



DEPARTMENT OF MARINE & PORTS SERVICES  
BERMUDA

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CODE OF PRACTICE AND INSPECTION  
FOR  
ISLAND BOATS

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## PREFACE

The purpose of this is to give guidance to owners on the standards that Inspecting Officers of the Department of Marine and Ports Services will require for Island Boats operating in and around the Islands of Bermuda.

The text outlines the requirements that need to obtain the initial **Passenger Certificate**. The initial survey will be conducted by a Department of Marine and Ports Inspector – Marine Services Officer.

Subsequent annual surveys are carried out to ensure that the standards required at the initial survey are being maintained.

Only when the **Inspecting Officer** is satisfied with the conditions of the boat for intended service, will the Department issue a new **Passenger Certificate**. The Inspection fee/licensing fee is to be paid prior to inspection. The fee is based on the passenger carrying capacity of the boat.

Further details and information can be obtained from the Boat and Mooring Registration Section, Department of Marine and Ports Services, telephone – 295-6575.

<b>Number of Passengers</b>	<b>Annual Registration Fee (2010)</b>
1 to 10	\$209
11 to 25	\$416
26 to 50	\$625
51 to 100	\$832
101 & over	\$1034
Rental power-craft	\$86 each
Rental sailboats	\$47 each



## INTRODUCTION

Under the Marine Board (Island Boats) Regulations 1965, any boat carrying passengers for hire or reward must hold a valid Passenger Certificate issued by the Department of Marine and Ports Services.

The following is a general guideline to the survey and equipment requirements with which these craft have to comply. **It is the responsibility of the owner to submit to the Department of Marine and Ports Services, at an early stage, prior to construction or purchase, details of the proposed craft and its intended area of operating and use.**

## DEFINITIONS

Island Boat means any type of boat (not being a rowboat) which is operated for hire or reward in the waters of, or from place to place within these islands, and not ordinarily employed in voyages to any place beyond the sea.

Rental power-craft means any boat which is propelled by motorized power and which is operated for rental purposes and which the license holder is permitted to operate without a licensed crew. **In Bermuda these are boats of 23 feet (maximum) or less, powered by outboard engines.**

Rental sailboat means any boat which is propelled only by a sail or sails and which is operated for rental purposes, and which the licenses holder is permitted to operate without a licensed crew.

Rental sailboats are usually small sailboats such as sunfish, day-sailors and windsurfers.

Operators of both rental power-craft and rental sailboats are restricted to specific operating areas and are required to have a suitably equipped dedicated rescue craft available to assist when required. Operators are expected to use good judgment before renting a craft out in adverse or deteriorating weather conditions. If a small craft warning is posted operations should be restricted or cancelled.

**A passenger is generally considered to be one individual. Two children do not count as one adult.**



## PASSENGER CERTIFICATE

No boat carrying passengers for hire or reward to; from, or between places within the territorial waters of Bermuda – 12 mile beyond the outer reef edge – may ply on any voyage or excursion unless it holds a valid Passenger Certificate issued by the Department of Marine and Ports Services.

Nor may an Island Boat, rental power-craft or rental sailboat having a Passenger Certificate carry more than the number of passengers specified on the certificate. A copy of the certificate is to be posted in a conspicuous place on board the boat or with rental craft at the place of rental.

The Passenger Certificate will only be issued subject to a satisfactory survey and confirmation that the boat is insured in accordance with the requirements of the Marine Board (Island Boats) Amendment Regulations 1995 - specified below:

Third Party Insurance		min. \$100,000
	Size of boat	Min. cover
Passenger liability	1 to 15 pass.	\$250,000
	16 to 30 pass.	\$500,000
	31 to 50 pass.	\$750,000
	51 to 100 pass.	\$1,500,000
	101 to 200 pass.	\$2,000,000
	201 to 250 pass.	\$3,000,000
	251 pass. or more	\$16,000 add.
	Cover for each pass. in excess	in excess of 250



## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUE OF AN INITIAL PASSENGER CERTIFICATE

### GENERAL

Before proceeding with the licensing/building of any Island Boat, the owner should submit to the Department of Marine and Ports Services the following:

1. Description of intended operation e. g. snorkeling, tour boat, glass bottom boat etc.
2. Proposed area of operation, and number of passengers intended to be carried - see notes 1 & 2 below.
3. General Arrangement Plan of boat.
4. Mid-ship cross-section, showing scantlings and dimensions.
5. Details of type of propulsion and steering gear.
6. Stability information.
7. Other documentation such as US Coast Guard Certificates or surveyors reports

Area of Operation: There are four areas for boats are usually licensed to operate:

- (a) Protected waters (within harbour limits). (see note 1)
- (b) Inland waters (within outer reef line)
- (c) Within territorial waters. (see note 2)
- (d) Outside territorial waters (not exceed 12 persons) (see note 3)

**Number of Passengers** Passenger numbers will depend on various considerations including available passenger deck space and seating. At least 6 square feet of deck space or 18 inches of seating for each person is required. A combination of both will be considered.

