

Submission: **SR04-09****Offshore Special Regulations – 5.02**

Safety Harness and Safety Lines (Tethers)

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

Proposal:

5.02	Safety Harness and Safety Lines (Tethers)	MoMu0,1,2,3
5.02.1	Each crew member shall have a harness and safety line that complies with EN 1095 (ISO 12401) or equivalent with a safety line not more than 2m in length. <u>Products brought prior to Jan 2001 shall not be included. Products brought prior to Jan 2010 may comply with either ISO 12401 or EN 1095</u>	MoMu0,1,2,3
	<i>a) Warning it is possible for a plain snaphook to disengage from a U-bolt if the hook is rotated under load at right-angles to the axis of the U-bolt. For this reason the use of snaphooks with positive locking devices is strongly recommended</i>	MoMu0,1,2,3
5.02.2	At least 30% of the crew shall each, in addition to the above be provided with either:-	MoMu0,1,2,3
	a) a safety line not more than 1m long, or	MoMu0,1,2,3
	b) a mid-point snaphook on a 2m safety line	MoMu0,1,2,3
	c) Each yacht shall carry spare harness and safety line units as required in OSR 5.02.1 above sufficient for at least 10% of the total number of persons on board (minimum one unit).	Mo0
5.02.3	A safety line purchased in January 2001 or later shall have a coloured flag embedded in the stitching, to indicate an overload. A line which has been overloaded shall be replaced as a matter of urgency.	MoMu0,1,2,3
5.02.4	A crew member's lifejacket and harness shall be compatible	MoMu0,1,2,3
5.02.5	<i>It is strongly recommended that:-</i>	MoMu0,1,2,3
	<i>a) static safety lines should be securely fastened at work stations;</i>	MoMu0,1,2,3
	<i>b) a harness should be fitted with a crotch strap or thigh straps;</i>	MoMu0,1,2,3
	<i>c) to draw attention to wear and damage, stitching on harness and safety lines should be of a colour contrasting strongly with the surrounding material;</i>	MoMu0,1,2,3
	<i>d) snaphooks should be of a type which will not self-release from a U-bolt (see OSR 5.02.1(a)) and which can be easily released under</i>	MoMu0,1,2,3

	<i>load (crew members are reminded that a personal knife may free them from a safety line in emergency);</i>	
	<i>e) a crew member before a race should adjust a harness to fit then retain that harness for the duration of the race.</i>	MoMu0,1,2,3
5.02.6	<i>Warning - a safety harness is not designed to tow a person in the water and it is important that a harness is used to minimise or eliminate the risk of a person's torso becoming immersed in water outside the boat. The diligent use of a properly adjusted safety harness is regarded as by far the most effective way of preventing man overboard incidents.</i>	**

Current Position:

As above

Reason:

The proposed amendments are to prohibit harnesses and safety lines of more than 9 years of age.