

**Offshore Special Regulations**

OSR 4.21 Grab Bags

A submission from Roy van Aller(NED), Special Regulations Sub-committee

Purpose or Objective

Make the grab bag with the essential safety equipment mandatory for Monohull category 3 races

Proposal

Amend regulation:

- Mu3,4,**Mo3** 4.21 Either a watertight compartment or a grab bag, ..... .
- Mu3,4,**Mo3** 4.21 a) a watertight hand held marine VHF transceiver with spare batteries.
- Mu3,4,**Mo3** 4.21 b) a watertight flashlight with spare batteries and bulb.
- Mu3,4,**Mo3** 4.21 c) 3 red hand flares.
- Mu3,4,**Mo3** 4.21 d) a watertight strobe light with spare batteries.
- Mu3,4,**Mo3** 4.21 e) a knife.

Current Position

As above, no requirement for grab bag in Category 3 Monohull.

Reason

1. Not only multihulls, but also keel yachts can capsize suddenly and crew in the cabin have to orientate and evacuate very quickly without time to grab any essentials.

Above proposal with reasons have been concluded in the evaluation and accident investigation of the sudden capsize of the Dutch yacht Capella, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017, at an offshore race of the Belgian Coast, with the loss of 3 lives. The survivors after the capsize clamped to the rudder, propeller strut and pulpit for about 6 hours without any means of communication or alerting distress.