



DEPARTMENT OF MARINE & PORTS SERVICES BERMUDA

CODE OF PRACTICE AND INSPECTION FOR ISLAND BOATS

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PREFACE

The purpose of this text is to give boat owners guidance regarding the specific standards required for Island Boat operations in and around the islands of Bermuda. It will also outline the requirements needed to obtain an initial Passenger Certificate. A Marine Services officer will conduct initial survey at the Department of Marine and Ports. Subsequently, annual surveys are conducted to ensure that the standards are being maintained. Once the Inspecting Officer is satisfied with the conditions of the boat, the Department will issue a new Passenger Certificate. The licensing fees are to be paid prior to inspection and are based on the passenger carrying capacity of the boat.

INTRODUCTION

Under the Marine Board Regulations 1965 (Island Boats), 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 outlining the survey and equipment requirements. Prior to construction or purchase of a vessel, it is the responsibility of the owner to submit details of the proposed craft and it's intended area of operating and use to the Department.

DEFINITIONS

Island Boat is any boat (not being a rowboat) which is operated for hire or reward within the Islands of Bermuda and not ordinarily employed in voyages to any place beyond the sea.

Rental Power-Craft is any boat propelled by motorized power for rental purposes. 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 Sail Boats are any boat propelled by a sail or sails and are operated for rental purposes. They are usually small sailboats such as sunfish, day-sailors, and windsurfers. The license holder is permitted to operate without a licensed crew.

Operators of rental power-craft and rental sailboats are restricted to specific operating areas and are required to have suitable rescue crafts available to assist when required.

Operators are expected to use good judgment before leasing out a craft in adverse or deteriorating weather conditions. If a small craft warning has been posted, operations should be restricted or cancelled.

PASSENGER CERTIFICATE

No boat carrying passengers for hire or reward, to, from, or between places within the territorial waters of Bermuda (12 miles beyond the outer reef edge) may carry out 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 must be noticeable on board the vessel or with rental crafts at the place of rental. The Passenger certificate is issued only after a satisfactory survey, confirmation of boat insurance, and in accordance with all the requirements of the Marine Board (Island Boats) Amendment Regulations 1995.

INSURANCE

Third Party Insurance		min. \$100,000.00
Size of Boat		min. cover
Passenger Liability	1 – 15 pass.	\$250,000.00
	16 – 30 pass.	\$500,000.00
	31 – 50 pass.	\$750,000.00
	51 – 100 pass.	\$1,500,000.00
	101 – 200 pass.	\$2,000,000.00
	201 – 250 pass.	\$3,000,000.00
	251 pass. or more	\$16,000 add.

Cover for each passenger in excess of 250

REQUIREMENTS FOR INITIAL PASSENGER CERTIFICATE

Before proceeding with licensing/building of any Island Boat, the owner must submit to the Department the following:

- Description of intended operation e.g. snorkeling, tour boat, glassbottom boat.
- Proposed area of operation and number of passengers.
- General Arrangement Plan of Boat
- Mid-ship cross-section showing scantlings and dimensions
- Details of propulsion and steering gear
- Stability information
- Other documentation such as US Coast Guard Certificates or surveyors reports

Be advised that all proposals submitted must go before the Ports Authority board for final approval. Proposals should be submitted at least 3 months prior to the opening of the business.

NUMBER OF PASSENGERS

Passenger numbers depend on two considerations: available passenger deck space and seating. At least 6 square feet of deck space and/or 18 inches of seating for each person is required. The Department of Marine and Ports Services will review the material and advice of any alterations or modifications, if any, are required. **A passenger is considered as one individual: two children are not considered one adult.**

Number of Passengers	Annual Registration Fee (2018/2019)
1 – 10	\$273.00
11 – 25	\$546.00
26 - 50	\$819.00
51 – 100	\$1090.00
101 and over	\$1355.00
Rental Power-Craft	\$109.00
Rental Non-Powercraft	\$60.00

AREAS OF OPERATION

All charter and rental boats must adhere to the designated areas of operation. Four areas boats are licensed to operate are:

- a) Protected waters (within harbor limits)
- b) Inland waters (within the outer reef line)
- c) Within territorial waters
- d) Outside territorial waters (not exceed 12 persons-Including crew)

Protected Waters

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

Territorial Waters (Outer Reef Line)

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

Territorial Waters (Outside the Reef Line)

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

PILOT LICENSE:

A CLASS – Western waters of the Islands of Bermuda. West of the 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 the line from North Rock to Flatts Inlet inside the outer reef edge (10-meter line, BA Chart 334).

