



Merchant Marine Notice MMN-25-009

Title: IMMARBE'S CODES OF STANDARDS FOR YACHTS
IN COMMERCIAL OR PRIVATE USE

To: Ship Owners, ISM Operators, Ship Managers, Deputy
Registrars Relevant parties to be informed

Issuance Date: 13 November 2025 **Revision No.:** 1.0

MMN Superseded: MSN-0035

1.0 REFERENCE

- 1.1 The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, as amended.
- 1.2 The International Convention on Load Lines (LL), 1966, as amended.
- 1.3 The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), as amended.
- 1.4 The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, as amended.
- 1.5 The Maritime Labour Convention (MLC), 2006.
- 1.6 The Large Commercial Yacht Code (LY2) UK

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This Merchant Marine Notice addresses the implementation and applicability of the Codes of Standards for Yachts in Commercial or Private use, developed by the Administration. These three distinct Codes, namely the Super Yacht Code, the Large Yacht Code, and the Small Yacht Code establish the comprehensive regulatory regime that governs all yachts registered under the flag. The Codes prescribe mandatory standards for all registrations of commercial yachts and are strongly recommended for yachts in private use, thereby ensuring enhanced standards of safety, pollution prevention, and crew welfare across the yachting sector. These Codes came into effect on 1st June 2008.



3.0 PURPOSE

- 3.1 These Codes prescribe the comprehensive regulatory regime that will govern all yachts registered with the International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE). The Codes are mandatory for all registered yachts intended for commercial use and are strongly recommended for those in private use.

4.0 CONTENT

- 4.1 IMMARBE has developed three distinct Codes of Standards for Yachts, categorized primarily by length and Gross Tonnage (GT).
- 4.2 The Code of Standards for Yachts of 24 m or above and 500 GT or more but less than 5000GT The Super Yacht Code.
- 4.3 The Code of Standards for Yachts of 24 m or above and less than 500 GT The Large Yacht Code
- 4.4 The Code of Standards for Yachts of less than 24 m but not less than 10 m. The Small Yacht Code
- 4.5 These Codes are mandatory for all yacht registrations in commercial use to which the code applies. Furthermore, the Codes are strongly recommended for those yachts in private use.
- 4.6 Existing commercial yachts (registered before 1st June 2008) may remain under current arrangements for a period up to 24 months from the date the Codes entered into force.
- 4.7 Convention sized yachts shall be subject to the requirements of the relevant conventions insofar as practicable as stipulated in the codes.

5.0 Where to Find the Codes

- 5.1 The actual texts of the Codes and relevant information may be requested from the Administration directly via email at technicalservices@immarbe.com or viewed on the IMMARBE webpage: <https://www.immarbe.com/regulatory-framework/>.

6.0 ENTRY INTO FORCE

- 6.1 These Codes come into effect on 1st June 2008.



7.0 ACTIONS REQUIRED

7.1 The Administration encourages Shipowners, Operators, Deputy Registrars, Recognized Organizations, and Recognized Security Organizations to review and comply with the contents of this Notice and to ensure that its provisions are enforced on vessels registered with IMMARBE.

8.0 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

- 8.1 Failure to adhere to the requirements outlined in this Notice may result in disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by IMMARBE. This may include, but is not limited to:
- Suspension or revocation of the vessel's certification.
 - Imposition of fines or penalties.
 - Restrictions on the vessel's operations or trading activities.
 - Other legal actions as specified under the Belize Merchant Ships (Registration) Act (in its latest revision) and Statutory Instrument 56 of 1999 (as revised).
- 8.2 It is imperative that all parties adhere fully to the procedures and requirements outlined in this Notice to ensure proper certification and avoid regulatory issues.
- 8.3 The Administration encourages all Shipowners, Operators, Deputy Registrars to review and comply with the contents of this Notice.

We look forward to your cooperation and assistance.

This notice was issued in Belize City, Belize, on 13 November 2025.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eduardo Simon".

Eng. Eduardo Simon
Director of Technical and Seafarer
Services
IMMARBE

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Valarie Lanza".

Digitally signed by Valarie Lanza
Date: 2025.11.13 13:51:36 -06'00'

Mrs. Valarie Lanza
Deputy Managing Director
IMMARBE

Any queries related to this Notice shall be directed to inspections@immarbe.com; technicalservices@immarbe.com