

SAFETY INFORMATION NOTICE

No.1 of 2024

MEDICAL KIT

Issue:

With the changes in available medicines, technology and equipment since the medical kit requirements for categories 1 to 7 were included in the Special Regulations, Australian Sailing issued an amendment introducing a modular kit.

To allow boat owners time to convert to the new modular medical kit the amendment will remain transitional and not come into effect until 1 December 2028.

Notice:

The kit will now be split into 4 components, each building on the next to create a more extensive kit for races that are longer or further offshore. As the race duration increases, additional medical kits are added, rather than the traditional Category classification.

- A. **Inshore Kit** is for day racing, this is a simple kit accessible to everyone on board, this kit becomes the 'day kit' for coastal and offshore races.
- B. **Coastal Kit One** is for daylight coastal races expecting simple medical evacuation if required. This is carried in addition to the Inshore Kit.
- C. **Coastal Kit Two** is for overnight coastal races or where medical evacuation is more difficult, carried in addition to the Coastal Kit One and Inshore Kit.
- D. **Offshore Kit** where medical evacuation is expected to be 24 hours or longer. This kit is carried in addition to all previous kits.

The amendment has extensive information, not just on what is required to be carried but on usage, storage and management of the kits.

Frequently Asked Questions:

For Race Committees

Q: Which of the modular medical kits apply to the race we are organising?

A: This is a race committee decision. As a guide:

- The Inshore Kit is for day races held close to the organising club, this is a simple kit accessible to everyone on board, this kit becomes the 'day kit' for coastal and offshore races.
- Coastal Kit One is for daylight coastal races expecting simple medical evacuation if required. This is carried in addition to the Inshore Kit.
- Coastal Kit Two is for overnight coastal races or where medical evacuation is more difficult, carried in addition to the Coastal Kit One and Inshore Kit.

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- Offshore Kit where medical evacuation is expected to be 24 hours or longer. This kit is carried in addition to all previous kits.

Q: What do we say in the race documents?

A: The Notice of Race should state clearly what category the race is, and which modular medical kits may be used as an alternative to the current category based medical kits. Possible examples are:

- *This is a Category 2 race. Boats using the modular medical kits under Special Regulation 4.07.4(b) and Appendix D are required to carry the Offshore Kit.*
- *Australian Sailing Special Regulations Part 1, Category 5 will apply. Boats using the modular medical kits under Special Regulation 4.07.4(b) and Appendix D are required to carry the Inshore Kit.*

Q: Can we force entrants to only use the new modular medical kits?

A: No. The Special Regulations explicitly permit boat owners to meet requirements by using either the old medical kit or the new modular medical kit until 1 December 2028.

Q: Do we have to change our advice to entrants on how to procure medical kit items?

A: No. Continue to rely on the doctors and pharmacists who are familiar with state or territory regulations and your club's requirements.

Q: What is the advanced first aid certificate or special training qualification that we should check with entries?

A: This is at the race committee's discretion. The advanced training may be delivered by an external service provider or could be organised by the club. The WMSC, CYCA, ORCV and FSC are examples of clubs that have organised, developed or delivered training designed specifically for sailors which may assist them to cope with most emergencies and long term management should the need arise.

For Boat Owners

Q: Do I have to replace my current medical kit immediately?

A: No. You can do that any time during the transition period leading up to 1 December 2028.

Q: Will I have to be using the new modular medical kit after 1 December 2028?

A: Yes. After that date the only medical kit permitted for use, as a minimum standard.

Q: Who is the boat's medic?

A: The person possessing appropriate medical training and nominated by the person in charge of the boat.

Q: What is advanced first aid certificate or special training?

A: Some medical training providers offer courses that exceed First Aid training. Registered and practicing nurses, paramedics and doctors would meet this requirement. Some clubs use local Medical Practitioners to deliver training which may include additional training in the use of injectables, the safe use of medications, and other treatments required for offshore racing.

Q: Do I have to do anything different when buying medical kit items?

A: No. The same protocols still apply where you rely on state and territory regulations that permit doctors or pharmacists to supply you with the items. Speak with your club's Sailing Manager who understands the local systems and contacts.

Q: Do I have to buy the exact products listed in the modular medical kit lists?

A: No. Alternate pharmaceuticals in equivalent amounts and having similar action to those stated are acceptable.

For Equipment Auditors

Q: How do I audit the old medical kit and new modular medical kit?

A: If a boat is using the old medical kit, then there is no change to the way it is audited.

If a boat is using the new modular medical kits, then print off that kit's audit form from the AS website, audit the medical kit and include with the audit documents.

Q: How do I know whether a pharmaceutical is an equivalent amount or has similar actions?

A: You may not be able to audit this and if not, you must rely on the opinion of the person in charge of the boat.

This is in accordance with the [Responsibility of the Person in Charge Policy](#).

Q: What do if a minor medical kit item has just passed its use by date?

A: An Equipment Auditor may complete an audit on a boat where there is trivial non-compliance with the Special Regulations. This is in accordance with the [Trivial Non-Compliance in an Audit Policy](#).

Q: Do I have to audit First Aid qualifications?

A: No. This is a matter for the race committee when checking entrants' compliance with race requirements.

Q: How many 'separate containers' should I expect to audit when a boat is using the new medical kits?

A: Each kit should be in its own container, however the items required to be in a Boat Medic's container can be housed in the same container.