

LEADERSHIP SKILLS: ETHICAL DECISION MAKING

Ethics is about trust, fairness, and doing the right thing. Ethical decisions often test even the strongest leaders.

Onboard, conflicting interests between owner, guest, crew or you may arise.

Remember that not every decision will be perfect—sometimes, it's about choosing the 'least bad' option.

When faced with a challenging decision, you are likely to be navigating an ethical dilemma. Use this checklist to ensure you have considered all key aspects before deciding.

Define and understand why this is an ethical decision and the implications that will result from the outcome.

Who will my decision impact?

Owner

Guests

Crew

Management company

Myself

Others

Could this decision harm the yacht's reputation, the owner, or my professional image?

Would I feel comfortable if this decision were made public or shared online?

Identify the likely outcomes of this decision.

Does this decision comply with laws and mandatory policies?

Can I justify and defend the decision if challenged?

Is it fair and reasonable?

Could it stand up to legal scrutiny?

Am I ready to face all potential consequences, positive or negative?

Can someone provide advice or challenge my thinking?
Seeking a *devil's advocate* can uncover blind spots.

Does the decision align with your personal and professional values and are you comfortable proceeding?

Which choice creates the best outcome with the least harm?