Are you aware of what the National Small Vessel Safety Regulations require of you?



The Merchant Shipping (National Small Vessel Safety) Regulations, 2007, place the onus on the owner and in some cases the master as well, to ENSURE that the vessel and the crew comply with the requirements of the regulations at all times. SAMSA surveyors and SAS safety officers do NOT replace the owners and crew in matters of safety and their main function is to ensure that the owner, master and crew are in fact making reasonable efforts to apply regulations and maintain safety standards.

To assist the vessel's owner, owner's representative or skipper to manage safety aboard, the following checklist (and guideline) has been compiled for your attention. The checklist is to be checked and completed prior to the safety survey by the Owner or Skipper and any deficiencies noted are to be rectified prior to the safety survey.

Please note that this document only covers the main issue. Copies of the regulations and amendments are published in both English and Afrikaans in the Government Gazette. However SAMSA legal department have produced an electronic copy in English which incorporates all of the gazetted amendments. These are available on the SAMSA and SAS web sites.

APPLICATION:	Category A Sailing Pleasure Vessels <100 or dive vessels) surveyed by South Africa	• •
<u>Definitions:</u> Category A: Sailing vessel:	vessels operating any distance from shore a vessel provided with sufficient sail area for navigation unde mechanical means of propulsion	er sail alone whether or not fitted with
Gross Tonnage Pleasure vessel: Commercial Vessel Passenger vessel:	Determined by a formula based on enclosed volume. NOT di a vessel that is used solely for sport or recreation a vessel that is not a pleasure vessel a vessel that carries more than 12 passengers	isplacement (weight)
Passenger:	any person carried on a vessel, except persons employed or einfants under one year of age	engaged as crew; rescued survivors and
Owner(s) Declaration:		
Local General Safety Certification the requirements defined	consible person of the vessel, have read and completed this chificate (LGSC) survey or Certificate of Fitness (CoF) inspection. I in the checklist and that no modifications other than those lisings and arrangements since the last survey.	I hereby declare that the vessel meets
Vessel Name and Number	r	
Name and Signature of ov	wner/skipper/responsible person	Date
Summary of modification	ns to vessel's construction, fittings or arrangements (if any).	

DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR YOUR SURVEY

- 1. This safety checklist must be completed by the owner/owner's representative/skipper before the safety inspection and brought to the safety inspection.
- 2. If the vessel is listed by South African Sailing, please have a copy of the vessel's certificate of listing (CoL) on your boat for reference. The safety officer is required to check it before surveying your vessel. Note that if the vessel has a SA or ZA marking it must be correctly listed by SAS.
- 3. If your vessel is registered in a foreign country, please have a copy of the certificate of registration to give to the safety officer. You need to initial and date this copy. For foreign vessels it is a SAMSA requirement that SAS files the certificate of registration together with each CoF issued.
- 4. Please bring proof of payment. The safety officer has to submit proof of payment to SAS.
- 5. The safety officer will require a copy of your EPIRB registration form as sent to the MRCC.
- 6. If the overall length (LOA) of the vessel is >24m LOA we will require a certificate proving that Gross Tonnage is < 100.

Please note that if the documentation is not in order the safety officer cannot go ahead with the safety inspection.

Vessel and Owner Particulars		
Name of Vessel		
Approved Marking		
Marina where normally moored (or normally launched for a trailer-borne vessel)		
Length of Vessel		
Maximum number of persons permitted to be carried on board		
EPIRB ID (15 digit hexadecimal code)		
Radio call sign if applicable (from radio license)		
MMSI number if applicable (from radio licence)		
Colour of hull and deck		
Name of Owner		
ID Number of owner or company registration number		
Telephone number of owner		
Email Address of owner		
Postal address of owner		

USE OF CHECKLISTS – Pleasure vessels

Surveyors and Safety Officers must receive a completed copy of the checklist at or before the time of survey. Pages 1 and 2 of the checklist must be retained by the safety officer and submitted to SAS together with the notification of completion of survey for filing and audit purposes. The remaining pages must be retained by the boat owner for guidance and future reference.

HAVE YOU PROVIDED SAFE ACCESS TO YOUR VESSEL?

