

Proposal Template: OSR

rev: OSRv1 26/06/2025

Proposal Number: OOC-2025-015



Name of Authorised Person:	ZORAN GRUBIŠA
Position:	ORC Chief Measurer
Title of Proposal:	Grab Bags
Subtitle:	OSR 4.21 – Grab bags
Related proposals:	

Proposal:

To clarify the rule and remove ambiguity.		
Category	Rule number	Rule wording
Mo0,1,2,3 Mu**	4.21.1	A grab bag shall have inherent flotation, at least 0.1 m ² (1 ft ²) area of highly visible colour(e.g. dayglo yellow or orange) on the outside, shall be marked with the name of the boat, and shall have a lanyard and clip. If a grab bag has to accompany a specific life raft, it shall be clearly marked with the identity of its corresponding raft.
MoMu1,2	4.21.2	A grab bag for each liferaft, readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted.
Mu0	4.21.3	A grab bag for each liferaft (not required for a spare liferaft under OSR 4.20.1 b)), readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted.
Mo0,1,2,3 Mu	4.21.4	Unless the following equipment is stowed in a liferaft , the following shall be stowed in a watertight compartment or in a grab bag (or in a watertight compartment in the case of multihulls) : The following shall be either stowed with a liferaft, or in a watertight compartment or a grab bag. The container shall be readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted. The following shall either be stowed with a liferaft or in a grab bag. The grab bag shall be readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted: a) hand-held marine VHF transceiver (see 3.29.1) b) 3 hand flares (in addition to required in 4.23) c) flashlight (see 4.07) d) watertight strobe light with spare batteries (may be part of the flashlight) e) knife (in addition to required in 4.25) f) whistle
MoMu0		g) additional hand-held marine VHF transceiver (see 3.29.3)
MoMu1		h) hand-held satellite telephone (see 3.29.9)
MoMu0		i) two hand-held satellite telephones (see 3.29.10)

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Current position:

"As above"		
For OSR rule references use tables where appropriate:		
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Mu3,4 Mo3 Mo3Mu3,4 Mo3Mu3,4 Mo3Mu3,4 Mo3Mu3,4	4.21.4	The following shall be either stowed with a liferaft, or in a watertight compartment or a grab bag. The container shall be readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted: The following shall either be stowed with a liferaft or a in grab bag. The grab bag shall be readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted: a) 3 hand flares, b) watertight strobe light with spare batteries (may be part of the flashlight) c) knife d) whistle.

Reasons:

Safety inspectors and competitors find the current rule dealing with grab bags confusing. For simplicity the parts dealing with life rafts have been deleted but remain under the rule dealing with liferaft. It has two introductory sentences that apply to the list below. The list is incomplete. The new proposed rule simplifies the structure of the sentence, and places everything to do with the grab bag in one place and is thus more user-friendly than the current rule.
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