

Australian Sailing

National Equipment Auditor Scheme

Preparation for an Audit

Audit Process

All equipment audits follow the same process:

- The Owner (and a crew member is also recommended) needs to work through the Blue Book (not just the Equipment Compliance Form) and ensure they have all the required equipment, that it is in good and working condition and if necessary, has been serviced and/or is in date (in particular - Flares, Medical Items, Fire Extinguishers, Personal Floatation Devices [PFDs], Life Rafts).
- The Category Equipment Compliance Form needs to be completed and lodged with the Sailing Office prior to the audit – this includes the owner completing the boat details on page 1 and initialling each requisite item (in the Owner Column of subsequent pages).
- The Sailing Office will on submission of a completed audit form schedule the inspection.
- Before the inspection, the owner (and crew member, recommended) should layout all of the equipment from its normal storage position for ease of inspection.
- Pass or fail, the Equipment Compliance Form is returned to the Sailing Office. Copies of completed (pass) forms can be provided for inclusion in other club's race entries but the original remains on file with the Sailing Office. A boats entry in the race will not be finalised until it has a valid Equipment Compliance Form lodged with the Sailing Office.

Owner's Responsibility

- The safety of the boat and her crew is the sole and, inescapable responsibility of the owner, or owner's representative, who shall do their best to ensure that the boat is fully found, thoroughly seaworthy and manned by experienced crew who have undergone appropriate training and, are physically fit to face bad weather.
- Neither the use nor application of the Special Regulations, nor an audit, in any way diminishes the complete and unlimited responsibility of the owner or owner's representative.
- It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that all crew know the location of equipment on the boat, and how to use or deploy the equipment, for example how to use flares, wear and use PFDs, set storm sails, and know how to conduct man overboard recoveries. Crew training is part of the process of achieving safe sailing.
- All equipment for all crew necessary to comply with the Special Regulations category of event, as notified in the Sailing Instructions or Notice of Race, shall be maintained on the boat for the event at all times.