

**ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED IN BOAT INSURANCE POLICIES AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE
BOAT LIABILITY LIMITS**

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Our boat, our pupil, our boats reflect us with their lines and colors which reveal our way of life!

Is it really possible to protect our boat which stays for a long time at the marina and which we angle for meeting with it in a free time, against sudden risks that may occur? Does the insurance policy we have cover the expected or our expectations in terms of content?

When preparing boat policies it is very important to share the official register documents that the relevant country gave if it is a foreign-flagged boat; certificate of seaworthiness and tonnage documents with the insurance brokerage. It is only possible to make complete definitions and to not to make any mistakes while writing down the boat properties with the presentation of these documents.

Boat policies are deductible policies. It should be considered to keep this exemption rates low. Boat's engine room, electronic equipments, generator and any appliances that were purchased later and are in the boat must be specified in the policy. Especially machinery breakdown coverage must be purchased against machinery fracture and breakdowns that may occur in the boat engine and gear. It is important to apply the exemption over the cost of the machine.

An insurance expert must be required from the insurance company in order to determine the boat's value and to guarantee all the details completely if it is a high valued, private equipped boat; and if necessary a gentlemen's agreement should be made with the insurance company.

Boat's geographic navigation courses must be noted clearly to avoid facing an out of scope situation if damage occurs. An English copy of the insurance policy should be taken on board to avoid standing in the overseas harbor entrances in the same way like all missing the boat are supplied for an overseas trip.

First of all Liability Coverage Limits must be examined carefully in the boat policies and the policies should be arranged with the higher limits. Boat can be damaged partially or it can sink. But it should be cautious against the recourse for pecuniary compensations which can arise from the damages that can be caused to third parties in the mean time. To hit a luxury boat in a faulty way at the marina; to hit a person swimming in the sea; to damage a pier connected to the mainland; burning of the boat, boat explosion and the damages it may cause to the boats and structures in the environment due to this or damages that can be caused due to environmental pollution these all should be covered within the boat liability limits and clauses. The policy should be strong both with its clauses and limits against these types of recourses for compensations.

E. Altınaya

Especially in recent years the passenger personal accident policies that are implemented in the commercial tour boats may cover the damages that can happen to the passengers within certain limits. I think this is a good start regarding passenger liability.

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