



S.I. 2024 No. 62

Shipping (Domestic Vessels) Act, 2024
(Act 2024–22)

**SHIPPING (DOMESTIC VESSELS)
(PLEASURE VESSELS) REGULATIONS, 2024**

The Minister, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 305(1) (q) of the *Shipping (Domestic Vessels) Act, 2024*, makes the following Regulations.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the *Shipping (Domestic Vessels) (Pleasure Vessels) Regulations, 2024*.
- 2.(1) A vessel owner or operator shall ensure that a pleasure vessel has the following on board:
 - (a) life saving equipment including
 - (i) life jackets suitable for the sizes of persons on board;
 - (ii) life rafts;
 - (iii) life buoys of sufficient capacity to accommodate the number of persons on board;
 - (iv) flares and distress signalling equipment and apparatus;
 - (b) fire protection equipment including
 - (i) fire extinguishers; and
 - (ii) fire buckets; and
 - (c) an emergency plan in digital format or print copy.

(2) The items referred to in paragraph (1) shall be

- (a) safely stored on board the vessel;
- (b) annually inspected, serviced or tested, as the case may be; and
- (c) consistent with the length, type and operational circumstances of the vessel.

(3) A person who contravenes this regulation is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$20 000 and is liable to have the relevant licence, certificate or permit, as the case may be, suspended or revoked.

3.(1) A vessel owner or operator shall ensure that a pleasure vessel is equipped with the following:

- (a) GPS or any other tracking device;
- (b) one pair of binoculars;
- (c) navigational lights;
- (d) a table of life saving signals;
- (e) a signalling lamp suitable for Morse Code;
- (f) a radar;
- (g) a radar reflector; and
- (h) any other equipment as may be necessary for the safe navigation of the vessel.

(2) The navigation equipment on board a pleasure vessel shall be consistent with the length, type and operational circumstances of the vessel.

(3) Navigation lights shall be used where a vessel is to operate in the night or any period of darkness.

(4) A person who contravenes this regulation is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$20 000 and is liable to have the relevant certificate or permit, as the case may be, suspended, cancelled or revoked.

4.(1) A vessel owner or operator shall ensure that a pleasure vessel is equipped, where practicable, with radio communication equipment.

(2) The radio equipment on board a pleasure vessel shall be consistent with the type and operational circumstances of the vessel.

(3) A person who contravenes paragraph (1) is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$20 000 and is liable to have the relevant licence, certificate or permit, as the case may be, suspended or revoked.

5.(1) A vessel owner or operator shall ensure that

(a) a pleasure vessel is equipped, where practicable, with a radar reflector or an equivalent device to enable detection by other vessels.

(b) the radar reflector is installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and as high as is necessary for maximum detection range.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a pleasure vessel operating between sunrise and sunset shall be exempted from the requirement at sub-paragraph (1).

(3) A person who contravenes paragraph (1) is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$20 000 and is liable to have the relevant licence, certificate or permit, as the case may be, suspended or revoked.

(4) For the purposes of this regulation, "radar reflector" means a device which enables detection by vessels navigating by radar.

6.(1) A vessel owner or operator shall ensure that a pleasure vessel is equipped, where practicable, with a vessel monitoring system.

(2) A person who contravenes this regulation is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$5 000 and is liable to have the relevant licence, certificate or permit, as the case may be, suspended or revoked.

(3) For the purposes of this regulation, "vessel monitoring system" means a system used to monitor the movement of a vessel.

7.(1) A vessel owner or operator shall ensure that a pleasure vessel is equipped, where practicable, with an illustrated table of life saving signals.

(2) A person who contravenes this regulation is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10 000 and is liable to have the relevant licence, certificate or permit, as the case may be, suspended or revoked.

8.(1) A vessel owner or operator of a pleasure vessel shall plan a voyage using appropriate nautical charts and nautical publications for the area concerned before proceeding on a voyage.

(2) In determining the degree of planning required for a voyage, an operator shall consider

- (a) the size of the pleasure vessel;
- (b) the length of the voyage;
- (c) the crew required and competence of the crew;
- (d) any navigational hazards;
- (e) weather forecasts including tidal predictions; and
- (f) any relevant information.

(3) A voyage plan shall contain

- (a) the name of the vessel owner;
- (b) the name of the vessel operator;
- (c) the date and time of the planned departure of the voyage;
- (d) the activity scheduled;
- (e) the number of person on board the vessel;
- (f) the date and time of the return from the voyage;
- (g) the route of the voyage; and

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- (h) the particulars of the recording officer.
- (4) A voyage plan shall identify a route that
- (a) takes into account any relevant routing systems of vessels;
 - (b) ensures adequate sea room for the safe passage of the vessel throughout the voyage;
 - (c) anticipates all known navigational hazards; and
 - (d) takes into account any marine environmental protection measures.
- (5) A person who contravenes this regulation is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$5 000.
- 9.(1)** No person shall operate a pleasure vessel in excess of the maximum speed in a no-wake zone.
- (2) A person who contravenes this regulation is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of \$10 000 and is liable to have the relevant licence, certificate or permit, as the case may be, suspended or revoked.

Made by the Minister this 21st day of October, 2024.

G. P. I. GOODING-EDGHILL
Minister responsible for Shipping