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South African Kayak Fishing Association (SAKFA)
Attention : Mr. Keith Hockly

14 October 2008.

REF : YOUR LETTER DATED 5 OCTOBER 2008.

Dear Mr. Hockly,

As per our discussions and deliberations in respect of your association's activities, we wish to advise you that for the vessels concerned, being pleasure vessels powered by human power alone and operating not more than one kilometer from shore, the following applies :-

“Merchant Shipping (National Small Vessel Safety) Regulations 2007, as amended”.

- Regulation 14 (1) (b). The requirement for a skipper to be in possession of a Certificate of Competence is applicable to a –
 - (a) A commercial vessel; or
 - (b) A pleasure vessel that is either a sailing vessel of 9 meters or more in length or a power driven vessel with propulsion power exceeding 15 horsepower.

Therefore your skippers are not required to be in possession of Certificates of Competence.

- These vessels fall under regulation 37 by which they are exempted from regulation 6 (design and construction) ; regulation 9 (Colouring) ; Part 4 (recording and marking / COF) and Annexure 1 (construction requirements)

Therefore these vessels are not required to be licensed and issued with an official number, nor are they required to be surveyed for the issue of a Certificate of Fitness.

- Regulations 37 (3) (a) requires that these vessels are to have sufficient buoyancy to keep the vessel afloat when completely swamped.
- Regulation 37 (3) (b) require these vessels to carry the safety equipment as per Annexure 2 (2).

A safety system on the guidelines as listed below is acceptable to SAMSMA.

- A data base comprising the member's particulars which will include a numbering system for the vessels. These numbers are to be displayed on the vessels at all times.

South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSMA)

Board Members:

M. Siko (Chairperson), J. John (Deputy Chairperson), N. Majokweni, R. Mkhwanazi, A. Seymour, N. Syms, T Mokhele (CEO)

- A reporting system for recording voyage information which shall include the vessels identity (SAKFA number) together with the name of the occupant and the place and time of launching and estimated time of return.
- The safety equipment as per Regulation 37 (3) (b) as a minimum.
- All kayaks to have sufficient buoyancy as per Regulation 37 (3) (a).
- Club safety officers may be appointed to ensure that all members comply with the safety requirements and regularly inspect the vessels as to their condition and equipment.
- SAMSA reserves the right to verify the above at any given time which includes the conducting of ad hoc audits.
- The contents of this letter are valid under the present regulations “Merchant Shipping (National Small Vessel Safety) regulations 2007, as amended” but are subject to change with any changes to said regulations.

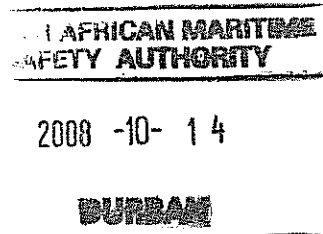
Signed at Durban 14 October 2008



HT Jones



Capt. S. Ali
(Acting Principal Officer)



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