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EXTRAORDINARY

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PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL

Government Notifications

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FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES ACT, No. 2 OF 1996

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs, Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development under Section 61 (1)(sa) and (sb) of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 2 of 1996.

P. HARRISON,
Minister of Agriculture, Rural Economic Affairs,
Livestock Development, Irrigation and Fisheries and
Aquatic Resources Development.

Colombo,
05th June, 2019.

Regulations

1. These regulations may be cited as the Issuance of Certificates of Competence for Skippers (Local Fishing Board) Regulations, 2019.

2. These regulations shall be applicable to persons who apply to serve as skippers of multiday local fishing boats having a length of not less than ten decimal three meters (10.3m).

3. No person shall serve as a skipper in a multiday local fishing boat having aforementioned specifications without obtaining a Certificate of Competence issued by the Director-General of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (hereinafter referred to as the "Director-General") or a coxswain license issued by a recognized maritime training institute for the purpose.

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4. Any person applying for a Certificate of Competence referred to in regulation 3 shall-

- (a) not be less than eighteen (18) years of age as at the date on which the relevant written or oral test as the case may be, is to be held ;
- (b) have, not less than two (2) years experience on a multiday local fishing boat referred to above, at the sea, either as a skipper or as a crew member ; and
- (c) have completed a fishing vessel skipper training programme of not less than one (1) week duration, in any recognized institute approved by the Director - General.

5. The application for a Certificate of Competence shall be accompanied by the following documents :-

- (a) a fitness certificate issued by a recognized medical practitioner or a recognized medical institute including the hearing and visual state of the applicant ;
- (b) a certificate of competence issued by any one of the following institutions, namely -
 - (i) Ocean University of Sri Lanka, established under the Ocean University of Sri Lanka Act, No. 31 of 2014 ;
 - (ii) Colombo International Nautical and Engineering College recognized as a degree awarding institute under the Universities Act, No. 16 of 1978 ;
 - (iii) Mahapola Academy established under the Sri Lanka Ports Authority Act, No. 51 of 1979 ; or
 - (iv) any other institute recognized for the purpose by the Director-General.

certifying that the applicant has undergone training successfully as a skipper in a fishing vessel for a period of not less than one (1) week ; and

- (c) a document or documents to prove that the applicant has undergone sufficient training including methods of fishing, sailing, radio communication, personal safety and life saving, fire prevention, fire extinguishing, emergency first aid at the sea, international obligations of high seas fishing and prevention of marine pollution.

6. Every application for a Certificate of Competence under these regulations shall be sent, addressed to the Director-General, and shall be in the form specified in Schedule I hereto.

7. Every eligible applicant shall be informed of the venue and the date of the oral or written test as the case may be, in writing by the Director-General at least one week before such date.

8. The Director-General may, from time to time made amendments to the syllabus applicable to the oral or written test as the case may be, to be conducted under these regulations in order to maintain high standards of such test.

9. The Director-General shall, upon being satisfied that the candidate has achieved the required standards at the oral or written test as the case may be, issue a certificate of competence to the successful candidate within a period of two weeks from such test.

10. The Director-General shall issue a skipper license in the form specified in Schedule II hereto, to any applicant who obtained the certificate of competence referred to in regulation 9 upon payment of the license fee referred to in Schedule III hereto.

11. Any candidate who is unable to achieve the required standards at the oral or written test may be granted a further period of time by the Director-General to undergo training at any of the institutions referred to in regulation 5(b) and such candidate shall be given only two opportunities to sit for such oral or written test.

12. In these regulations -

“Skipper” means the person having command of a fishing vessel and provides instructions on the route, estimate of the catch and management of the boat workers and the crew and includes a Master or Captain who serves in the same capacity in a fishing vessel.

10. Educational Qualifications
- (i) G. C. E. (O/L)
- (ii) G. C. E. (A/L)
- (iii) Other Qualifications :

11. Particulars of skipper training course

- (i) Name of the Course :
- (ii) Name of the institute where the course followed :
- (iii) Training period :
- (iv) Date on which the training certificates received :
(Attach a certified copy of the training certificate)

12. Details of payments for the skipper licence

- (i) Receipt No. :
- (ii) Date :
- (iii) Amount paid :
(Attach a photocopy of the relevant receipt)

13. Applicant's attestation

I, do hereby certify that the above mentioned particulars given by me are true and correct and that I agree not to engage in any illegal fishing activity and be subject to the terms and conditions for High Seas fishing operations mentioned in the Annexure hereto.

.....
Applicant's Signature.

Date :

14. Certificate of the fisheries inspector/filed officer

I, do hereby forward this application certifying that Mr..... who is furnishing this application is an active fisher and that he has/has not obtained the mastery to act as fishing boat skipper subsequent to the formal training.

.....
Date Signature and official frank of the Fisheries Divison
Inspector/Field officer.

15. Recommendation

Recommendation of the Assistant Director

It is recommended that the applicant who is furnishing this application is/is not blacklisted and that I recommend and forward/do not recommend and forward the application for necessary action (Strike off unnecessary words)

Date :

.....
Signature and official frank of the Assistant Director

16. Approved/not approved to issue skipper licence

.....
Signature and official frank of the staff grade officer.

Date :

Schedule II

SKIPPER LICENCE		(Photo) (3.5 cm x 4.5 cm)
DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA (Valid for Fishing Vessel Registered in Sri Lanka only)		
SL No.	—	
Name	—	
Address	—	
NIC No.	—	
Date of Birth	—	
Date of Issue	—	Date of Expiry —
Director General Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Sri Lanka		

Terms & Conditions

- * The skipper of the vessel shall comply with the following rules & regulations under the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act, No. 02 of 1996.
 - * Registration number and Radio Call Sign should be marked on the vessel.
 - * Fishing gear in the vessel should be marked.
 - * The valid boat registration certificate and the operation licence or certified copies and log book should be onboard.
 - * The gill nets in the vessel shall not exceed 2.5 km in length.

The Skipper should

- * Maintain the log book properly and submit to the authorized officer at the harbour after every fishing trip.
- * Not fish in the EEZ's of other coastal states.
- * Not catch, keep onboard, land and carry out transshipment of Thresher Shark species, Ocean whitetip shark, Whale shark and Marine Mammals.
- * Assist the local or foreign authorized officers for inspection at sea or port.

(The skipper licence is issued only in respect of training courses approved by the Fisheries Department)

SCHEDULE III

1. Recommended fee for the issue of a skipper licence - Rs. 350/-
2. Recommended fee for the issue of a duplicate thereof - Rs. 450/-

06 - 510