Owners and skippers are advised that SAMSA regards the non-provision of safe access to vessels in a serious light. Safe access is a requirement for ALL persons requiring access to vessels (not just surveyors). SAMSA surveyors are instructed to issue a PROHIBITION ORDER where safe access is not provided. All work on board is to be stopped until safe access is provided to the satisfaction of the surveyor. (Merchant Shipping Act, 57 of 1951 section 9(5))

Competent and Respon	sible Manning	✓
Commercial Vessels Regulation 2	The National Small Vessel Safety Regulations define a pleasure vessel as a vessel that is used solely for sport and recreation. Any other vessel is a commercial vessel. A SAS CoF is for pleasure vessels only. By ticking the block to the right the owner acknowledges that he has understood that he may not use his vessel for commercial purposes.	
Foreign going vessels	Vessels going foreign must be registered by SAMSA and require a Local General Safety Certificate issued by SAMSA. If you plan to go foreign you need to get your survey done by a SAS safety officer authorised to do safety surveys on foreign going recreational vessels, otherwise your safety survey will have to be redone when you go foreign.	
Passenger vessels Regulation 2	Any vessel carrying more than 12 passengers is defined as a passenger vessel and has to meet additional safety requirements beyond the scope of the SAS safety inspection. By ticking the block to the right the owner acknowledges that he has understood that he may not carry more than 12 passengers	
Crewing Regulation 14	The vessel has to be under the constant guidance of a person holding an appropriately endorsed Certificate of Competence. This certificate of competence (or a certified copy) must be available for inspection at all reasonable times.	
Manning Regulation 14	In addition to having a qualified skipper on board, the owner must ensure that the vessel is sufficiently and efficiently manned. There are to be sufficient competent persons on board with regards to the requirements of other safety provisions, i.e. such as keeping a proper lookout and the manning (minimum number of crew) of the vessel.	
Essential Safety Information Regulation 7	On EVERY occasion and BEFORE the vessel goes to sea, all skippers must ensure that: 1. Every person aboard receives essential and appropriate safety information; such as the location of the safety appliances and equipment aboard as well as instruction in the use of such items.	
Operational Limits Regulation 10	The safety appliances and equipment are inspected, fit and ready for use. No person may operate a vessel beyond the distance from shore for the category it is licensed.	
Carrying persons in excess Regulation 11	It is illegal to exceed the number of persons specified on the vessel's safety certificate, except in an emergency such as in the case of a search and rescue operation.	
Voyage information Regulation 12	Before a vessel goes to sea, the particulars of the vessel and the names of the crew are to be left with the harbour master, at the launch site, or in certain cases, relatives, a police station or responsible person. However, where local authorities or authorized agents have implemented reporting mechanisms, these shall be complied with. Upon returning from sea or the voyage, the person or authorities with whom the voyage information were left, must be informed accordingly.	
Assisting vessels in distress and reporting dangers to navigation Regulation 13	It is the duty of a skipper to report dangers to navigation and assist vessels in distress.	
Physical and mental fitness Regulation 17	No person may operate a vessel or vessel's equipment whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs. (Maximum of 0, 05 gram/100 ml alcohol in blood or 0, 24 mg/1000 ml alcohol in breath). No person may refuse that a specimen of blood or breath be taken. No person may operate a vessel if he/she is not physically able to do so and/or of sound mental health.	

Safety Appliances and Equipment – Annex 2		✓
CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS Regulation 6	It is an offence to sell a vessel which does not comply with the construction requirements except where accompanied by a letter or certificate detailing the extent to which the vessel does not or cannot comply.	
DOCKING/SLIPPING Regulation 5 Regulation 23	COF Annual Checks: <u>Trailer-borne vessels:</u> Ensure the vessel's structure, equipment, appliances arrangements and material continues to be in compliance with the regulations.	
Initial inspections for LGSC/COF will require the external structure and fittings of the vessel to be inspected by the surveyor.	Non-trailer-borne vessels: Owners are required to maintain their vessels in a safe condition and document their efforts to do so [see: HULL INSPECTIPON RECORD]. Surveyors and Safety Officers may require vessels to be removed from the water for external hull inspection, if the condition of the vessels hull or fittings requires additional inspection at the time of annual survey.	
SUFFICIENT RESERVE POSITIVE STABILITY (Regulation 6)	Careful consideration of vessel stability required when considering modifications to the vessel or changes in its operation which increase the load carried by the vessel.	