A & B CLASS – 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.

Prior to sitting a Pilot's License, an applicant is required to have a valid Engine Driver's License. An initial license is issued for a two-year probation period. After that, applicants may extend their license up to the age of 65. Applicants reaching the age of 65 years must apply for any further extensions. Exams are held at the Department of marine and Ports by appointment only. All applicants are required to submit 2 references at the time of the exam.

Personnel Qualifications and Certificates

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

THE HULL:

- **Standard of Construction** – The hull shall be constructed to a standard acceptable to the Department and is 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 is also accepted.
- **Emergency Escape** – If the passenger areas are enclosed, an arrangement must be ready for the passengers to escape in an emergency.
- **Glass** – used for windows, port lights, and partitions should be of safety glass, Plexiglas, or Lexan.
- **Insulation Material** must be of the fire retardant. Glass-fiber or Rockwool. Polyurethane is not permitted.
- **Engine Room Spaces** - Boats fitted with inboard engines should have the engine room compartment separated from the passenger area. In steel/aluminum vessels, 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.
- **Toilet Facilities** must be appropriate for the service provided.
- **Gangways** – must provide full protection for passengers embarking and disembarking the vessel. Handrails of robust construction and a minimum of 39 inches high is accepted.
- **Handrails/Grab Rails** should be provided for the crew while moving along the outside of the vessel.

- **Deck Railings** – must be installed on all weather decks accessible to passengers and crew. Where space is limited, make the deck rails impractical (narrow catwalks, etc) and hand grab rails may be substituted.

Boats engaging in ferry/tour type operations require rails be at least **39 inches high**. The space below the rails shall be fitted with railings, bulwarks, strong netting, canvas curtains, or equivalent to prevent passengers from falling over the side. The horizontal distance between railings shall be no more than 13 inches apart unless strong netting is provided. Where passengers sit on the cabin tops, adequate safety handrails shall be provided.

On sport fishing vessels, where 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.

- **Passenger Seating** – The seating provided must be secure and safe for passengers. Seating should be stable and secure so that in the event the boat rolls into a wake or swell, passengers will not fall or slide along the deck. The seating arrangements must provide suitable passageways and escape routes and body weight should be evenly distributed with regard to the stability of the vessel. The standard width of seats are 18 inches per person.

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

MEANS OF PROPULSION

The Department is prepared to consider any form of propulsion. 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.

ENGINE PROPULSION (DIESEL OR GAS)

FUEL TANK – constructed of steel, aluminum, or other suitable fire retardant material including G.R.P.

- 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 fuel gauge system.
- To disperse any static charge build up to tanks fitted in non-metallic hulls, appropriate connection should be provided to an earth point in direct contact with the surrounding water.
- Sight glasses should be safety glass and have self-closing valves at the bottom.
- 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.

FUEL FILLING SYSTEMS: shall be taken to deck level and so arranged as to ensure that any fuel overflowing does not discharge into any part of the vessel including the bilges. The filling pipe to the tank shall be 1 ½ inches diameter and be steel, aluminum, or approved equivalent- not plastic.

- Each fuel tank is to be fitted with a vent pipe connected to the highest point of the tank.
- The fuel tank vent should extend at least the height of the filling connection and have a minimal internal diameter of ½ inch. A suitable size flame arrester should be fitted to the vent outlet.

- 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.
- 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.

FUEL SUPPLY

- Fuel pipelines between the fuel tank and engine must be metal or a 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. The fuel suction pipe should be fitted with an emergency shut off valve and is easily accessible from outside the engine compartment. Suitable fuel filters shall be installed and operational. A drip tray shall be fitted where practical.
- Where the exhaust pipes referred to in (1) pass through the hull of the vessel, the connection must be watertight, but provisions may be made to prevent the engine from flooding by backflow. Where the exhaust passes through a watertight bulkhead, the watertight integrity of the bulkhead must be maintained.
- All dry exhaust pipes must be well secured and clear of wood or other combustible materials and should be covered when necessary.

MACHINERY CONTROLS: Starting and stopping the engine, other than shutting off the emergency fuel shut off valve, must be provided outside the engine room.

UNDERWATER FITTINGS

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.

