

## **Notes about Lifejackets**

**Children** under seven - buoyancy aid

Child of seven plus - a well fitted child life-jacket ---

In both cases above, when lifting shoulder section, max two inches gap

Child of 30 kgs plus, adult life-jacket

Chest band of jacket not too tight as may restrict breathing when inflated - one clenched fist under for men, and one and a half for women.

Sprayhood essential - just 1/2 cup salt water in lungs can induce secondary drowning.

Major cause of damage to life-jackets is corrosion of gas cylinder

Auto inflate jackets preferred. Jacket inflates one side first to induce face-up

Inspect regularly . New generation of jackets have viewing window.

Regular practice of MOB procedures needed so they are automatic under stress.

Skippers should ensure enough lifejackets on board for crew and ensure allocation and fit.

Importance of logging checks of safety equipment for any subsequent inquiry.

Personal Locator Beacons now include AIS device to be seen on AIS equipped boats etc.

- shows as orange person with limbs extended

Smoke flares help rescue helicopter seek and assess wind direction.

Recommended life-jacket light <http://www.seasafe.co.uk/shop/ct/pd/-life-jacket-light---solas>

A searching boat should turn engine off at intervals to listen for whistle.