

## Fleet 4 Etchells Safety Equipment Requirements

(as of Spring 2013)

Safety equipment for Etchells sailing in MRA races is controlled by Coast Guard regulations, Etchells Class Association, and MRA rules, as summarized below. Some of these are redundant, but they do not appear to be conflicting. Note that certain minimum and maximum line lengths, diameters, anchor weights, etc. have recently changed.

## Coast Guard Safety Equipment Requirements

- Guard-approved Type I, II, III, or V life jacket for each person aboard. The PFDs must also have a whistle attached.
- Boats 16 feet and over must have at least one Type IV throwable device as well.

## Etchells Class Association Personal and Portable Equipment

(From the International Etchells Class Rules, Revised Dec. 2012)

### C.3 PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

#### C.3.1 MANDATORY

- (a) The boat shall be equipped with personal buoyancy for each crew member to the minimum standard EN 393:1995 (CE 50 Newtons) in accordance with ISO standard 12402-5 (Level 50), or **USCG Type III**, or AUS PFD 1. The personal flotation device shall be readily available and shall have a whistle attached.

### C.5 PORTABLE EQUIPMENT

#### C.5.1 FOR USE (WHILE RACING)

##### (a) MANDATORY

- (1) Hand pump, 1 min
- (2) Anchor weight, 3.5 kg min
- (3) Anchor chain link size, 6 mm min
- (4) Combined weight, anchor and chain, 5.5 kg min, 9.0 kg max
- (5) Anchor line diameter, 10 mm min
- (6) Continuous anchor line length (N.B. Running rigging does not comply with this rule), 45 m min, 50 m max
- (7) Buckets with lanyards, 2
- (8) Capacity each bucket, 9.5 liters min
- (9) Lanyard length, 1.5 m min

#### C.5.2 NOT FOR USE (WHILE RACING)

##### (a) MANDATORY

- (1) Towing rope, minimum 25 m and maximum 30 m continuous length of not less than 12 mm diameter. Towing rope must be of a floatable material and not pre-stretched. (N.B. Running rigging does not comply with this rule).
- (2) Two paddles, minimum 1200 mm long and with a blade area of minimum 0.04 m.

## MRA Sailing Instructions Section 19 (additional safety equipment requirements)

### 19. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND EQUIPMENT

19.1 Each competing boat is required to carry at least the following safety equipment: prescribed Coast Guard and Class Association safety equipment, a working VHF Radio, Coast Guard approved visual signals for daytime use, and suitable anchor and enough line for the class and sailing area. Failure to comply with this rule may result in disqualification from one or more races (changes RRS 64.1(a)).

19.2 RRS 60 is changed to provide that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking a class rule prohibiting the carrying of VHF radios while racing.

19.3 Pertaining to RRS 40: **US SAILING prescribes that every boat shall carry life-saving equipment conforming to government regulations that apply in the racing area.**

See [http://raceadmin.ussailing.org/Rules/Personal\\_Flotation\\_Device.htm](http://raceadmin.ussailing.org/Rules/Personal_Flotation_Device.htm) for more information.