



**MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE  
SHIPPING CIRCULAR  
NO. 5 OF 2026**

MPA Shipping Division  
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<http://www.mpa.gov.sg>

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**Applicable to:** Owners and managers of Singapore-registered pleasure craft and the shipping community.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR SINGAPORE-REGISTERED PLEASURE CRAFT**

The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) has updated the requirements for Singapore-registered pleasure craft. These revisions seek to provide greater clarity on regulatory distinctions, strengthen safety compliance, and align domestic practices with international maritime standards.

### **Regulatory Framework for Pleasure Craft**

2 Pleasure craft registered under the Merchant Shipping (Pleasure Craft) Regulations 2020 are for international voyages and must comply with internationally recognised safety and survey standards.

3 Pleasure craft operating solely within the Port of Singapore fall under the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (Pleasure Craft) Regulations and are required to hold a valid pleasure craft licence. These craft must meet local safety requirements to operate within the port limits.

### **Singapore-Registered Pleasure Craft Registration**

4 Pleasure craft plying beyond the Port of Singapore and engaged in international voyages may choose to be registered under Singapore ship registry for pleasure craft. The craft are to be used exclusively by the owner, or guests of the owner, for sport or pleasure purposes only. These craft must not be used for commercial activities.

5 Pleasure craft operating solely within the Port of Singapore need not be registered under the Singapore ship registry for pleasure craft but must hold a valid pleasure craft licence issued by MPA. For enquiries, contact the Marine Licensing and Permits

Department (MLP) via the [Online Feedback Form](#) or Tel: 1800 272 7777 / +65 6272 7777 (Option 2).

## Conditions and Requirements

6 Eligibility for Registration: Singapore-registered pleasure craft may be owned by:

- a) A person ordinarily resident in Singapore; or
- b) A Singapore business entity (body corporate, firm, or partnership).

The craft must also meet the following conditions:

- c) Minimum load line length of 7 metres with an enclosed deck;
- d) Not more than 17 years old at the point of registration;
- e) Not constructed of wooden hulls or inflatable design (including rigid-inflatable craft); and
- f) Not used as a passenger ship (i.e. cannot carry more than 12 passengers).

7 Application Documents: Applications must be submitted to [marine@mpa.gov.sg](mailto:marine@mpa.gov.sg) with the following:

- a) Completed application form (available on MPA's website);
- b) Full-colour photographs showing the craft's name, profile view, and enclosed compartments;
- c) Owner(s)' identification and proof of residence, or ACRA Business Profile (for entities);
- d) Proof of ownership;
- e) Insurance policy covering use/navigation of the craft;
- f) Evidence of closure of foreign registry (where applicable);
- g) Technical specifications (type, dimensions, capacity, gross tonnage, seakeeping characteristics);
- h) Valid survey report (within 3 months prior to application) from an accredited organisation; and
- i) Any other particulars as required by the Registrar.

## Surveys and Safety Equipment

8 All Singapore-registered pleasure craft must undergo surveys every 3 years in accordance with safety equipment requirements (**Annex A**). With effect from 1 October 2026, MPA Port Inspector's reports will no longer be accepted, as this was a transitional measure following regulatory adjustments of 1 July 2020. Surveys must be conducted by recognised surveyors from accredited organisations listed on the MPA website (<https://www.mpa.gov.sg/singapore-registry-of-ships/register-with-srs/type-of-registrations/registration-of-pleasure-craft>).

- a) A valid survey report must be submitted at registration and at renewal.

- b) Pleasure craft intended for international voyages must meet survey requirements aligned with global maritime safety protocols.

### **Driving Licence and Competency**

9 Driving Licence: The owner shall ensure the pleasure craft is operated by a competent person holding a valid Powered Pleasure Craft Driving Licence (PPCDL) or equivalent.

10 Additional Competencies (Effective 1 October 2026): To address potential safety risks when plying the high seas, Masters of Singapore-registered pleasure craft that operate beyond the Port of Singapore should complete training in:

- a) **Marine Communications and Helicopter Rescue**: 4-hour online course by Singapore Maritime Academy, register via Singapore Polytechnic:

<https://www.sp.edu.sg/pace/courses/all-courses/course-details/pleasure-craft-marine-communications-and-helicopter-rescue>

- b) **Basic First Aid + Automated External Defibrillator**: Certification valid for 2 years, refresher required; see MOM accredited providers:

<https://www.mom.gov.sg/-/media/mom/documents/safety-health/lists/learning-service-providers.pdf>

11 When applying for departure port clearance, the owner or Master must furnish evidence of a valid driving licence, together with any additional competency qualifications required.

