

Proposal Template: OSR

rev: OSRv1 26/06/2025

Proposal Number: OOC-2025-016



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Position:	ORC Chief Measurer
Title of Proposal:	Safety Harness and Tethers
Subtitle:	OSR -5.05
Related proposals:	OOC-2026 - 6

Proposal:

To clarify the rule and remove ambiguity.		
For OSR rule references use tables where appropriate.		
Category	Rule number	Rule wording
	5.02	Safety Harness and Tethers
MoMu0,1,2,3	5.02.1	A harness that complies with <u>ISO 12401</u> or equivalent
MoMu0,1,2,3 MoMu0,1,2,3 MoMu0,1,2,3 MoMu0,1,2,3	5.02.2	A tether shall: a) comply with <u>ISO 12401</u> or equivalent, b) not exceed a length including the length of the hooks as follows: <u>i) on 2 points tether: 1 m (3'-3")</u> <u>ii) on 3 points tether: 2 m (6'-6") between two most distant points</u> c) have self-closing hooks <u>have on each end a quick-release system in form of either a self-closing hook or release system on the lifejacket</u> d) have overload indicator flag embedded in the stitching, <u>on each component that may overloaded in use,</u> and e) be manufactured after 2000.
MoMu0	5.02.3	A boat shall carry spare harnesses and <u>tethers</u> as required in <u>OSR 5.02</u> above sufficient for at least 10% of the <u>crewmembers</u> (minimum one unit).
MoMu0,1,2,3	5.02.4	A <u>tether</u> which has been overloaded shall be replaced.

Current position:

As above.

Reasons:

There is a lot of confusion among boat owners as to what are acceptable tethers. The proposal seeks to simplify and make the rule clearer. Some new lifejackets has a release system for the tether, which is integral to the lifejacket, which is safer than a hook because it can be released under tension. The change allows this system instead of a self-closing hook. It also seeks to allow a modern design that is safer than the use of hooks only.
