



Merchant Shipping Directorate



## NON-MANDATORY PLEASURE YACHTS SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR YACHTS < 24m

### Yachting Notice 16

*Notice to Yacht Owners, Yacht Operators, Managers,  
Masters, Owners' Representatives, Appointed Surveyors,  
Recognised Organisations and Stakeholders*

The Merchant Shipping Directorate draws the attention to all concerned to the implementation of the non-mandatory **Pleasure Yachts Safety Guidelines for Yachts < 24m hull length**. This initiative follows an extensive review of evolving market demands and is aimed at establishing a coherent, proportionate, and practical safety framework specifically for pleasure yachts registered under the Malta Flag.

Participation in this scheme is **entirely on a voluntary basis**. However, the Directorate recommends that owners adopt these standards to ensure a high level of safety awareness and to facilitate compliance with requirements that may be imposed by foreign jurisdictions mandating safety certification for pleasure craft.

In no way shall this Notice be construed to be a mandatory requirement imposed by the Administration. Yacht owners and operators who choose not to adopt these non-mandatory guidelines, survey, and certification scheme may continue to operate without any obligation to implement these guidelines, whether in whole or in part. The Directorate reminds owners and operators of their obligation to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Port State prior to entering foreign Ports.

The Pleasure Yacht Safety Guidelines and the associated Certification scheme will enter into force on a voluntary basis on **1<sup>st</sup> June 2026**.

The full text of the **Pleasure Yachts Safety Guidelines** is available for download here: <https://www.transport.gov.mt/Safety-Guidelines-for-Pleasure-Yachts-less-than-24m-Rev-1.pdf-f11618>

For further information or technical queries, please contact the Merchant Shipping Directorate Yachting Section at: [yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt](mailto:yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt)

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