



Safety Equipment Recommendations

All boats must meet all U.S.C.G. safety rules and regulations. In addition, the following minimum equipment standards are recommended.

DINGHY RACES

1. One USCG-approved PFD per crew member, in accordance with USCG requirements, and preferably worn while underway.
2. Have enough positive flotation when swamped to support the crew.
3. Be operated in accordance with applicable USCG requirements as a minimum.

CLASS I - River Races for Keelboats

1. Self-bailing cockpit integral with hull and cockpit drains equivalent to two 3/4" inside diameter drains (i.e. approximately 1" square.)
2. Running lights conforming to Federal government regulation.
3. Power supply adequate to operate running lights and electric powered safety equipment for the duration of the event.
4. Water resistant flashlights.
5. Fire extinguisher(s) per U.S.C.G. regulations.
6. One manual bilge pump.
7. Auxiliary manual bailing device such as bucket or scoop.
8. At least one suitable anchor and cable (per Chapman).
9. Adequate marine first aid kit and manual.
10. Whistle or lung-powered horn (in addition to aerosol horn).
11. Shutoff valves on installed or fixed fuel tanks.
12. U.S.C.G. approved life jackets for every crew member and required throwable device.
13. Necessary charts for waters sailed.

CLASS II - Short Offshore Races (e.g. Spring Triangle)

All items in Class I plus:

1. Whistles and waterproof lights on all life jackets.
2. Properly installed and adjusted marine compass.
3. Man-overboard pole with international orange, red or yellow flag at least 8 feet above the water in calm seas.
4. Three red flares and one smoke flare (minimum).
5. One gallon fresh water for each crew member.
6. Safety harness and lanyard with snap hook or shackle for each crew member.
7. Lifelines or other suitable devices for attaching safety harness lanyards.

CLASS III - Longer Distance Races (e.g. Canaveral to Fort Pierce)

1. All items in Classes I & II plus:
2. Either xenon man-overboard light (throwable) or strobe light on each life jacket.
3. A VHF-FM marine radio.
4. Self-inflatable or permanently inflated life raft capable of boarding at least half the crew. This item is optional but recommended by ECSA.

NOTES: It is the intent of this list to assure that each boat is provided with equipment which will be useful and usable in an emergency. For example: Furling and tying the flag on a man-overboard pole destroys the value of the device and is not permissible. (Suggestion: attach a cap to the boat with a lanyard. As the pole is deployed the cap will remain with the boat, freeing the flag.) The radio transceiver should be installed so as to have at least a 10-mile range over water. Any properly done installation will give twice that range, but a poor connector in the antenna lead will cut the range to a mile or so. Those boats not having permanent life lines shall have a line run from bow cleat to cockpit to which all safety harnesses must be snapped while on deck. While there are ways of circumventing the intent of these rules through carelessness, there are many ways of complying inexpensively.