On receipt of this initial information the Department of Marine and Ports Services will review the material and advise what alterations or modifications, if any, are required so that construction can begin.



## 1. THE HULL

- 1.1 **Standard of Construction** - The hull shall be constructed to a standard acceptable to the Department of Marine and Ports Services and suitable for the intended use and area of operation. A hull built to the standards of the U.S.C.G., British MCA, Canadian Coast Guard or a recognized classification society will be accepted.
- 1.2 **Emergency Escape** - If the passenger spaces are covered in, the arrangements must be such as to afford ready means for the passengers to escape in an emergency.
- 1.3 **Glass** used for windows, port lights, and partitions should be of safety glass, Plexiglas or Lexan.
- 1.4 **Insulation material** must be of the fire retardant type - glass-fiber or Rockwool. Polyurethane is not permitted.
- 1.5 **Engine Room Spaces** - Boats fitted with inboard engines should have the engine room compartment separated from the passenger space(s) by means of:
  - (1) In steel/aluminum vessels, continuously welded steel/aluminum bulkhead(s) insulated throughout with 2 inches of mineral wool or equivalent.

In other vessels, bulkhead(s) constructed of fire retardant material so installed as to be gas tight. Exposed wood or G.R.P. surfaces/bulkheads shall be coated with an approved fire retardant coating of the intumescent type.
- 1.6 **Toilet facilities** must be appropriate for the service intended.
- 1.7 **Gangways** - must provide full protection for passengers embarking and disembarking. Handrails when fitted should be of robust construction and be a minimum of 39 inches high.
- 1.8 **Handrails/Grab rails** should be provided for crew moving along the outside of the vessel.
- 1.9 **Deck Railings** - Rails shall be installed on all weather decks accessible to passengers and crew. Where space limitations make deck rails impractical, such as at narrow catwalks, hand grab rails may be substituted.



On passenger decks for boats engaged in ferry/tour type operations, rails should be at least 39 inches high. The space below the rail shall be fitted with railings, bulwarks, strong netting, canvas curtains or the equivalent, the purpose being to stop passengers falling over the side. The horizontal distance between railings shall be not more than 13 inches apart unless strong netting is provided.

Where passengers sit on the cabin top adequate safety hand rails shall be provided.

On sport fishing vessels where it can be shown that higher rails would interfere with the normal operation of the vessel, rails of at least 30 inches height may be permitted.

Sailing vessels, small vessels of the open launch type, and other vessels not specifically covered in this section shall have such rails as considered necessary by the Inspecting Officer.

1.10 **Passenger seating** – Where seating is provided it must be secure and safe for passengers. Seating shall be stable so that in the event that the boat rolls in a wake or swell it will not fall or slide along the deck. The seating arrangements must provide suitable passageways/escape routes and be distributed with regard to the stability of the vessel.

The normal width of seats where provided, shall be 18 inches of seat per person.

1.11 The hull, superstructure, structural bulkheads and deckhouses when constructed of G.R.P. shall have a final layer of fire retardant resin.



## **2. MEANS OF PROPULSION**

- 2.1 The Department is prepared to consider any form of propulsion, provided it is reliable and safe. Inboard diesel engines are preferred. Inboard gas engines are not permitted on vessels carrying more than 24 passengers.

The means of propulsion should be suitable for the purpose intended.

### **2.2 ENGINE PROPULSION (DIESEL OR GAS)**

#### **(a) FUEL TANK**

- (1) The fuel tank/s should be substantially constructed of steel, aluminum, or other suitable fire retardant material -includes G.R.P.
- (2) There shall be a means of accurately determining the amount of fuel in each fuel tank either by sounding through a separate sounding pipe or fill pipe, or by a suitable marine type fuel gauge system.
- (3) To dissipate any static charge build up to tanks fitted in non-metallic hulls, suitable connection should be provided to an earth point in direct contact with the surrounding water.
- (4) Sight glasses, if fitted, should be of glass and have self-closing valves at bottom.
- (5) Fill pipes and sounding pipes shall run as directly as possible, preferably in a straight line, from the deck connection to the top of the tank.

