*EXTRAORDINARY*

# OFFICIAL GAZETTE
# THE BAHAMAS

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# BOAT REGISTRATION (YACHT) (AMENDMENT) RULES, 2025

## Arrangement of Rules

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# BOAT REGISTRATION ACT
# (CHAPTER 277)

# BOAT REGISTRATION (YACHT) (AMENDMENT) RULES, 2025.

The Minister, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 21 of the Boat Registration Act (Ch. 277), hereby makes the following rules —

## 1. Citation and commencement.

(1) These Rules, which amend the Boat Registration (Yacht) Rules[1], may be cited as the Boat Registration (Yacht) (Amendment) Rules, 2025.

(2) Rules 1, 2 and 4 shall come into force on 1st day of July, 2025 and rule 3 shall come into force on 1st day of January, 2026.

## 2. Amendment of rule 4B of the principal Rules.

Rule 4B of the principal Rules is amended by the insertion immediately after subsection (4) of the following new subsections —

"(5) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the New Providence Port Authority shall have the discretion to determine and prescribe the process, criteria, or requirements for the issuance, recognition, or exemption of a master's licence in respect of bareboat charters by foreign vessels within The Bahamas.

(6) In exercising its discretion under paragraph (5), the New Providence Port Authority may consider the qualifications and experience of the person assuming command of the vessel.

(7) For the purpose of this Rule, "bareboat charter" means an arrangement under which the vessel is chartered without crew by the owner.".

## 3. Amendment of rule 6 of the principal Rules.

Rule 6 of the principal Rules is amended —

(a) by the deletion of paragraph (1) and the substitution of the following —

"(1) In addition to the fee set out in the *Second Schedule,* the owner or operator of a vessel carrying persons within The

[1]Sub. Leg., Vol V, CH. 277-13

Bahamas pursuant to an agreement for the hire of a vessel and for which a permit is required, shall pay to the Port Authority or Registered Charter Agent —

(a) a sum equivalent to four per centum of the sum payable to that owner or operator in respect of that carriage; and

(b) value added tax as such rate as may be charged under the Value Added Tax Act (Ch. 370A) on the sum payable to that owner or operator in respect of that carriage.";

(b) by the insertion, immediately after paragraph (3), of the following —

"(4) For the purposes of this rule —

"**Bahamian**" means —

(a) a citizen of The Bahamas or a permanent resident with right to work in The Bahamas;

(b) a company —

i. in which one hundred per centum of the shares are beneficially owned by Bahamians; and

ii. which is not in any manner directly or indirectly controlled by any foreign person;

"**Registered Charter Agent**" means a Bahamian that is —

(a) approved by the Port Authority; and

(b) licensed under the Business License Act, 2023.".

## 4. Amendment of rule 8 of the principal Rules.

Rule 8 of the principal Rules is amended in paragraph (2), by the deletion of the words ", 2014 (No. 32 of 2014)" and substitution of the following "(Ch. 370A)".

**Made this 19th day of June, 2025.**

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**Signed**
**JOBETH COLEBY-DAVIS**
**Minister Responsible For Boat Registration**