- Valves/Seacock's shall be fitted as close to the hull as possible.
- All shipside valves/seacock's shall be of bronze or a suitable equivalent.
- Suction and discharge valves/seacock's fitted wooden or G.R.P. boats shall be attached to hull by an approved method.
- All valves/seacock's shall be readily accessible for inspection and operational purposes.

ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

- All electrical distribution systems should be of the two wire type and carried out with flame retardant marine grade cables. Cables shall have a protective covering.
- Electrical systems and equipment shall be protected from the effects of overloading by suitably rated fuses and circuit breakers.
- Cables should be neatly run securely fastened into place by clips or straps of nonferrous material. Particular attention should be paid to keeping them well clear of external sources of heat such as engine exhaust pipes.
- Cables should, wherever possible, avoid bilges and under floor areas. Cables are to be effectively supported and secured in order to prevent chafing or other damage.

- Batteries shall be located in well-ventilated areas so that any gases generated will be readily dissipated by natural or mechanical means.
- The battery compartment should be positioned as far away from bilge areas as possible and be installed to prevent movement and damage to the batteries. Where practical, batteries shall not be located in accommodation spaces. If it cannot be avoided, they must be the gel type and well vented.
- Battery charge indicators are to be fitted.

STABILITY

Vessels may be required to demonstrate, by calculation and/or physical test, a satisfactory standard of stability. When a vessel is required to carry out a physical test the following procedure must be followed:

- 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.
- The weight of passengers is to be simulated by equivalent deadweight distributed 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. can be used to simulate equivalent deadweight. The angle of list is not to exceed 7°. The minimum freeboard in the adverse load condition is to not be less than 12 inches.

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 a competent service agent has serviced fire systems and extinguishers. The following minimum equipment will be required:

- 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.

Boats exceeding 20 feet shall carry **at least one** of the following:

- a) A vaporizing liquid HCFC fire extinguisher no less than 1 ½ lb.
- b) A dry chemical fire extinguisher of not less than 5lbs.

Boats 20 – 40 feet in length shall carry **at least two** of the following:

- a) HCFC no less than 3lbs – These are generally obsolete.
- b) Dry chemical no less than 10lbs.
- c) Carbon dioxide no less than 10lbs.

Boats of more than 40 feet shall carry at least four of the following:

- a) HCFC no less than 3lbs.
- b) Dry chemical no less than 10lbs.
- c) Carbon dioxide no less than 10lbs.

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).

- Carbon dioxide fire extinguishers shall not be located in accommodation space. Fire extinguishers shall be permanently mounted with a quick release mechanism near the entrance to the space in which they are to be used. All extinguishers shall be marked with the date of the last inspection.
- In vessels fitted with cooking facilities, a fire-smothering blanket and an additional portable 2lb multipurpose dry chemical extinguisher shall be mounted close by. Vessels with an inboard petrol (gas) engines shall be fitted with a suitable blower located in the bilge.

BILGE PUMPING

Bilge pumping equipment requirement is dependent upon the length of the boat, the number of passengers to be carried, and the area of operation. Every boat no exceeding 20 feet shall carry one bailer or one manual bilge pump.

- Boats 20 – 40 feet shall carry one bailer and one manual bilge pump.
- Boats more than 40 feet shall carry two bailers and one manual bilge pump.
- Manual bilge pumps shall be a suitable size and fitted with appropriate suction.

Delivery hoses and their operation must be demonstrated to the Inspecting Officer.

- Buckets will be accepted as bailers.
- 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.
- In addition to the bailers/manual bilge pumps, every Island Boat is required to have a suitable fixed mechanical or electrical bilge pumping system. The requirements for rental power-craft and sailboats are noted in ‘Rental Boats Requirements’ section.

- When a mechanical pumping system is used, each watertight compartment shall be provided with individual bilge lines and bilge suction.
- Bilge lines, when installed, shall not be less than 1 ½ inches inside the diameter and fitted with suitable strainers. Strainers are to be easily accessible for cleaning.
- Where bilge suction lines lead to a manifold, it shall be arranged so that water cannot flood from one compartment to another.
- All bilge valves shall be clearly labeled.
- Sea suction, overboard discharges, and bilge valves shall be easily accessible and readily visible.

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.

LIFE SAVING APPLIANCES

The standard of life saving appliances will depend on the area of operation, the number passengers and the ability of the vessel to survive damage in the event of an accident.

