



OVER 17 KNOTS? THE INSURANCE IMPLICATIONS

Any craft with a maximum design speed in excess of 17 knots (20 miles per hour) will be subject to some additional exclusions or restrictions in the insurance cover. Some of these are standard to all insurance's and are very rarely, if ever, open for amendment.

- 1 The vessel must always be under the command of the owner or a competent person.
- 2 There is no cover for loss, damage, liability or expense while the craft is racing or undergoing speed tests or speed trials.
- 3 Where the craft has inboard machinery, there is no cover for loss, damage, liability or expense arising from fire unless the craft is fitted:-
 - a. In the engine room or tank space with an automatic or remote control fire extinguishing apparatus;
 - b. In the galley with an adequate fire extinguisher apparatus including fire blanket,

Any such equipment or system must be properly installed and maintained in efficient working order.

There are two further restrictions in cover which may be amended with or without an additional premium.

- 1 Loss or damage liability or expenses arising from the vessel or boats being left unattended off an exposed beach or shore. Effectively this means the craft should never be left unattended afloat and while in larger craft this clause may be able to be deleted it is important to appreciate the effect of this clause.
- 2 "Loss or damage to rudder, strut, out drive, propeller or shaft unless by a risk covered by this insurance the vessel sinks or strands, or is in contact with another vessel pier or jetty". This exclusion may also be deleted depending on the type of vessel but this may involve an increase in the policy excess for claims arising out of the deletion as well as the additional premium.

There is a further exclusion in most insurance for speedboats which refers to water-skiing. Whilst liability to and of water skiers is excluded it can be covered, sometimes at an addition premium. However the inclusion of this clause does not mean that all forms of water sports are covered. Great care should be taken to be sure what is covered and what is not as paragliding, the towing of donuts, boards, knee boards, sausages, or similar activities may be excluded and some insurers will not cover these activities.

This leaflet is for information purposes only. It is not intended to define legal terms nor is it intended to affect the interpretation of any policy issued.