of being blocked off to main deck level. The method of blocking should be solid, watertight and rigidly secured, if not permanent.
Hull		A boat's hatch boards, whether or not in position in the hatchway, shall be secured in a

Openings	2.1.2	way that prevents their being lost overboard.
Cockpit	2.1.3	A boat's entire cockpit shall be solid, watertight, strongly fastened and/or sealed. Weather-tight seat hatches are acceptable only if capable of being secured when closed.
Cockpit	2.4.1	A boat's deck including the headstay shall be surrounded by a suitably strong enclosure, typically consisting of lifelines and pulpits.
Lifelines	2.4.4	Lifelines shall be either uncoated stainless steel wire or high molecular weight polyethylene (HMPE) line with spliced terminations or terminals specifically intended for the purpose. Coated stainless steel wire is also permitted if installed within the last 10 years and the Person in Charge has visually inspected them. A multipart-lashing not to exceed 4" per end termination for the purpose of attaching lifelines to pulpits is allowed. Lifelines shall be taut.
Lifelines	2.4.5	The maximum spacing between lifeline supports (e.g. stanchions and pulpits) shall be 87" (2.2m).
Lifelines	2.4.6	Boats under 30' (9.14m) shall have at least one lifeline with 18" (457mm) minimum height above deck, and a maximum vertical gap of 18" (457mm). Taller heights will require a second lifeline. The minimum diameter shall be 1/8" (3mm).
Lifelines	2.4.7	Boats 30' and over (9.14m) shall have at least two lifelines with 24" (762mm) minimum height above deck, and a maximum vertical gap of 15" (381mm). The minimum diameter will be 5/32" (4mm) for boats to 43' (13.1m) and 3/16" (5mm) for boats over 43' (13.1m).
Lifelines	2.4.8	Toe rails shall be fitted around the foredeck from the base of the mast with a minimum height of 3/4" (18mm) for boats under 30' (9.14m) and 1" (25mm) for boats over 30'. An additional installed lifeline that is 1-2" (25-51mm) above the deck will satisfy this requirement for boats without toerails.
Dewatering Pumps	2.5.3	A boat shall have a manual bilge pump of at least a 10 GPM (37.8 liter per minute) capacity.
Mechanical Propulsion	2.7.2	A boat shall have a mechanical propulsion system that is quickly available and capable of driving the boat at a minimum speed in knots equivalent to the square root of LWL in feet (1.8 times the square root of the waterline in meters) for 4 hours.
Safety Equipment: Personal	3.1.1	Each crewmember shall have a life jacket that provides at least 33.7lbs (150N) of buoyancy, intended to be worn over the shoulders (no belt pack), meeting either U.S. Coast Guard or ISO specifications. Alternatively, each crewmember shall have an inherently buoyant off-shore life jacket that provides at least 22lbs (100N) of buoyancy meeting either U.S. Coast Guard or ISO specifications.
Safety		Life jackets shall be equipped with a whistle, a waterproof light, be fitted with

Equipment: Personal	3.1.2	marine-grade retro-reflective material, and be clearly marked with the boat's or wearer's name, and be compatible with the wearer's safety harness. If the life jacket is inflatable, it shall be checked regularly for air retention. Crotch or leg straps are recommended.
Safety Equipment: Personal	3.1.4	Each crewmember shall have a safety harness and compatible safety tether not more than 6'7" (2m) long with a minimum tensile strength of 4500 lb. (20kN). The tether shall have a snap hook at its far end and a means to quickly disconnect the tether at the chest
Deck Safety	3.2.1	A boat shall carry jacklines with a breaking strength of at least 4500 lb. (20kN) which allow the crew to reach all points on deck, connected to similarly strong attachment points, in place while racing.
Navigation Lights	3.3.1	A boat racing between sunset and sunrise shall carry navigation lights that meet U. S. Coast Guard or applicable government requirements mounted so that they will not be obscured by the sails.
Fire Extinguisher	3.4	A boat shall carry fire extinguisher(s) that meets U.S. Coast Guard or applicable government requirements, when applicable.
Sound Signals	3.5	A boat shall carry sound-making devices that meets U.S. Coast Guard or applicable government requirements, when applicable.
Visual Distress Signals	3.6.4	A boat shall carry U.S. Coast Guard (or applicable government entity) flares meeting day-night requirements not older than the expiration date.
Man Overboard	3.7.1	A boat shall carry a Lifesling or equivalent man overboard rescue device equipped with a self igniting light stored on deck and ready for immediate use.
Man Overboard	3.7.2	It is strongly recommended a boat should have a man overboard pole and flag, with a lifebuoy, a self-igniting light, a whistle, and a drogue attached.. These items should be stored on deck, ready for immediate use, and affixed in a manner that allows for a "quick release".
Man Overboard	3.7.3	A boat shall have a throwing sock-type heaving line of 50' (15m) or greater of floating polypropylene line readily accessible to the cockpit.
Man Overboard	3.7.4	A boat shall carry a Coast Guard or applicable government approved "throwable device". If the device carried under 3.7.1 or 3.7.2 satisfies this requirement, then no additional device is needed.
Commun-ications	3.8.3	A boat shall have a VHF radio which may be fixed or handheld
Navigation	3.14	A boat shall carry a GPS receiver.
Navigation		A boat shall have a permanently mounted magnetic compass independent of the boat's

	3.19	electrical system suitable for steering at sea.
Navigation	3.20	A boat shall have either electronic or non-electronic charts that are appropriate for the race area.
Damage Control	3.22	A boat shall carry soft plugs of an appropriate material, tapered and of the appropriate size, attached or stowed adjacent to every through-hull opening.
Anchoring	3.23	A boat shall carry one anchor, meeting the anchor manufacturer's recommendations based on the yacht's size, with a suitable combination of chain and line.
Lights	3.24.1	A boat shall carry a watertight, high-powered searchlight, suitable for searching for a person overboard at night or for collision avoidance.
Lights	3.24.3	A boat shall carry at least one watertight flashlight with spare batteries in addition to the required searchlight.
Medical Kits	3.25	A boat shall carry a first aid kit and first aid manual suitable for the likely conditions of the passage and the number of crew aboard.
Radar Reflectors	3.26	A boat shall carry an 11.5" (292mm) diameter or greater octahedral radar reflector or one of equivalent performance.
Buckets	3.27	A boat shall carry one sturdy bucket of at least two gallons (8 liters) capacity with lanyards attached.
Mainsail Reefing	3.33	It is recommended a boat should have mainsail reefing capable of reducing the luff length by at least 10%.
Skills: Man Overboard	4.2	Annually, two-thirds of the boat's racing crew shall practice man- overboard procedures appropriate for the boat's size and speed. The practice shall consist of marking and returning to a position on the water, and demonstrating a method of hoisting a crewmember back on deck, or other consistent means of reboarding the crewmember.
Skills: Crew Training	4.4	The person in charge shall ensure that all crew members know where all emergency equipment is located and how to operate the equipment. In addition, the person in charge and crew should discuss how to handle various emergency situations including Crew Overboard, Grounding, Loss of Steering, Flooding, Fire, Dismasting, and Abandon Ship.