



## **Suggested amendments & additions to Cowes Harbour General Directions**

**April 2017**

*An amendment to General Direction No. 3.17 is proposed as follows (changes highlighted in blue):*

**3.17. Navigation in Inner Harbour Small Craft Mooring Area** – No person shall navigate any **power driven vessel or sailing vessel fitted with an auxiliary engine** within the Small Craft Mooring Areas as designated on Admiralty Charts within the Inner Harbour south of the Detached Breakwater and west of longitude 01 17.50W, unless proceeding to or from a mooring located within that area, without the written permission of the Harbour Master.

*A new direction is proposed as follows:*

**3.17.1. Sailing through Inner Harbour Small Craft Mooring Area** – A sailing vessel without auxiliary engine may sail through the Small Craft Mooring Area, as designated on Admiralty Charts within the Inner Harbour south of the Detached Breakwater, when entering or exiting the harbour and when in compliance with the following conditions:

- a) That it is deemed to be the safest, most practicable route taking account of prevailing conditions of weather, tide and traffic.
- b) That it is done so with only the sail required to maintain the vessel's course and a safe and reasonable speed over the ground, whilst not exceeding the 6kt speed limit.
- c) When joining the fairway / Small Craft Channel, due regard should be had for the manoeuvring characteristics of other vessels, and in any case shall be done so in compliance with Cowes General Direction 3.7 and the International Regulations for the Preventions of Collisions at Sea.

*It is proposed to transfer 'Local Notice to Mariners No. 14 of 2016 - VHF Radio Communications within Cowes Harbour' into General Direction No. 3.19, as follows:*

### **3.19. VHF Communications within Cowes Harbour**

All vessels of 30 metres length overall and above are required to give notice of entry, movement or departure within the area of jurisdiction of Cowes Harbour on VHF Channel 69.

All vessels required to give VHF notification shall give an 'ALL SHIPS' call prior to departure from any berth within Cowes Harbour and when passing the following positions:

## Inbound

- Prior to entering the Outer Harbour
- 250m north of Cowes Chain Ferry (at Shepards Wharf Marina)
- Folly Inn (vessels bound for Newport).

## Outbound

- Folly Inn.
- Kingston Wharf.
- 250m south of Cowes Chain Ferry (at Cowes Harbour Fuels)

The call shall give the following information:

- Vessel's name.
- Vessel's position.
- Intention.

Any vessel to which this Direction applies and under way within the area of jurisdiction of Cowes Harbour shall, if a close quarters or passing situation is likely to occur, respond to an 'ALL SHIPS' call from another vessel and state her name, position and whether inbound or outbound.

In addition, vessels to which this Direction applies shall maintain a listening watch on VHF Ch 69 at all times when under way within Cowes Harbour and north of No. 8 buoy.

The general call signal as required by this Direction does not allow any vessel priority or sole occupancy of the main fairway. All vessels are required to navigate in Cowes Harbour in compliance with the Merchant Shipping Distress Signals and Prevention of Collisions Regulations (as amended) and Cowes Harbour General Directions.

It is emphasised that this Direction applies to commercial vessels and private recreational vessels of 30 metres and above, leaving Newport Harbour and entering the jurisdiction of Cowes Harbour.

Nothing within this Direction shall relieve the Master of any vessel of over 20 metres in length of his obligation to give due notice to the Cowes Chain Ferry both by sound signal and VHF radio call on Channel 69 as required under Section 6 of the 2014 Cowes General Directions (as amended).

*A new direction is proposed as follows:*

**4.17. Welding and hot works on commercial vessels berthed within Cowes Harbour** - Prior to any hot works commencing the wharf operator / marina manager must be informed and a permit to work be completed.