#### **(b) FUEL FILLING SYSTEMS**

- (1) Filling pipes shall be taken to deck level and so arranged as to ensure that any fuel overflowing will not be discharged into any part of the vessel including the bilges. The filling pipe to the tank shall be in the order of 1½ inches diameter and be of steel, aluminum or approved equivalent- not plastic.
- (2) Each fuel tank shall be fitted with a vent pipe connected to the highest point of the tank.
- (3) The fuel tank vent should extend to at least the height of the filling connection, and have a minimal internal diameter of ½ inch. A flame arrester of a suitable size, and of an approved type, should be fitted to the vent outlet.



- (4) Where sounding pipes are used, their openings must be at least as high as the opening of the fill pipe and they must be kept closed at all times except during sounding.
- (5) Fill pipes and sounding pipes shall run as directly as possible, preferably in a straight line, from the deck connection to the top of the tank.

(c) **FUEL SUPPLY**

- (1) Fuel pipelines between the fuel tank and engine must be of metal or suitable equivalent. Fittings should not depend on soft solder for tightness. A suitable short flexible length of fire retardant fuel hose can be fitted directly before the engine.
- (2) The fuel suction pipe should be fitted with an emergency shut off valve, easily accessible from outside the engine compartment.
- (3) Suitable fuel filters shall be installed and operational. A drip tray shall be fitted where practical.

(d) **EXHAUST SYSTEMS**

- (1) Exhaust pipes from the main engines and from the auxiliary engines of the vessel shall be permanently mounted and shall lead to the open air outside the vessel through the uppermost deck or
- (2) Where the exhaust pipes referred to in (1) pass through the uppermost deck they shall be of permanently mounted and shall lead to the open air outside the vessel through the uppermost deck or through the hull.
- (3) Where the exhaust pipes referred to in (1) pass through the hull of the vessel, the connection shall be watertight and the provisions shall be made to prevent the engine from being flooded by backflow.
- (4) All dry exhaust pipes shall be well secured and be clear of wood or other combustible materials, and they shall be covered with lagged as necessary.
- (5) Where the exhaust passes through a watertight bulkhead, the watertight integrity of the bulkhead must be maintained.



(e) **MACHINERY CONTROLS**

- (1) Means of starting and stopping the engine, other than by shutting off the emergency fuel shut off valve, shall be provided outside the engine room.

### **3. UNDERWATER FITTINGS**

- 3.1 All suctions and discharges passing through the hull below the weather deck shall be fitted with suitable valve /seacock for preventing accidental flooding into the vessel – keel cooling systems and exhausts excepted.
- 3.2 Valves/seacock's shall be fitted as close to the hull as possible.
- 3.3 All shipside valves/seacock's, shall be of bronze or a suitable equivalent.
- 3.4 Suction and discharge valves/seacock's fitted wooden or G.R.P. boats shall be attached to hull by an approved method.
- 3.5 All valves/seacock's shall be readily accessible for inspection and operational purposes.

### **4. ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS**

- 4.1 All electrical distributions systems should be of the two wire type and carried out with flame retardant marine grade cables. Cables shall have a protective covering.
- 4.2 Electrical systems and equipment shall be protected from the effects of overloading by suitably rated fuses and circuit breakers.
- 4.3 Cables should be neatly run securely fastened into place by clips or straps of non-ferrous material. Particular attention should be paid to keeping them well clear of external sources of heat such as engine exhaust pipes.
- 4.4 Cables should be, wherever possible, avoid bilges and under floor areas. Cables are to be effectively supported and secured in order to prevent chafing or other damage.
- 4.5 Batteries shall be located in well ventilated areas so that any gases generated will be readily dissipated by natural or mechanical means.



- 4.6 The battery compartment should be positioned as far away from bilge areas as possible, and be installed so as to prevent movement and damage to the batteries. Where practical, batteries shall not be located in accommodation spaces. If this cannot be avoided, they must be the gel type and well vented.
- 4.7 Battery charge indicators are to be fitted.

## **5. STABILITY**

- 5.1 Vessels may be required to demonstrate, by calculation and/or physical test, a satisfaction standard of stability.
- 5.2 When a vessel is required to carry out a physical test the following procedure is to be followed:
- (a) The vessel is to be loaded to represent a full complement of passengers and crew, with all consumable such as fuel and water on board.
  - (b) The weight of passengers is to be simulated by equivalent deadweight distributed so as to provide normal trim and to simulate the most unfavorable vertical center of gravity likely to occur in service. This is usually with upper decks full and loaded on one side of the vessel. Passenger loading of 1/3 to one side and 2/3 to the other side is to be simulated

For the purpose of this exercise the weight per passenger shall be taken as 75kg (165lb). Sandbags and/or water barrels etc. may be used to simulate equivalent deadweight.

