

## Category of races

As there are many types of racing events, ranging from long distance ocean races sailed under adverse conditions to short course day races sailed in protected or sheltered waters, seven categories of races have been established as follows, to provide for the differences in the standards of equipment and accommodation required for such varying circumstances:

Categories 0-4 are intended for offshore racing.

Categories 5 and 6 are suitable for (but not exclusive to) races which include only trailable boats.

An organising authority shall select the category most suitable for the type of race to be sailed, the locale that it is to be sailed in and the conditions under which it is to be sailed. An organising authority may add to the requirements of a particular category but not delete any.

### Race Category Description

- Category 0** Trans-oceanic races, including races which pass through areas in which air or sea temperatures are likely to be less than 5 degrees Celsius other than temporarily, where boats must be completely self-sufficient for very extended periods of time, capable of withstanding heavy storms and prepared to meet serious emergencies without the expectation of outside assistance. Specific requirements for Category 0 have been omitted from this version.
- Category 1** Offshore races of long distance and well offshore, where boats must be self-sufficient for extended periods of time, capable of withstanding heavy storms and prepared to meet serious emergencies without the expectation of outside assistance.
- Category 2** Offshore races of extended duration along or not far removed from shorelines or in large unprotected bays or lakes, where a high degree of self-sufficiency is required of the yachts.
- Category 3** Offshore races across open water, most of which is relatively protected or close to shorelines.
- Category 4** Short offshore races, close to shore in relatively warm or protected waters, normally held in daylight.
- Category 5** Races with limited rescue availability, in protected waters, in daylight hours or in sheltered waters at night.
- Category 6** Short races close to the shoreline in protected waters, in daylight hours only and with effective rescue availability.
- Category 7** Short races in sheltered waters, in daylight hours only and with effective rescue availability. Boats not complying with Rule 3.01.3 (Special Regulations 2017-2021 Part 1) are not required to carry buoyancy.