

Equipment Rules of Sailing

C.5.3, C.5.4, C.5.5, C.5.6 Personal equipment types

A submission from the Equipment Committee, Classes
Committee and 420 Class

Purpose or Objective

To add new terms for personal equipment types and improve the wording of existing ones.

Proposal 1

C.5.23 Personal Equipment

All personal effects carried or worn and items worn on board to keep warm and/or dry, and/or to protect the body, **personal flotation device**, ~~safety harnesses~~ **crew harness**, hiking aids or safety equipment worn to keep the person aboard or afloat.

Current Position

As above

Reasons

1. The current rules only speak about a trapeze or hiking harness. With the introduction of a new collective term that includes all types, the definition of personal equipment must be updated accordingly.

Proposal 2

C.5.34 Personal Flotation Device

Personal equipment as required by the *rules* to assist the user to float in water. **Class rules or the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations shall prescribe the required standards, if any.**

Current Position

As above

Reasons

2. The standards for PFDs are currently prescribed in class rules that are following the SCR format. This change clarifies that practice and adds the OSR as the other document which prescribes PFD standards for offshore events.

Proposal 3

Add new item

C.5.5 Crew Harness

Personal equipment worn to assist the **crew** to use a **trapeze** or to hike or to stay **connected** to a **windsurf sail**, a **kite** or a **wing-foil**. **Class rules** shall prescribe the required standards, if any.

Current Position

As above

Reasons

3. RRS 50 refers to trapeze or hiking harnesses only. This addition puts all types of harnesses under one term, allowing RRS 50 to be simpler and more inclusive if it refers to the ESR term. At the same time any applicable standards for harnesses like the quick release type should be prescribed by class rules in the same way as for PFDs, and not by the RRS.

Proposal 4

Add new item

C.5.6 Impact Vest

Personal equipment designed to provide protection against impacts to the torso. **Class rules** shall prescribe the required standards, if any.

Current Position

As above

Reasons

1. Most of the high speed classes are prescribing impact vests as part of the mandatory personal equipment items on board. The introduction of a special term helps with the clarity and uniformity in Class rules and when appropriate standards are created their application shall be covered by class rules in the same way as with PFDs and crew harnesses.
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