- (c) The angle of list is not to exceed 7°.
- (e) The minimum freeboard in the adverse load condition is to be not less than 12 inches.

## **6. FIRE APPLIANCES**

The minimum requirements for vessels depends upon the length of vessel and whether the vessel is equipped with an inboard engine, fixed fuel tanks, and/or cooking/heating appliances.

The Inspecting Officer may require additional equipment depending on construction of boat, type of service, area of operation, mode of propulsion and number of passengers.



Documentation is required at the time of inspection certifying that fire systems and extinguishers have been serviced by a competent service agent.

The following minimum equipment will be required:

- 6.1 All Island boats fitted with an inboard engine are required to have a suitable fixed fire extinguishing system in the engine room/compartments. Systems may be automatic as well as manually controlled. The manual control shall be located outside the engine room. Clear operating instructions are to be posted.
- 6.2 Boats not exceeding 20 feet shall carry at least one of the following:
  - (a) A vaporizing liquid (BCF) fire extinguisher of not less than 1<sup>1/2</sup> lb. content.
  - (b) A dry chemical fire extinguisher of not less than 5 lb. content.
- 6.3 Boats 20~40 feet in length shall carry at least two of the following:
  - (a) BCF not less than 3 lb- these are generally obsolete.
  - (b) Dry chemical not less than 10 lb.
  - (c) Carbon dioxide not less than 10 lb.
- 6.4 Boats of more than 40 feet shall carry at least four of the following:
  - (a) BCF not less than 3 lb.
  - (b) Dry chemical not less than 10 lb.
  - (c) Carbon dioxide not less than 10 lb.
- 6.5 Carbon dioxide fire extinguishers shall not be located in accommodation space.
- 6.6 Fire extinguishers shall be permanently mounted with a quick release mechanism near the entrance to the space in which they are to be used.
- 6.7 All extinguishers shall be marked with the date of the last inspection.
- 6.8 Boats of more than 50 feet or carrying more than 50 persons shall have a suitable independent fire pump with hoses capable of reaching any part of the vessel. Hoses to be fitted with fire nozzle (pump may be manual type).
- 6.9 In vessels fitted with cooking facilities, a fire smothering blanket and an additional portable 2lb multipurpose dry chemical extinguisher shall be mounted close by.
- 6.10 Vessels with an inboard petrol (gas) engines shall be fitted with a suitable blower



located in the bilge.

## **7. BILGE PUMPING**

- 7.0 Bilge pumping equipment required is dependent upon the length of the boat, the number of passengers to be carried, and the area of operation.
- 7.1 (a) Every boat not exceeding 20 feet shall carry one bailer or one manual bilge pump.
- (b) Boats 20-40 feet shall carry one bailer and one manual bilge pump.
- (c) Boats more than 40 feet shall carry two bailers and one manual bilge pump.

Manual bilge pumps shall be of a suitable size and fitted with appropriate suction and delivery hoses and their operation to be demonstrated to the Inspecting Officer.

Buckets will be accepted as bailers.

- 7.2 Main engine driven mechanical pumping systems connected into permanent bilge lines are preferred. However small independent electric bilge pumps may be fitted in lieu, providing the capacity of the pump and batteries, charged through a generator, are adequate.
- 7.3 In addition to the bailers/manual bilge pumps every Island Boat is required to be fitted with a suitable fixed mechanical or electrical bilge pumping system. The requirements for rental power-craft and sailboats are given in Section 12.
- 7.4 When a mechanical pumping system is used each watertight compartment shall be provided with individual bilge lines and bilge suction.
- 7.5 Bilge lines, when installed, shall not be less than 1<sup>1/2</sup> inches inside diameter and fitted with suitable strainers. Strainers are to be easily accessible cleaning.
- 7.6 Where bilge suction lines lead to a manifold, it shall be so arranged that water cannot flood from one compartment to another.
- 7.7 All bilge valves shall be clearly labeled.
- 7.8 Sea suction, overboard discharges and bilge valves shall be easily accessible and readily visible.



- 7.9 Electric bilge pumps, when fitted, must be securely mounted.
- (a) The strainers on electric bilge pumps are to be readily inspected and cleaned without removal.
  - (b) The discharge shall be placed as high above the waterline as possible with a shutoff valve installed at the hull. A suitable installed loop will be acceptable.
  - (c) A means to indicate the automatic operation of the pump shall be provided at the control station.