### **Certificate of Registry (COR): Validity and Fees**

12 Validity: COR is valid from approval date until the day before the anniversary of the initial survey. Renewal applications must be submitted within 3 months before the expiry date of the COR. Upon successful renewal, the certificate will be extended till the day before the next anniversary date of the completion of the renewal survey.

13 Fees: Initial registration fees and subsequent renewal fees are S\$200 and S\$50 respectively.

### **Incident Reporting**

14 The owner, master, or person-in-charge must report immediately (within 2 hours) to the Director of Marine any:

- a) Breaking-up, damage, or loss of the craft;
- b) Collision, accident, or incident causing damage or loss; and/or
- c) Accident, pollution, injury, or loss of life caused by or occurring on board.

15 Please refer to our website (<https://www.mpa.gov.sg/media-centre>) for the Shipping Circular on the reporting requirements of marine casualties and marine incidents involving SRS.

### **Other Related Requirements**

16 Singapore-registered pleasure craft without a valid pleasure craft licence issued by MPA wish to cruise within the Port of Singapore must apply for a cruising permit via the DIGITALPORT system. For enquiries, contact Marine Environment & Safety department at [pms@mpa.gov.sg](mailto:pms@mpa.gov.sg) or Tel: +65 6325 2488/2489.

### **Queries**

17 Please refer to the frequently asked questions (**Annex B**) for further details on the new requirements.

18 For queries, contact the Singapore Ship Registry Department at [marine@mpa.gov.sg](mailto:marine@mpa.gov.sg) or Tel: 1800 272 7777 / +65 6272 7777 (Option 1).

### **Supersession**

19 This circular supersedes Shipping Circular 07 of 2020.

**CHEAH AUN AUN  
DIRECTOR OF MARINE  
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE**

## Safety Equipment Requirements

### Radio and Navigational Equipment Requirements

Every Singapore-registered pleasure craft must be provided with the following equipment:

Item	Qty	Additional notes:
Magnetic Compass	1	-
Electronic Navigation Positioning System	1	Electronic chart plotter with GPS
Signalling Lamp	1	-
Audible Warning Device	1	-
VHF Set	1	-
AIS Transponder	1	May be Type A or Type B Must be registered with a Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) number
Rudder Angle Indicator	1	-
Anchor	1	-
Windlass and Chain	1	-

### Life-Saving Appliances (LSA) Requirements

Every Singapore-registered pleasure craft must be provided with the following life-saving appliances:

Load Line Length (L) in metres	Life-Saving Appliance	Quantity
All lengths	Lifejackets	1 per person carried onboard
	Hand Flares	6
$7 \leq (L) < 12$	Lifebuoy (Stencilled with name and port of registry)	1
$12 \leq (L) < 21$		2
$21 \leq (L) < 37$		4
$(L) \geq 37$		6
$7 \leq (L) < 21$	Buoyant lifeline	1 of minimum length of at least 18 metres
$(L) \geq 21$		1 of minimum length of at least 27.3 metres

## Navigational Lights and Shapes Requirements

Every Singapore-registered pleasure craft must exhibit the following shapes and lights:

### **For Power Driven Vessels $L < 12\text{m}$**

Item	Qty	Additional Notes:
Masthead Light	1	May exhibit an all-round white light <sup>1</sup>
Stern Light	1	
Side Light (P&S)	1 set	May be combined lantern

### **For Power Driven Vessels $12\text{ m} \leq L < 20\text{ m}$**

Item	Qty	Additional Notes:
Masthead Light	1	-
Stern Light	1	-
Side Light (P&S)	1 set	May be combined lantern
Anchor Light	1	All round white light
Black Ball	1	Reduced dimensions commensurate with size of pleasure craft, for display at anchor, in the fore part.

### **For Power Driven Vessels $20\text{ m} \leq L < 50\text{ m}$**

Item	Qty	Additional Notes:
Masthead Light	1	-
Stern Light	1	-
Side Light (P&S)	1 set	-
Anchor Light	1	All round white light
Black Ball	1	0.6 m diameter, for display at anchor, in the fore part.