INGRESS OF WATER	Decked vessels shall not have any point of possible ingress of water, except for	
Regulation 6	scuppers, less than 200 mm above the surface of the water.	
	Careful consideration required when modifications to scupper arrangements are	
	considered. (Changes to as-built arrangements.)	
COLOUR OF DECK	To assist with search and rescue, the deck is to be painted or pigmented in a colour	
Regulation 9	which is readily visible from above in any sea condition. (Or the vessel may carry a	
	pigmented canvas extending the full the width of the vessel, but not less than 2m x	
	2m).	
Navigation lights	Any vessel going to sea at night must have properly fitted navigation lights in	
Collision Regulations (Colregs)	accordance with Colregs. Lights must be of an approved type; must show the	
	correct sectors; wiring to be neat, secured and waterproof.	
Hatches on deck	Hatches on the open deck must be provided with hatch covers that are watertight	
(Paragraph 2)	when dogged down. Special care is to be given to flush deck hatches.	
	All watertight hatches should be able to withstand a hose test.	
	Sailing vessels with aft facing companionways which are closed by washboards	
	need not be watertight, but should still be able to substantially retard water	
Guard rails	ingress. All open docks or walk ways on sailing vessels should be protested as follows:	
(Paragraph 3)	All open decks or walk ways on <u>sailing vessels</u> should be protected as follows: • Vessels 9 metres or more - 560 mm high	
(i ai agi apii 3)	Vessels 9 metres or more - 560 mm nign Vessels less than 9 metres - 410 mm	
Towing arrangements	Every vessel must be provided with an efficient means of securing a tow rope or	
(Paragraph 4)	anchor cable at the bow and at the stern. (Capability to tow and to be towed)	
Underwater hull fittings	Inlet and discharge pipes attached to the <u>underwater</u> part of the hull must be	
(Paragraph 5)	properly flanged to the hull and provided with a valve or shut-off cock inserted in	
	the line as close as possible to the hull.	
	Definition of underwater for sailing vessels: The sheer line, at midships.	
Ventilators	Vents serving engine or accommodation spaces to be provided with proper closing	
(Paragraph 6)	devices or water traps to prevent water ingress into the compartment.	
July and Datual Engines	Vents serving only engine spaces must be able to shut off air flow in case of fire.	
Inboard Petrol Engines (Paragraph 7 (4))	Engine installed in a compartment protected from spray and flooding and is adequately ventilated	
(Paragraph 7 (4))	Manual bilge pump fitted in engine compartment	
	Battery to be stowed outside of engine bay, protected by spray and flooding	
	Marinised carburettor with flash arrester fitted	
	Sparkless alternator and starter	
	Flameproof extractor fitted to engine bay, runs for 30s before engine starts	
	Remote controlled fire extinguishing system.	
	If fitted with only one inboard petrol engine, an auxiliary outboard engine required	
Exhaust Pipes and Silencers	Water cooled or lagged.	
Paragraph 7(5)		
Fuel tanks	To be efficiently secured and constructed of suitable material;	
(Paragraph 8)	Outlets of built in tanks to have shut off valves (or approved automatic shut off or	
	anti-siphoning devices). If not readily accessible the valves should be able to be	
	operated remotely;	
	Filler pipes must have threaded plugs or caps. Only non-corrosive materials may be	
	used;	
	Breather pipes should not leak even if the vessel is heeled to 50°;	
	Fuel levels should be able to be determined and where gauge glasses are fitted,	
	they must be fitted with self-closing valves;	
	All fuel tanks holding PETROL must be fitted or stored outside engine and battery	
Electrical installations	compartments.	
Electrical installations	Every sailing vessel fitted with an inboard auxiliary engine must be provided with at least one bank of batteries, unless a hand-start engine is fitted.	
(Paragraph 9)	I Vaccals required to be provided with one or more banks of batteries must be	
(Sailing vessels)	Vessels required to be provided with one or more banks of batteries must be	
	provided with a suitable battery charging appliance, and if more than one engine is	
	provided with a suitable battery charging appliance, and if more than one engine is fitted each engine must be fitted with a battery charging appliance capable of	
	provided with a suitable battery charging appliance, and if more than one engine is fitted each engine must be fitted with a battery charging appliance capable of charging both banks of batteries.	
	provided with a suitable battery charging appliance, and if more than one engine is fitted each engine must be fitted with a battery charging appliance capable of	