## 8. LIFE SAVING APPLIANCES

- 8.1 The standard of life saving appliances will depend on the area of operation, the number of passengers and the ability of the vessel to survive damage in the event of an accident.
- 8.2 Lifejackets are to be of an approved type (U. S. Coast Guard type 1 or equivalent), and be in good condition -includes rental power-craft and rental sailboats. Diving lifejackets/buoyancy compensators **will not** be accepted.
- 8.3 Lifejackets must be stowed in clearly marked and easily accessible dedicated lockers/locations. Stowage lockers on exposed decks are to be watertight.
- 8.4 The minimum number of lifejackets to be carried on board shall be one adult lifejacket for each person on board, passengers and crew, plus additional children's lifejackets for 10% of the capacity of the vessel **or the number of children to be carried.**
- 8.5 **Lifebuoys** - Approved lifebuoys shall be required on all Island Boats - rental boats excepted. Lifebuoys must be permanently mounted in suitable locations to the satisfaction of the Inspecting Officer.
- 8.6 **Boats of 40 feet or less** shall require one lifebuoy.  
**Boats more than 40 feet** will require two lifebuoys.  
**Boats more than 60 feet** will require four lifebuoys.
- 8.7 All lifebuoys shall be marked with the boat's name and each shall be fitted with 50 feet of buoyant line.



- 8.8 If the boat operates at night at least one of the lifebuoys shall be fitted with a self-activating light.
- 8.9 **Life-rafts/Buoyant Apparatus-** Vessels operating outside the outer reef edge will be required to carry approved buoyant apparatus for 100% (not 60%) of the number of passengers for which the boat is licensed to carry. Buoyant apparatus may be of the non-inflatable type or of the inflatable type. Inflatable rafts will only be accepted provided they have been inspected and certified by a recognized service agent in the previous 12 months, or as per manufacturer's recommendation.
- 8.10 Non-inflatable buoyant apparatus shall have retro-reflective tape and be marked with the boats name and permanently mounted to the satisfaction of the Inspecting Officer.
- 8.11 Pyrotechnics Distress flares, rockets, orange smokes, dye-markers are to be in good condition, **within date** and of an approved type **SOLAS** standard. Flare guns will not be accepted.
- 8.12 All Island Boats are required to carry:
- 3 red rocket flares
  - 3 red hand flares
  - 3 Orange hand smokes
  - 1 dye marker

Requirements for rental boats are contained in Section 12.

- 8.13 All pyrotechnics are to be in date at the time of inspection.
- 8.14 Pyrotechnics are to be stowed in a suitable properly marked container and located for easy access should they be required.
- 8.15 Every Island Boat shall be equipped with a signaling mirror.



## **9. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS AND NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT**

- 9.1 **V. H. F. Marine Radios** - All Island Boats are required to carry a 25 watt fixed installation approved DSC V. H. F. marine radio. All Island Boats to have a Class 5 Marine Radio Station License (available from Department of Telecommunications). Requirements for rental boats are contained in Section 12.
- 9.2 **E.P.I.R.B.** - All Island Boats operating beyond the outer reef edge are required to carry a registered Category Two 406 MHz Emergency Position Indicator Radio Beacon (E. P.I.R.B.)
- 9.3 **Navigation lights** are to conform to International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea. All lights shall be operational.
- 9.4 **Collision Regulations** -Every vessel shall comply with the Collision Regulations.
- 9.5 **Horn**- every Island Boat shall carry a suitable fixed horn. Requirements for rental boats are contained in Section 12.
- 9.6 **Compass** -Every Island Boat shall be fitted with a suitable and operational compass at each steering station rental boats excepted.

## **10. MOORING AND ANCHORING EQUIPMENT**

- 10.1 All Island Boats shall have at least two anchors. Requirements for rental boats are contained in Section 12. Windsurfers and small rental sailboats may be exempted.
- 10.2 Anchors are to be of a suitable size for the weight of the boat and the service intended. Danforth type anchors are preferred
- 10.3 **Boats not exceeding 20 feet** - anchors each to be equipped with a minimum of 3 feet of chain and 100 feet rope.
- Boats of 21 feet or more** - anchors each to be equipped with a minimum of 5 feet chain and 200 feet rope.
- 10.4 Proper stowage and securing arrangement for the anchors shall be provided in the anchor working area and the chain locker shall be of sufficient size and fitted with appropriate ventilation and drainage.



