

AUSTRALIAN SAILING
Amendment to the Special Regulations

Issued on 13 June 2023
Effective from 13 June 2023

PART 1, SECTION 5 PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

Regulation 5.02

Delete the text that has been ~~struck out~~ and insert the text that has been underlined

5.02.1

- (a) Each crew member shall have a safety harness and a safety line, not more than 2 m in length.
- (b) Each safety harness and safety line shall comply with:
 - (i) Australian Standard AS2227, or
 - (ii) An equivalent overseas standard such as ISO 12401, and
 - (iii) Shall be branded with the respective standard authority's mark of approval.
- (c) The safety line shall have a snap hook at each end. All new safety lines shall use snap hooks that are metallic, with cast, forged or moulded side-wall support. New safety lines shall not use stainless steel plate type snap hooks.
- (d) *Warning: It is possible for a plain snap hook 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 snap hooks with positive locking devices is strongly recommended.*
- ~~(e) From 1 July 2023 safety lines shall no longer use stainless steel plate type snap hooks and must be a metallic moulded hook with side-wall support~~

1 2 3 4

5.02.2

- In addition to the requirement of 5.02.1(a), at least 30% of the crew shall each be provided with either:
- (i) A safety line not more than 1 m long or
 - (ii) A mid-point manufacturer fitted snap hook attachment on a 2 m safety line or
 - (ii) Twin lines, one not more than 1 m long and the other not more than 2 m long.

1 2

NOTE: Twin lines are a single safety line arrangement with

- three snap hooks. The centre hook is designed to be clipped to the harness. The other two hooks provide safety lines of not more than 1 m and not more than 2 m in length.*
- 5.02.3** A crew member's lifejacket and harness shall be compatible. 1 2 3 4
- 5.02.4** *It is strongly recommended that:* 1 2 3 4
- (a)** *A harness should be fitted with a crotch strap or thigh straps.*
- (b)** *Snap hooks should be of a type which will not self-release from a u-bolt (See [5.02.1 \(d\)](#)) and which can be easily released under load (crew members are reminded that a personal knife or tether cutter may free them from a safety line in emergency).*
- (c)** *A crew member before a race should adjust a harness to fit then retain that harness for the duration of the race.*
- 5.02.5** 1 2 3 4
- (a)** *Warning: A safety line and safety harness are not designed to tow a person in the water and it is important that the shortest safety line length possible be used with a harness to minimise or eliminate the risk of a person's torso becoming immersed in water outside the boat, especially when working on the foredeck. The 1 m safety line or the midpoint snap hook on a 2 m line should be used for this purpose. The diligent use of a properly adjusted safety harness and the shortest line practicable are regarded as by far the most effective way of preventing man overboard incidents.*
- (b)** *Warning: Twin lines are to be used for 2-point attachment to the vessel and not to be used as a single line tether 3 m in length.*