


RHKYC PRESCRIPTIONS 2026 TO THE WORLD SAILING OFFSHORE SPECIAL REGULATIONS

World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations (WS OSR), ver 1 published 5 Dec 2025, is amended as follows.

CATEGORY	WS OSR REF	REQUIREMENT
Mo1	3.02.03 b)	Structural inspection. Evidence of a structural inspection by a qualified inspector within 24 months before the start of the race or after a grounding whichever is later
MoMu1	3.21.1 b)	Drinking Water Tanks Permanently installed delivery pump and water tanks dividing the water supply into at least two compartments, or reusable container(s)
MoMu1	3.21.2	Drinking Water Start with at least 3 litres (0.8 US Gal) of drinking water per person per day for the likely duration of the passage.
MoMu1	3.21.3 a)	Emergency Drinking Water. Shall carry water in dedicated, labelled and sealed container(s) of quantity: - Race length ≤ 450 nautical miles: 3 litres/person - Race length > 450 nautical miles: 4 litres/person
MoMu1	3.28.3 b)	Liquid Fuel Systems. At the start a boat with a combustion engine shall carry sufficient fuel to meet charging requirements for the duration of the race AND to motor at the above minimum speed for at least: - All races ≤ 450 nautical miles: 150 nautical miles - All races > 450 nautical miles: 250 nautical miles
MoMu1	3.28.4 b)	Battery Systems. At the start a boat with an electric engine shall carry sufficient capacity to meet electrical requirements for the duration of the race AND to motor at the above minimum speed for at least: - All races ≤ 450 nautical miles: 150 nautical miles - All races > 450 nautical miles: 250 nautical miles
MoMu1	3.29.6 b)	Shall be DSC capable.
MoMu1	3.29.6 g) & h)	A speaker in the cockpit is recommended
MoMu1	3.29.6 i)	Radio operators shall show they have the appropriate radio licence and sufficient knowledge and experience to operate the radios and satellite equipment installed.
MoMu1	3.29.7 c)	AIS. The AIS transponder shall remain turned on and remain active for the duration of the race. Class B transponder is acceptable.
MoMu1	3.29.9	Handheld Satellite Phone. One hand-held satellite telephone either watertight or with waterproof cover and internal battery. The satellite phone shall not be reliant on connecting to an external device to send/receive voice calls. Acceptable satellite telephones are: - iSatPhone (Inmarsat) - Iridium 9555 - Iridium Extreme - Iridium Go exec (note that the original Iridium Go does not comply) Other satellite telephones may be acceptable if they satisfy the above listed criteria. Stow in the grab bag (see OSR 4.21) when not in use.
MoMu1	3.29.9	A satellite telephone shall be connected to an external marine mast type antenna with a permanent fixed installation for the duration of the race. The “puck” type antenna supplied with most phones do not meet this requirement. 
MoMu1	3.29.9	The satellite telephone in 3.29.9 a) shall be permanently connected to an external powered source and switched on for the duration of the race.
MoMu1	3.29.9	All satellite telephone shall have minimum of 75 minutes voice credit at the start of the race and shall retain a minimum 15 minutes for emergency voice calling during the race.
MoMu1	3.29.9	All satellite telephones shall have the race emergency contacts, Hong Kong MRCC and race fleet satellite phone numbers pre-programmed into the phone.

MoMu1	3.29.12	A satellite tracking device shall be provided by the race organiser able to send and receive data and shall be powered up for the duration of the race for which the race committee shall have polling authority.
MoMu1	4.15.1	Emergency Steering. Boat crew shall demonstrate the deployment and use of their emergency tiller and present evidence that it's fit for purpose to the race committee (pictures/video preferred).
MoMu1	4.15.2 a)	Boat crew shall demonstrate the rudderless steering method and present evidence that it's fit for purpose to the race committee (pictures/video preferred).
MoMu1	4.20.2 b)	Liferaft. An ISO 9650 liferaft shall contain as a minimum Pack 2 (less than 24 hours). If a Pack 2, then each grab bag assigned to a liferaft shall contain the missing items from a Pack 1 in addition to any other requirements as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 1 x First-Aid Kit including at least 2 tubes of sunscreen. All dressings must be capable of being effectively used in wet conditions. The first aid kit shall be clearly marked and shall be re-sealable. b) 1 x waterproof torch with 6 h duration and separate battery and bulb or complementary torch c) 3 x red hand flares in accordance with LSA Code Chapter III, 3.2 d) 2 x thermal protective aids in accordance with LSA Code Chapter III, 2.5 e) 1.5l of emergency drinking water per person, in containers of each not more than 500 ml (SOLAS/WheelMark approved) f) 10,000kJ of food per person (SOLAS/WheelMark approved)
MoMu1	4.21.2	Grab Bags. One grab bag for each liferaft, readily accessible whether or not the boat is inverted and shall contain the following minimum contents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A watertight hand-held marine VHF transceiver with spare batteries b) A watertight strobe light with spare batteries (may be part of a flashlight) c) A knife d) A whistle e) A watertight bag containing all crew passports, money f) A watertight bag containing crew spare prescription drugs (if any) g) A First-Aid kit. All dressings must be capable of being effectively used in wet conditions. The first aid kit shall be clearly marked and shall be re-sealable. h) At least 2 tubes of sunscreen, minimum size of 100ml.
MoMu1	4.21.4	Other highly recommended Grab Bag contents. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The VHF is DSC enabled - Chemical light sticks - Waterproof handheld GPS - Inflatable radar reflector - SART - Satellite contact numbers on a waterproof list - Spare liferaft drogue - Fishing kit
MoMu1	4.26.4	Storm & Heavy Weather Sail Inventory. The boat shall have 2 separate sail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A storm jib - A heavy weather jib (also called J4), independent of a luff groove, and cannot be the regular jib furled. The PIC shall ensure the crew has been trained to set the storm sails and evidence can be presented (pictures preferred).
MoMu1	4.30	Electric pump Shall have combined electrical emergency pumps (portable and/or fixed) of capacity ≥ 200 l/min (3,170 GPH). If portable, then power cables terminated with alligator clips. Have sufficient hose to discharge overboard (enclosed cockpit) or into the cockpit (open cockpit).
MoMu1	5.01.4	Lifejacket. The person in charge shall personally check each lifejacket at least once annually and record the inspection on lifejacket's inspection label or in a separate document with inspector's name and date.

MoMu1	5.01.5	A combined harness and lifejacket shall be worn when on deck: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - between the hours of sunset and sunrise - when alone on deck - when reefed - when the true wind speed is 25 knots or above - when the visibility is less than 1 nautical mile
MoMu1	5.06.02	Waterproof torchlight At night, each crew member shall carry a waterproof torch/light
MoMu1	6.01.2	Training. At least 50% but not fewer than two crewmembers, including the Person in Charge shall have undertaken training within the five years before the start of the race in WS OSR 6.02 Training Topics. It's strongly recommended that all crew undertake this training.

Additional RHKYC Prescriptions for Short Handed sailing:

If sailing solo the skipper shall have a PLB and an additional Yellowbrick tracker on him at all times and AIS Alarm.