- 10.5 The boat shall be provided with proper anchor securing bitts of suitable size and strength.

## **11. LPG (GAS) INSTALLATIONS**

- 11.1 Stowage of gas containers – Gas containers are to be stowed on the open deck or in a well ventilated compartment on deck so that any gas which may leak can disperse rapidly and safely outboard of the boat.
- 11.2 Where deck stowage is practicable and the containers have to be stowed in a compartment below deck, such space should be adequately ventilated from the bottom to a safe place outside the hull.
- 11.3 Tube, hose or pipe carrying propane shall be continuous from the LPG tank enclosure to appliances without connections or joints. The use of LPG rated hose without connections or joints. The use of LPG rated hose is preferred.
- 11.4 A certified intrinsically safe marine gas detector alarm device shall be provided in the galley and any other space where gas may accumulate. This detector should provide both visual and audible warnings of any gas accumulating. In all cases the detection devise should be capable of being tested whilst the vessel is in service.

## **12. RENTAL BOATS/MISCELLANEOUS**

- 12.1 **First Aid Kit** - Every Island Boat shall be equipped with an adequate First Aid Kit -rental boats excepted.
- 12.2 **Flashlight** - Every Island Boat shall be equipped with a waterproof emergency flashlight in good working order. At least one flashlight is to be mounted (with the aid of clips or elastic cord) near the helm where it can be easily accessed. Windsurfers and small sailboats may be exempt.
- 12.3 **Rental power-craft and rental sailboats** will be required to carry the equipment specified in the Marine Board (Safety) Regulations, 1993 for a boat of the same length.

For a boat of 20 feet or less this shall be as follows:

1 lifejacket for each person on board



- 1 bailer/manual bilge pump
- 1 anchor,
- 2 oars/paddles
- 1 horn/whistle
- 1 flashlight
- 3 feet chain, 100 feet rope
- 3 red rockets\* 3 orange smokes\* 3 red flares\*
- 1 dye-marker\*
- 1 mirror

For a boat over 20 feet, not exceeding 23 feet, this shall be as follows:

- 1 lifejacket for each person on board
- 1 bailer/manual bilge pump
- 1 anchor,
- 2 oars/paddles
- 1 horn/whistle
- 1 flashlight 3 red flares\*
- 3 feet chain, 100 feet rope
- 3 red rockets\* 3 orange smokes\*
- 1 dye-marker\*
- 1 mirror

\* Only to be carried if boats operate outside inshore/protected waters.

**12.4 Areas of Operation-** all rental boats must adhere to the stated areas of operation that is on file with the Department of Marine and Ports.

12.5 Operators of rental boats are required to maintain a suitably equipped dedicated rescue craft to assist when required.

**12.6 Maximum Engine Size**

- Boats up to 16 feet not to exceed 30 H.P.
- Boats up to 20 feet not to exceed 40 H.P.
- Boats up to 23 feet not to exceed 50 H.P.

\*You must inform the Department of Marine and Ports (Marine Services Officer- Boats and Moorings) of any changes to engine size or fleet.



### **13. DIVE BOATS/SNORKELING**

- 13.1 **Resuscitator-** Island Boats engaged in snorkeling and/or diving operations are required to carry an approved resuscitator. The resuscitator is to be certified each year by a competent service agent. At least one member of the crew shall be certified in the operation of the resuscitator.
- 13.2 **Boarding Ladder-** Suitable arrangements are to be made for putting snorkelers safely in and out of the water.

Note: no more than 40 snorkelers are allowed in the water at anyone time from an Island Boat engaged in snorkeling operations (except beach/shore starts).

- 13.3 Dive Operations must be inspected prior to the dive boats being licenced.

### **14. STEERING GEAR**

- 14.1 At the initial and at each subsequent annual inspection, the Inspecting Officer shall examine and test the main and auxiliary steering apparatus to determine that its condition is satisfactory and that it is fit for the service intended. The main and auxiliary steering apparatus shall be tested by operation and the Inspecting Officer shall examine the mechanism throughout its length.
- 14.2 There shall be good all round visibility from the boats steering position(s).

### **15. ANNUAL RENEWAL SURVEY**

- 15.1 A Passenger Certificate remains valid from the date of issue until 31 March of the following year.
- 15.2 Boat inspections by appointment only.
- 15.3 Boat inspections can be scheduled with the Department of Marine and Ports Services, Mooring and Boat Registration Section, tel. No. 295-6575. **One week's notice should be given for an appointment.**
- 15.4 Inspections will usually be done at Marine and Ports Services Headquarters, East Broadway, Hamilton.
- 15.5 Registration Fee is to be paid prior to inspection.