Emergency steering	Fitted except where steered by means of a tiller. May be portable but must be	
Annex 1	accessible for rapid attachment)	
Para 10	Alternative emergency steering to be practical and demonstrated.	
Bilge pumping arrangements for	Minimum capacity 2000 litres per hour each.	
category A decked sailing vessels:	Underwater discharges need sufficient non-return valves fitted to prevent back	
Two (2) hand operated bilge pumps	flooding.	
Para 11(5)	Portable pump levers to be kept in a readily accessible space as near to the pump	
	as possible. (In the case of pumps above deck, then in a locker above deck)	
Visibility at steering position	Where a steerage position is not in the open, clear visibility is required, through	
(Paragraph 12)	safety-toughened clear glass (i.e. not through opaque and starred plastic), forward,	
	from two points abaft the beam on each side (112½° to port and starboard of the	
	centre line). Protection of glare from the sun may be afforded by portable tinted	
	screens (or the roll-down type) and not fixed/stuck to the glass	
Maintenance of propulsion and	Periodically serviced and maintained according to the manufacturers specifications	
steering machinery (Paragraph 13)	by competent persons.	
Gas appliances	All gas appliances and tubing must be maintained in good working conditions at all	
(Paragraph 15)	times. A safety cut-off device that is activated automatically if the flame is blown	
	out is highly recommended.	
Standing rigging	SAS recommends that standing rigging should be thoroughly checked at least once	
(Regulation 6)	every two years by a rigging expert or someone with appropriate expertise.	

Safe	Safety Appliances and Equipment – Annex 2				
Item No	Description	Remarks	✓		
1	Approved <u>Life-jacket</u> Above to be fitted with the following items Whistle Lifting loop Retro – reflective material Light for vessels operating at night	One life-jacket per person aboard. Level 150 – Offshore conditions for vessels operating more than 15 miles offshore (SANS 12402-3). Single chamber 150N inflatable lifejackets to SANS 12402-3 are now accepted for all categories of vessel. Level 275 – Extreme offshore conditions for vessels operating South of 40 degrees South latitude (SANS 12402-2) Refer to the latest Marine Notice: New Compulsory standards for lifejackets used on South African Vessels			
2	Approved Buoyancy aid (Also called working lifejackets or PFD's) To be fitted with the following:	It is accepted that it may be impractical to wear certain approved lifejackets (e.g. foam lifejackets) for specific operations on board. It is not mandatory for recreational vessels to carry buoyancy aids in addition to approved life jackets.			
	a) Whistle b) Lifting loop c) Retro–reflective material PFD' are comfortable to wear and	However SAS and ISAF strongly recommend wearing comfortable inflatable single chamber 150N lifejackets with integrated harnesses where appropriate. These are accepted as lifejackets for all categories of vessels. 150N is the minimum required to turn an unconscious person face-up.			
	provide some buoyancy but not sufficient to turn an unconscious person face-up.	 Life jackets or PFD's are to be worn: by every child under twelve (12) years of age on deck when the vessel is underway. when directed by the skipper 			
3	Lifebuoy				
4	Dan buoy	Required on sailing vessels over 9m in length.			
6	Four (4) hand-held red distress flares	Unexpired SAMSA approved and marked with vessel name. It is an offence			
7	Four (4) red rocket parachute flares	to tamper with expiry dates, besides being very dangerous. (Note: All			
8	One floating orange smoke marker	expired pyrotechnics are to be handed in at the SAPS explosives unit for disposal.)			
10	One (1) waterproof torch, spare batteries and a spare bulb	ONLY required on vessels operating at night - Spare batteries and bulb to be kept in a watertight container			
12	Sound signalling device (other than a life-jacket whistle). ONLY required on vessel operating WEST of Port Alfred.	Frequency range 250Hz - 700Hz, audible not less than 1 kilometre over water in still conditions. It is highly recommended by SAMSA that vessels operating East of Port Alfred also carry a sound signalling device.			
13	Ships bell or sound signalling device capable of making the signal "R"	ONLY required on vessels of 20m or more in overall length. ("R" is Morse Code • — •)			
14	Code Flags "N" and "C"	One of each			