Notes:

- (1) The masthead light or all-round white light may be displaced from the fore and aft centreline of the pleasure craft if centreline fitting is not practicable, provided that the sidelights are combined in one lantern which shall be carried on the fore and aft centreline of the pleasure craft or located as nearly as practicable in the same fore and aft line as the masthead light or the all-round white light. A pleasure craft proceeding under sail when also being propelled by machinery shall exhibit forward where it can best be seen a conical shape apex downwards.

## Fire-Fighting and Other Appliances and Equipment Requirements

Every Singapore-registered pleasure craft must carry on board the following fire-fighting equipment:

## Capacity of Fire Extinguishers

Minimum Capacity of Portable Fire Extinguisher	Load Line Length (L) in metres		
	$7 < L \leq 9$	$9 < L < 15$	$L \geq 15$
Foam, water (litres)	2.8	4.6	9
CO <sub>2</sub> (kg)	1	1.5	3
Dry-Powder (kg)	1.4	2.3	4.5

## Quantity of Fire-Fighting Appliances (FFA)

Description of Craft		Load Line Length (L) in metres						
		$7 \leq L \leq 9$	$9 < L < 15$	$9 < L < 15$ with engine room <sup>(3)</sup>	$15 \leq L < 24$	$15 \leq L < 24$ with engine room <sup>(3)</sup>	$L \geq 24$	$L \geq 24$ with engine room <sup>(3)</sup>
Portable dry-powder or equivalent foam, water or CO <sub>2</sub> fire extinguisher		2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Fire extinguisher to be placed in engine room <sup>(3)</sup>		NA	NA	2 <sup>(1)</sup>	NA	2 <sup>(1)</sup>	NA	2 <sup>(1)</sup>
Fire bucket with lanyard <sup>(2)</sup>		2	2	2	2	2	3	3
Main Fire Pump	Power	NA	NA	NA	Either 1 power or 1 manual	Either 1 power or 1 manual	1	1
	Manual	NA	NA	NA			NA	NA
Emergency fire pump	Power	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Either 1 power or 1 manual	Either 1 power or 1 manual
	Manual	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
Hydrant		NA	NA	NA	Such numbers are required by a recognised surveyor during any survey or inspection			
Hose		NA	NA	NA	1	1	2	2
Nozzle	Jet	NA	NA	NA	1	1	2	2
	Spray	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	1
Fireman's axe		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	1

### Notes:

- (1) Where engine room houses internal combustion type machinery having in aggregate, a total power output of not less than 375 kW.
- (2) Fire buckets may be substituted by an equal number of portable dry-powder fire extinguisher outside the engine room.
- (3) For pleasure craft with engine rooms only.

## List of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### Singapore-registered Pleasure Craft

S/No	Question	Answer
1	Do I need to register my pleasure craft with the Singapore Registry of Ships (SRS) if my pleasure craft is not operating outside the Port of Singapore?	<i>If your pleasure craft is solely operating within the Port of Singapore, the pleasure craft need not be registered with a Ship Registry.</i>
2	Can I register a mortgage on my pleasure craft?	<i>We do not accept mortgage registrations on Singapore-registered pleasure craft.</i>
3	When do I need to apply for a renewal survey?	<i>The survey conducted by the accredited organisation is valid for 3 years. A renewal survey should be done within 3 months before the expiry of the third anniversary date of the COR.</i>
4	If I undergo a change of ownership, do I still need to undergo another survey for the pleasure craft?	<i>Pleasure craft owners can choose to undergo a new survey within 3 months from the change of ownership application to enjoy a 1-year registration period. Alternatively, pleasure craft owners can use survey report under the previous owner, however the validity of registration may be shorter as the validity is tied to the anniversary date of the existing survey report.</i>
5	I am an SZH-licensed pleasure craft owner. Can I register with the SRS? If no, why not?	<i>Owners of SZH-licensed pleasure craft cannot register with the SRS. The registration of pleasure craft with the SRS is for pleasure craft that are solely used for sport or pleasure.</i>