- 15.6 Boats must be produced for inspection in a proper seagoing and operational condition. **All equipment should be checked beforehand and laid out for easy inspection and counting.**
- 15.7 Hull, deck and housing should be sound, painted and clean. Bilges must be clean and free from oil, fuel and dirt.
- 15.8 The following documents must be provided at the time of inspection:
- Fire extinguishers/systems - Certificate of Inspection
  - Passenger and Boat Insurance Certificate.
  - Resuscitator - Cert. of Inspection.
  - Inflatable life-raft – Certificate of Inspection.
  - Dive Boats - Cert. of Inspection for dive equipment.
  - Current and up to date CPR certifications for all crew.
  - Snorkeling/Dive boats- current O2 certifications for all crew.
  - Most recent survey report every 5 years or as required by insurer.

## **16. PARASAILING OPERATIONS**

1. Commercial parasailing operations are required to produce a written Operating Policy setting out their intended areas of operation, operating procedures and safety practices. This to be approved by the Department of Marine and Ports Services before a boat license is issued for the purpose of parasailing.
2. In accordance with Section 5(3) of the Power-Craft Regulations, 1960, the operator of a parasail boat *must* be in possession of a *valid pilot license issued in accordance with the Marine Board (Island Boats) Regulations, 1965.*
3. In addition to the pilot license, the operator of the parasail boat shall be certified as a competent *parasail boat operator*. A certificate of competence issued by the International Parasailing Boating Association (IPBA) or similar body will be accepted.
4. Commercial parasailing operations are required to produce a written Operating Policy setting out their intended areas of operation, operating procedures and safety practices. This to be approved by the Department of Marine and Ports Services before a boat license is issued for the purpose of parasailing.
5. In accordance with Section 5(3) of the Power-Craft Regulations, 1960, the



operator of a parasail boat *must* be in possession of a *valid pilot license issued* in accordance with the Marine Board (Island Boats) Regulations, 1965.

6. In addition to the pilot license, the operator of the parasail boat shall be certified as a competent *parasail boat operator*. A certificate of competence issued by the International Parasailing Boating Association (IPBA) or similar body will be accepted.
7. Parasail boats, *including the parachute*, may *not* operate within 200 meters of the shoreline or ships at anchor, berthed, or maneuvering in the harbour.
8. Parasail operators who intend to operate within a 5 Km radius of the airport - Ferry Reach, St. George's Harbour or Castle Harbour -are required to get approval from the Department of Civil Aviation -a *Letter of Agreement* is issued. The Department of Marine and Ports Services require a copy of this agreement prior to a boat license being issued. This is a one-time procedure.
9. When more than one parasail boat is operating in an area at the same time, boat operators must coordinate their operations to ensure that they are conducted in a safe manner and clear of each other.

Only *custom designed* parasail boats will be licensed. They should be of the *winch-boat* type -parasail to be launched and retrieved from the boat platform.

- No beach or shore starts.
- No ski-boats.
- Maximum operational height of parasail - 100 meters.
- The parasailor is to wear an approved buoyancy aid at all times and be secured in an approved harness/chair.
- It is recommended that a waiver form be used to ensure that persons are aware of the potential danger and liabilities.
- Operation restricted to daylight hours only.



## **17. RENTAL PWC (PERSONAL WATER CRAFT)**

### **1. Education/Instruction**

All customers are to be shown an **approved** instructional video, (optional) and/or to receive practical instruction, before they may operate a PWC. **Approved** means approved by the Department of Marine and Ports Services.

### **2. Guides/Instructors**

- Rental PWC to be supervised at all times by a PWC guide/instructor 1 guide/instructor to every PWC.
- Minimum age of an instructor -**18** years.
- Guide/instructor to be qualified in CPR and First Aid. (**see note 4**)
- Guide/instructor to be provided with a faster vessel than those being operated by the customers.

### **3 Safety Equipment**

- An approved lifejacket to be worn at all times by all riders.
- Guide/Instructor to carry a hand-held VHF radio (in waterproof case).
- Guide/instructor to carry a 30' towrope fitted with a snap hook at each end.
- Guide/instructor to carry 3 combined red distress flares/smokes.
- All rental units to carry following safety equipment:
  - An approved lifejacket for each rider
  - A whistle
  - A flashlight
  - Fire extinguisher

### **4. Number of Riders**

- Maximum three riders to one PWC.
- Number of riders not to exceed design limits of the PWC.