Lifejackets – 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. Lifejackets must be stowed in clearly marked and easily accessible dedicated lockers/locations. Stowage lockers on exposed decks are to be watertight.

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 for 10% of the capacity of the vessel or number of children to be carried.

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.

- **Boats of 40 feet or less** shall require one lifebuoy.
 - **Boats of more than 40 feet** will require two lifebuoys
 - **Boats of more than 60 feet** will require four lifebuoys.
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- All lifebuoys shall be marked with the boat's name and each shall be fitted with **50 feet of buoyant line**. If the boat operates at night, at least one of the life buoys shall be fitted with a self-activating light.

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 if been inspected and certified by a recognized service agent in the previous 12 months.

- 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.
- Pyrotechnics Distress flares, rockets, orange smokes, dye markers are to be in good condition within date and of an approved type of SOLAS standard. Flare guns will not be accepted.

All island boats are required to carry:

3 red rocket flames

3 hand flares

3 orange flare smokes (buoyant)

1 dye marker

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

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS AND NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT

- **V.H.F. Marine Radios** – All Island Boats are required to carry a 25 watt fixed installation approved DSC V.H.F. marine radio. A Class 5 Marine radio Station License (available from the Department of Telecommunications).
- **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.).
- **Navigation Lights** are to be conventional with International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea and shall be operational.
- **Collision Regulations** – Every vessel shall comply with the Collision Regulations.
- **Horn** – Every Island Boat shall carry a suitable fixed horn.
- **Compass** – Every Island Boat shall be fitted with a suitable and operational compass at each steering station. Rental boats excepted.
- **First Aid Kit** – Every Island Boat shall be equipped with an adequate First Aid Kit – rental boats excepted.
- **Flashlight** – Every Island Boat shall be equipped with a waterproof emergency flashlight in a 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.

MOORING AND ANCHORING EQUIPMENT

All Island Boats shall have at least two anchors. Windsurfers and small rental sailboats may be exempted. Anchors are to be of a suitable size for the weight of the boat and the service intended. Danforth type anchors are preferred.

- **Boats exceeding 20 feet** – anchors each to be equipped with a minimum of 3 feet of chain and 100 feet of rope.
- **Boats of 21 feet or more** – anchors each to be equipped with a minimum of 5 feet of chain and 200 feet of rope.
- 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.

LPG (GAS) INSTALLATIONS

- 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.
- Where deck stowage is practicable, containers have to be stowed in a compartment below deck, such with adequate ventilation from the bottom of a safe place outside the hull.
- Tube, hoses, or pipes carrying propane shall be continuous from the LPG tank enclosure to appliances without connections or joints. Use of LPG rated hose without connections or joints is accepted. The use of LPG rated hose is preferred.
- A certified intrinsically safe marine gas detector alarm 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.

RENTAL BOAT REQUIREMENTS

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 not exceeding 23 feet:

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

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

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.

DIVE BOATS/SNORKELING

- **Resuscitator** – Island Boats engaged in snorkeling and/or diving operations are required to carry an approved resuscitator. A competent service agent must certify the resuscitator each year. At least one member of the crew shall be certified in the operation of the resuscitator.
- **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 anytime from an Island Boat engaged in snorkeling operations (except beach/shore starts).

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

STEERING GEAR

During an initial and each annual inspection, the Inspecting Officer shall examine and test the main and auxiliary steering apparatus to determine its condition is satisfactory and if 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. There shall be good all round visibility from the boats steering position(s).

ANNUAL RENEWAL SURVEY

- A Passenger Certificate remains valid from the date of issue until 31 May of the following year.
- Boat inspections are by appointment only. Boat inspections can be scheduled with the Department of Marine and Ports Services in the Boats and Moorings Registration Section. Telephone No. 294-0419/294-0420 *One week's notice should be given for an appointment.*
- Registration Fees are paid prior to the inspection.
- 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.

- Hull, deck, and housing, should be sound, painted, and clean. Bilges must be clean, free from oil, fuel, and dirt.

Following documents must be presented at the time of inspection:

- Fire extinguishers/systems – Certificate of Inspection
- Passenger and Boat Insurance Certificate
- Resuscitator – Cert. of Inspection
- Inflatable life raft – Cert. of Inspection
- Dive Boats – Cert. of Inspection for dive equipment
- Current 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.

