



BREAKWATER MARINA, TOWNSVILLE

Cyclone Season - Vessel Self-Assessment

Hull / Deck

Repair any leaks around windows/hatches
Inspect through-hull fittings, valves, hoses and clamps
Clear deck drains
Check vessel tie-off points are adequate

Engines & Generators

Engines operational
Generator operational
Fix mechanical leaks

Fuel & Water

Fill water tanks
Fill fuel tanks

Pumps

All bilge pumps working
Float switches operational

Steering & Driveline

Steering functional; inspect all components
Check gearbox, selectors, throttles, shaft, seals, props

Electrical

House & start batteries fully charged
240V charger working
Solar/wind charging operational

Covers & Clears

Remove non-essential covers/clears
Replace/remove damaged biminis/awnings
Other:

Mooring Lines & Fenders

Primary & full double set of mooring lines onboard
Check condition of all lines; replace if worn
Vessel positioned correctly in berth
Additional fenders ready for both sides
No slack lines/overhang bows

Rigging & Sails (Sailing Vessels)

Secure or remove all sails (furlers down)
Standing rigging and halyards tensioned
Chainplates inspected

Tender

Remove loose items, fuel tanks, outboard (if required)
Secure tender on deck/davits/in water with multiple ties
Ensure rainwater can drain or be pumped out

Insurance

Confirm cyclone coverage & conditions/ exclusions
Other:

Emergency Plan

Pre-season self-assessment completed
Vessel cyclone-ready before any extended absence
Follow updates on Marina Cyclone Condition

Other Points (Specific to My Vessel)

Tropical Storms and Cyclones present all sorts of dangers to people and property so it is vital, when planning and preparing for these emergency events, that you understand the risks, you know what you need to do and you know what you will do should a Tropical Storm or Cyclone strike. We know that Tropical Storms and Cyclones rarely strike when it's convenient and when we consider the unpredictability of these storm systems, the best planning is to prepare early and prepare for the worst.

Getting stuck in to your own vessel inspection at the start of cyclone season is the perfect way to identify what's working onboard and what isn't; what needs fixing and what's to be replaced. This is not just good practice to the maintenance of your vessel but vital to ensuring your boat's ready to withstand the intense conditions of tropical storms and cyclones. Please feel free to use our Self-Assessment tool in its entirety or as a guide but what we do ask of our owners is that you communicate your preparation plans with us. Providing us with your Preparation Plan enables us to most effectively manage severe weather and emergency events.

At the completion of your Self Assessment Vessel Audit, you'll have a list of fixes and equipment to replace and a clear plan of the measures you will use to get your boat Cyclone Ready.

Hull/ Deck

Leaks in the deck, around windows, hatches that allow water ingress in heavy rain must be fixed.

Through hull fittings and valves – corroded or leaking fittings must be replaced, check valves open & close properly, check hoses & clamps

Clear deck drains so rain water can escape quickly

Check vessel tie-off points are secure and sufficient in number and locations on the vessel to properly secure the vessel to the pontoons.

Engines and Generators

Ensure engines are working in the event your vessel needs to be urgently relocated

Ensure generator is working so batteries and onboard systems can be charged and remain operational in the event shore power is unavailable.

Fix mechanical leaks so they don't accumulate in the bilge and risk being pumped in to the Marina waterway.

Fuel and Water Tanks

Fill water tanks so you have drinking water in the event town water supply gets compromised

Fill fuel tanks during summer season to minimise the risk of condensation and contaminating your fuel.

Pumps

Check all bilge pumps are operational and automatic float switches are working.

Steering & Driveline

Check your steering is operational and inspect components like rudders, chains, cables, hydraulic lines for signs of wear and the need to replace them.

Check your gearbox, gear selectors and throttles, shaft and seals and propellers.

Electrical

Batteries – house and starter banks are charged.

Charging – 240v charger is working. Alternative charging sources like solar and wind are working.

Covers & Clears

All these boat coverings add wind loading to your vessel. Identify which are essential and plan to take the rest down.

Biminis, awnings and clears that are in poor condition need to be replaced or removed.

Mooring Lines & Fenders

Check your vessel has both a Primary set and full Double set of mooring lines that are suited to the size and weight of your vessel.

Check the condition of all your mooring lines. Any signs of fraying, stiffness indicate your lines have deteriorated and have therefore weakened and must be replaced.

Check the position of your vessel in its berth, that lines aren't slack, it doesn't overhang the marina walkway and that your vessel sits securely alongside the pontoon with little forward/aft/sideways movement.

Check you have additional suitably sized for fenders to be deployed down both sides of your vessel

Sailing Rigging & Sails

Identify how you will secure your sails and prevent them teasing out in high winds. Furled sails should be taken down.

Check your standing rigging and halyards are properly tensioned.

Check chainplates are in good condition and bolts properly tensioned.

Items & Equipment to be Stowed

Items like gas bottles, fuel cans, BBQ's, eskys and seat cushions will need to be tethered or preferably stowed.

Tenders

Take loose items out and stow them onboard. Consider taking portable fuel tanks out and outboard engines off.

Identify whether to secure on deck, on davits or in the water. Plan for how you keep water out in the event of heavy rain and the tender stays secure where its stowed with multiple tethers.

Vessel Insurance

Consult with your insurer at the start of the season to make sure you fully covered for cyclone damage in the monsoon region and identify and special conditions of cover, exclusions or requirements like providing evidence of your vessel preparations.

Your Emergency Plan

Self-assess your boat early in the Storm Season to identify what needs to be fixed and replaced and what storm preparations you need to make to be properly ready for severe weather. If you're going to be away from your boat for 2 weeks or more during Nov to Apr, make sure it's Cyclone Ready before you leave. Understand the Marina's Cyclone Condition and Management Plan so you're preparing in accordance with the corresponding cyclone status, the worsening weather conditions, the prospect that utilities may be turned off and the evacuation order for all persons to leave the Marina may be given.