16	Two (2) black balls or shapes, at least	ONLY required on vessels of 12 (twelve) metres or more in overall length.
	400mm in diameter	
17	Radar reflector of at least 400mm in diameter (or patent type of equivalent echoing capability)	Required on all cat A, B, C and D vessels. SAMSA strongly recommend a permanently fitted radar reflector.
18	Marine VHF or 29MHz radio to be fitted as appropriate to area of operation. A 29 MHz radio will no longer be accepted from the first safety inspection in 2016. See Marine Notice 6 of 2015.	VHF to have at least channel 16 and one other working channel, 29Mhz to have local marine channels A, B and C. A current ship station licence from ICASA is required. For vessels fitted with a VHF radio, the skipper is required to have a Restricted Radio Telephone Operators Certificate (Marine) or a Short Range Certificate.
20	Capable of transmitting distress alerts through the COSPAS – SARSAT Satellite service, operating in the 406Mhz band To be registered with the MRCC. The MRCC EPIRB registration form is available on the SAS web site. Look under the "Regulatory" tab.	SAMSA have agreed that a float free arrangement with hydrostatic release is not required on sailing vessels. Once a month (or when the boat is next used if it is not used for more than a month) the following checks are required: 1. An EPIRB self-test. The safety officer may request the owner to demonstrate a self-test during the safety inspection. 2. Check that battery life has not expired. 3. Check for damage and adequate securing arrangements Requirement to register EPIRB's: The skipper/owner must ensure that each EPIRB carried on the vessel is registered with the MRCC and that the registered particulars are up to date and correct. A copy of the EPIRB programming certificate and the completed MRCC registration form must be kept on board. A copy of the MRCC registration form must be given to the safety officer. Under no circumstances may an EPIRB be transferred from one vessel to another without correct re-registration with the MRCC.
22	Steering Magnetic Compass Navigation charts for the voyage, or	Compass to be illuminated on vessels operating at night. Corrected in accordance with the South African Notices to Mariners or
23	area of operation	renewed every six (6) years.
24	Suitable approved fire extinguishers	One <u>per engine</u> , and, in decked vessels of 9 (nine) metres or more in length, one (1) in each compartment formed by a complete transverse bulkhead (e.g. galley, sleeping accommodation and wheelhouse). Serviced annually by an approved DOTFAS. See latest Marine Notice for SAMSA approved DOTFAS Stations
29	Full set of sails	Including storm sails where appropriate
30	Suitable means of cutting standing rigging	ONLY required on sailing vessels
32	Proper <u>patent</u> anchor and chain, with a suitable length of rope for the area of operation	Length of chain: Vessels of 6 (six) metres and more - at least 5m Vessels under 6 (six) metres - at least 3m Length of Rope: At least 100 metres Inspect weak link.
33	Watertight capsize bottle attached to vessel with rope readily accessible in event of capsize	Containing flares, survival and emergency equipment. The rope length must not be less than 1.5 times the length of the vessel and manufactured to be non-slip.
34	Space blankets	2 off
35	Drinking water	One litre per person
36	First-aid kit	To be suitable for the vessel's size, compliment and intended operation, to the satisfaction of the surveyor or safety officer. To include an elementary first-aid manual such as the publication entitled First on the Scene, published by St Johns Ambulance.
38	SAMSA Approved self-inflating life-raft capable of carrying all persons aboard. Serviced according to the manufacturers' instructions.	Stowed on deck or in a readily accessible position. SAMSA strongly recommend fitting a hydrostatic release unit Refer to the latest Marine Notice regarding provision of life-rafts
39	Spares	Adequate for the purpose of carrying out emergency repairs to machinery
40	Tools	and essential equipment aboard.
41	Highly visible 2m x 2m canvas	Only applies to vessels not painted in visible colours. To be pigmented in a colour which is readily visible from above in any sea condition.
	Marking of equipment Annex 2 Para 3(1)	All life-jackets, buoyancy aids, life-buoys, Dan-buoys, flares, oars, paddles and life-rafts are to be permanently marked with the vessel's name or "approved marking".

Marking of trailer	Where any vessel is launched from a trailer other than a dolly at a private	
Annex 2 Para 3(2)	launching site the trailer must be marked in a conspicuous position, with	
	the vessel's name, or approved marking and with the owner's name and	
	emergency contact number.	

Additional safety equipment strongly i	recommended by SAS. It is important to recognise that the regulations de	fine
specific voyage. The list below would be consid	the owner/skipper to decide what additional equipment is appropriate for a dered by many skippers to be a minimum list of additional equipment. For a moions (available on the SAS web site) provides a useful reference.	ore
MF/HF SSB radio or satellite phone in a transparent waterproof pouch (e.g. Aquapac)	Strongly recommended for an offshore passage to provide emergency voice communication and confirmation of an EPIRB distress alert.	
A suitable combination of navigational instruments appropriate for the voyage	A suitable combination of the following navigational instruments viz:, chart plotter, GPS, log, depth sounder, radar and AIS.	
Back up handheld GPS	Independent of the yachts power supply	
Hand bearing compass	For use in navigation and as a back-up to the ship's steering compass.	
Jack stays and secure clip on points	To allow crew to clip on in adverse weather conditions	
Floating light or lights attached to the danbuoy and/or horse shoe ring	To assist with MOB recovery at night.	
Portable LED spotlight	To help locate a MOB at night	
Waterproof hand held VHF radio	For communication if the mast (aerial) is lost or power is lost or from a liferaft.	