### Conditions and Requirements

S/No	Question	Answer
6	My pleasure craft is built to be unsinkable, even though my pleasure craft is built to an open deck construction. Can I still be registered with the SRS?	<i>Some open deck pleasure craft may have “self-bailing” features and have sufficient reserved buoyancy to take on accumulated water and stay afloat under normal operations, but it is noted that not having a waterproof deck limits the level of protection for the occupants and essential equipment/machinery controls against more severe elements that are likely to be experienced in open seas outside the Port of Singapore. Hence, open deck pleasure craft are not acceptable for registration with the SRS.</i>

7	What is a fully enclosed deck pleasure craft?	<i>Such a pleasure craft must have a fully protected permanent weather-tight enclosure fitted with closing arrangements to provide shelter for the entire passenger complement.</i>
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*Surveys and Safety Equipment*

8	What kind of lifebuoy and lifejacket should I keep on board my pleasure craft?	<i>Lifebuoy and lifejackets carried onboard shall be of Life-Saving Appliance (LSA) Code approved-type. Life vests are not considered a substitute for lifejackets.</i>
9	What is the marking required on the lifebuoy?	<i>Pleasure craft owner is required to paint the name of pleasure craft and the word "Singapore".</i>
10	What is a ship station licence?	<i>The ship station licence is issued for the operation of the radio-communication equipment installed on-board any ships registered in Singapore. Application for the ship station licence can be done at <a href="https://licence1.business.gov.sg/web/frontier/home">https://licence1.business.gov.sg/web/frontier/home</a>.</i>
11	What type of AIS transponder do I need to install onboard?	<i>The pleasure craft owner must install a Type A or Type B AIS transponder. Please note that the Type B AIS transponder does not have a display unit.</i>
12	If my AIS transponder is defective, can my pleasure craft sail out?	<i>No. It is a requirement for your AIS transponder to be operational while operating in the Port of Singapore and the high seas.</i>
13	Do I need an Emergency Positioning Radio Beacon (EPIRB) to sail my pleasure craft out?	<i>Although it is not mandatory for you to have an EPIRB to sail your craft out, we strongly recommend that your pleasure craft be equipped with one. If your pleasure craft has an EPIRB, please remember to carry out the annual servicing of the EPIRB.</i>
14	Why does my pleasure craft have to be fitted with the necessary navigational lights and shapes as prescribed in COLREGs (International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea)?	<i>It is an international requirement for all vessels operating on international voyage. This is also a legal requirement under the new Merchant Shipping (Pleasure Craft) Regulations.</i>
15	My pleasure craft is too small to carry all the safety equipment as prescribed in the regulations. Can I have an exemption?	<i>Based on a large database of pleasure craft licensed with MPA, the safety requirements had been assessed as achievable by pleasure craft. Owners are required to prove that the requirement</i>

		<i>is practically impossible with supporting evidence on their registered pleasure craft. Should it not be practicable, an equivalent substitute shall be proposed to the Director of Marine for consideration.</i>
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### *Driving Licence and Competency*

16	How much is the cost for the Marine Communications and Helicopter rescue course?	<i>Course fee will be \$60 (before GST), inclusive of access to e-learning training material and assessment.</i>
17	How long would I have access to the Marine Communications and Helicopter rescue course?	<i>Upon successful registration, you will be able to access the Learning Management System for 2 weeks, inclusive of completion of the assessment.</i>
18	How many attempts can I make for the assessment?	<i>You can attempt the assessment 3 times. If you do not pass after 3 attempts, you will have to re-register and pay for the course again.</i>
19	When will I receive the certificate after completing the Marine Communications and Helicopter rescue course?	<i>You will receive an email notification on how to retrieve your e-Certificate within 2 weeks after you have passed the assessment.</i>
20	Is there any validity for the Communications and Helicopter rescue course?	<i>There is no validity and the Marine Communications and Helicopter rescue course is only required to be taken once.</i>
21	What if I have equivalent or higher global maritime distress and safety system (GMDSS) qualifications?	<i>You may submit a copy of the qualification to <a href="mailto:marine@mpa.gov.sg">marine@mpa.gov.sg</a> for our assessment.</i>
22	What if I have equivalent or higher First Aid + AED qualifications?	<i>You may submit a copy of the qualification to <a href="mailto:marine@mpa.gov.sg">marine@mpa.gov.sg</a> for our assessment.</i>