### **5. Maximum Engine Size**

- Not to exceed 100 H.P.



## 6. **Operation**

- PWC to keep at least 20 meters away from other PWC, reefs and other marine craft.
- PWC to keep at least 20 meters clear of swimmers.
- Reckless operation (hot-dogging) is prohibited. No stunts.
- PWC are not to be used for towing- inflatable banana boats, tubes or any other rides.

## 7. **Minimum Age**

- The operation to be 16 years or older in accordance with Section 4 (a) of the power Craft Regulations 1960.

## 8. **Hours of Operation**

- Rental PWC may be operated between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and provided it is daylight.

## 9. **Registration Identification**

- To be clearly marked with registration numbers/letters, as designated by the Department of Marine and Ports Services. Numbers/Letters to be at least 4 inches high.

## 10. **Restricted Areas of Operations**

Not permitted to be operated from St. George's Harbour or Hamilton Harbour. Prohibited in the waters of Harrington Sound, Clearwater Beach, Shelly Bay and all other beaches and the main chain of Islands in Hamilton Harbour including Long, Hawkins, Marshall, Ports, and Whites Islands, and any other area as designated by the Department of Marine and Ports Services.



## **18. AMPHIBIOUS VEHICLES**

Amphibious Vehicles are subject to the same regulations as all charter and rental boats, with further restrictions on areas of operation and conditions of operation.

### **1. Restricted Areas of Operations**

- Not permitted to be operated outside of protected waters and at a distance of no more than one thousand (1000) feet from shore.

### **1. Conditions of Operations**

- Not permitted to operate in wind conditions exceeding 15 knots and/or sea conditions exceeding a 3ft wave height.

## **19. CREW REQUIREMENTS FOR ISLAND BOATS**

Every Island Boat, (except a rental power-craft or rental sailboat) when carrying passengers, must have a licenced pilot on board.

If the vessel is an Island Motor-Boat, it shall not be operated by less than two persons. An exemption may be granted at the discretion of the Department where:

- The boat operator holds both Pilot and Engine Driver's Licences.
- The steering and engine controls are so placed to be easily operated by one person.

All crew must be trained in, and hold, current CPR/Emergency Responder training from a recognized agency.

Crews operating snorkeling/diving boats must also have current Oxygen Provider training.



## **20. INCIDENT REPORTING**

- 19.1 All operators must inform the Department of Marine and Ports- Marine Services Officer, of any incidents involving Marine Police or requiring advanced medical assistance.
- 19.2 A written report of the incident should be submitted to the Department within 7 days and will be kept on file.
- 19.3 Failure to report an incident may result in suspension of operations.
- 19.4 Further action may be taken by the Department where appropriate.

### **CATEGORY OF PILOTS'S LICENCE:**

- A CLASS:** Western waters of the Islands of Bermuda. West of a line from North Rock to Flatts Inlet, inside the outer reef edge (10 meter line, BA Chart 334).
- B CLASS:** Eastern waters of the Islands of Bermuda. East of a line from North Rock to Flatts Inlet, inside the outer reef edge (10 meter line, BA Chart 334).
- A & B:** Eastern and Western waters of Bermuda. Inside the outer reef edge (10 meter line, BA Chart 334).
- C CLASS:** Territorial waters of Bermuda to include the South Western Banks.

An application may sit for any license. The A and B Class examination/licenses may be combined and taken together.

A licence will initially be issued to a person for a two-year period. After that, application may be made for the licence to be extended up to the age of 65 years. Application has to be made on reaching the age of 65 years for any further extension.

Before being allowed to sit for a Pilot's Licence, an application is required to have a valid Engine Driver's Licence.



## 21. Notes

### 1) Protected Waters

All enclosed waters south of a line between Commissioner's Point and Cobbler's Cut, Mangrove Bay, Ely's Harbour and Scaur, Harrington Sound, Flatts Inlet, Castle Harbour, Coot Pond, Burchall's Cove, Devonshire Bay, Hungry Bay.

### 2) Territorial Waters (the Outer Reef line)

In the context of these regulations this to means the Bermuda Platform out to the 20 meter (10 fathom) sounding contour. This excludes the Challenger and Argus Banks.

### 3) Territorial Waters (Outside the Reef line)

In the context of these regulations this includes the Bermuda Platform and Challenger and Argus Banks.

### 4) Personnel Qualifications and Certificates

Copies of required qualifications and certificates, (i.e. Engine Drivers Licence, Pilots Licence, First Aid and CPR Certificate, Dive Instructor Certificate/Licence, etc.) shall be carried onboard all Island Boats.