PARASAILING OPERATIONS

Commercial parasailing operations are required to produce a written Operating Policy setting out their intended areas of operation, operating procedures, and safety practices. This is approved by the Department before a boat license is issued for parasailing.

- 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.
- 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.
- Parasail boats, *including the parachute*, may not operate within 200 meters of the shoreline or ships at anchor, berthed, or maneuvering in the harbor.
- Parasail operators who intend to operate within a 5km radius of the airport e.g. Ferry Reach, St. Georges Harbour, or Castle Harbour are required to get approval from the Department of Civil Aviation in which 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 onetime procedure. Only custom designed parasail boats will be licensed. They should be of the winch-boat type parasail to be launched and received from the boat platform.
- When more than parasail boat is 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.

- No Beach or shore starts
- No ski-boats
- Maximum operational height of parasail – 100 meters.

The parasail or 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.

RENTAL PWC (PERSONAL WATER CRAFT)

Educational/Instruction – All customers are to be shown an approved instructional video (optional) and /or to receive practical instruction before they may operate a P.W.C. (jet ski). Approved means approved by the Department of Marine and Ports Services.

Guides/Instructors

- Rental P.W.C. (jet ski) to be supervised at all times by a P.W.C. guide/instructor. 1 guide/instructor to every 6 P.W.C
- 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 customers.

Safety Equipment

- An approved lifejacket must be worn at all times by all riders.
- Guide/Instructor need 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 – HCFC – 1 ½

Number of Riders

- Maximum two riders to one P.W.C.
- Number of riders not to exceed design limits of P.W.C.

Maximum Engine Size

- Not to exceed 100 H.P.

Operation

- P.W.C. to keep at least 20 meters away from other P.W.C., reefs, and other marine craft.
- P.W.C. to keep at least 20 meters clear of swimmers.
- Reckless operations such as hot-dogging is prohibited. No stunts.
- P.W.C. are not to be used for towing inflatable banana boats, tubes or any other rides.

Minimum Age

- The operator must be 16 years or older in accordance with Section 4(a) of the Power Craft Regulations 1960.

ACCESSORY TO RENTAL PWC (PERSONAL WATER CRAFT)

Flyboards or Similar

Education/Instruction – All participants are to be given the required instruction by a certified Flyboard instructor*.

*This means an individual who has been approved by Flyboard to teach beginners based on specific criteria and further has the consent of the Department of Marine and Ports to act as an instructor. The instructor will be in control of the jet ski and the flyboard at all times.

Guides/Instructors

- Rental jet ski P.W.C. to be supervised at all times by a P.W.C. guide/instructor. 1 guide/instructor to every 6 P.W.C.
- Minimum age of an instructor – 18 years.
- Guide/Instructor shall be qualified in CPR and First Aid (see note 4).
- Guide/Instructor shall be provided with a faster vessel than those being operated by the customers.

Safety Equipment

- An approved lifejacket must be worn at all times by all riders.
- Guide/Instructor need 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 – HCFC – 1 ½

Number of Riders

- Maximum three riders to one P.W.C.
- Number of riders not to exceed design limits of P.W.C.

Maximum Engine Size

- Not to exceed 100 H.P.

Registration Identification: must 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.

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 designated by the Department of Marine and Ports Services.

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.

Restricted Areas of Operations – Island Boats are not permitted to operate outside of protected waters and at a distance of more than one thousand (1000) feet from shore.

Conditions of Operations – Island Boats are not permitted to operate in wind conditions exceeding 15 knots and/or sea conditions exceeding a 3ft wave height.

Hours of Operation – Rental P.W.C. may be operated between the hours of 9:00am to 6:00pm and provided that it is daylight.

CREW REQUIREMENTS FOR ISLAND BOATS

Every Island Boat (except for a rental power craft or rental sailboat), when carrying passengers, must have a licensed pilot on board. If the vessel is an Island Motor-Boat, less than two persons shall not operate it. An exemption may be granted at the discretion of the Department where:

- The boat operator holds both Pilot and Engine Driver's Licenses.
- The steering and engine controls shall be placed in an area that can 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.

INCIDENT REPORTING

All operators must inform the Department of Marine and Ports Services Officer of any incidents involving Marine Police or requiring advanced medical assistance. A written report of the incident should be submitted to the Department within 7 days and will be kept on file. Failure to report an incident may result in suspension of operations. The Department may take further action where appropriate.