

Republic of the Marshall Islands

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YACHT CODE SUPPLEMENT No. 02-23

To: Yacht Owners/Captains, Managers, Agents, Recognized Classification Societies, and Appointed Representatives

Subject: SUPPLEMENT TO YACHT CODE AMENDING CHAPTER II, SECTIONS 9.7 AND 9.12

Publication Date: 19 April 2023

In accordance with Chapter I, Section §2.1.1.2 of the Republic of the Marshall Islands Yacht Code 2021 (the “Code”), this supplement amends Chapter II, sections 9.7 and 9.12 of the Code as follows:

9.7 Lighting

- .1 An electric lighting system shall be installed which is capable of supplying adequate light to all enclosed accommodation and working spaces. The system shall be designed and installed in accordance with §13.5 and §14.4 of this Chapter, as applicable.
- .2 Sleeping rooms and mess rooms shall be lit by natural light, as far as is reasonable and practicable, and additionally provided with adequate artificial light.
- .3 For mess rooms and recreational areas where it is not practicable to meet the requirements of natural light, adequate artificial light in lieu of natural light may be approved by the Administrator.

9.12 Sleeping Accommodation

- .1 Yachts of 3,000 GT and more

Yachts of 3,000 GT or more constructed on or after 20 August 2013 shall comply with the full requirements of standard A3.1 of the MLC, 2006, except that:

- (a) Cabins may be occupied by two seafarers who are not officers. The floor area shall not be less than 5.5 m² per seafarer. The minimum floor area for such cabins shall not be less than 11 m² including en-suite sanitary facilities.

- (b) All berths in double occupancy cabins shall be arranged longitudinally. Berths arranged athwartships are not permitted.
- (c) Double occupancy cabins shall be provided with en-suite sanitary facilities. Each en-suite sanitary facility shall meet the minimum standards of the MLC, 2006 for sanitary facilities.
- (d) In cabins for seafarers who are officers where no private sitting room or day room is provided, the floor area for junior officers shall not be less than 7.5 m² including en-suite sanitary facilities and for senior officers not less than 8.5 m² including en-suite sanitary facilities;
- (e) For the purpose of §9.12.1(d) above junior officers are seafarers performing duties as officers at operational level and senior officers are seafarers performing duties as officers at management level;
- (f) The Administrator may permit the location of cabins below the waterline on condition that satisfactory arrangements are made for lighting, ventilation, enhanced bilge pumping capacity, and water ingress alarms. In no case shall they be located immediately beneath working alleyways.

.2 Yachts up to but less than 3,000 GT:

- (a) The Master, the Chief Engineer, and the Chief Navigating Officer should have cabins that, in addition to their sleeping rooms, include an adjoining sitting room, day room, or equivalent additional space. Where this is not practicable, an alternative comfortable shared sitting area may be provided. Such space shall allow officers to meet privately with other seafarers.
- (b) In single berth cabins for seafarers who are officers where an adjoining sitting room, day room, or equivalent additional space to the sleeping room is provided, the sleeping room shall not be less than 4.5 m² including en-suite sanitary facilities.
- (c) Single berth cabins for seafarers who are officers where no adjoining sitting room, day room, or equivalent additional space are provided shall not be less than 7.5 m² including en-suite sanitary facilities.
- (d) Seafarers who are officers should not be required to share a cabin.
- (e) To the extent possible, an individual cabin shall be provided for each seafarer who is not an officer, the floor area of which shall not be less than 4.5 m² which may include en-suite sanitary facilities.

- (f) Where it is not practicable to provide single occupancy cabins, sleeping rooms may be occupied by two seafarers who are not officers. The floor area shall not be less than 7.0 m² which may include en-suite sanitary facilities.
- (g) The Administrator may permit the location of cabins below the waterline on condition that satisfactory arrangements are made for lighting, ventilation, enhanced bilge pumping capacity, and water ingress alarms. In no case shall they be located immediately beneath working alleyways.

.3 Yachts of less than 1,250 GT:

- (a) Single berth cabins for seafarers who are not officers without en-suite sanitary facilities shall have a floor area of not less than 3.6 m².
- (b) Single berth cabins provided with en-suite facilities for seafarers who are not officers, shall have a floor area of not less than 4.5 m² including the sanitary module.
- (c) Double berth cabins without en-suite facilities for seafarers who are not officers shall have a floor area of not less than 7 m².
- (d) Double berth cabins for seafarers who are not officers, where en-suite sanitary facilities are provided, shall have a minimum floor area of not less than:
 - (i) 6.2 m² for a yacht of 500 GT to 1,149 GT; and
 - (ii) 7 m² for a yacht of 1,150 GT and over, including the sanitary module.
- (e) En-suite sanitary facilities are considered to compensate for reduced floor area and form part of the floor area.
- (f) Where the reduced floor areas in §9.12.3(a) to §9.12.3(d) above are adopted, the free floor area in the cabin shall be at least 1.45 m² per seafarer.
- (g) Where the requirement of §9.12.3(f) above is not practical due to the hull shape or hull stiffening, but the arrangements in the cabin allow for a free movement of the upper part of the body equivalent to an area of 1.45 m², a reduced free floor area may be provided with the Administrator's agreement, but shall not be less than 1 m² per seafarer.

.4 There shall be no access into sleeping rooms from spaces for machinery, galleys, paint rooms, or any store rooms and communal wash, shower, or toilet facilities. Bulkheads separating such places from sleeping rooms shall be efficiently constructed of steel or equivalent material and be watertight and gas-tight.

- .5 A berth shall be provided for every seafarer on board, which has at least one unobstructed access. Where considered appropriate, means for preventing the occupants from falling out shall be provided.
- .6 The minimum inside dimensions of a berth shall be either:
 - (a) not less than 190 cm by 70 cm, without tapering; or
 - (b) at least 198 cm by 80 cm where tapering may be permitted when half of the length of the berth is not narrower than 50 cm.
- .7 When one berth is placed over another, a dust-proof bottom shall be fitted beneath the bottom mattress or spring bottom of the upper berth.
- .8 Each berth shall be fitted with a comfortable mattress with a cushioning bottom. The mattress and cushioning material used shall be made of approved material.
- .9 Sleeping rooms shall be fitted with curtains or equivalent for the sidelights.
- .10 In sleeping rooms, a shielded electric reading lamp shall be installed at the head of each berth.
- .11 Each sleeping room shall be provided with a table or desk, which may be of the fixed, drop-leaf or slide-out type, and with comfortable seating accommodation.

This supplement shall be deemed to be incorporated into the Code and shall take full force and effect as of the Publication Date listed above.