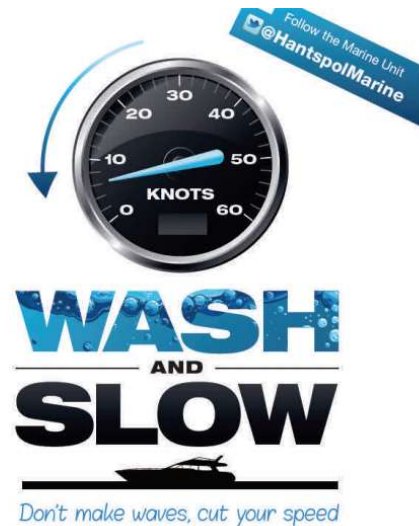


# Hampshire Constabulary Marine Support Unit

## The Solent – Harbour Authority Regulations



This document provides a summary of byelaws and directions applicable to the harbours of the Solent in Hampshire. It is for guidance and reference only and contains a selection of regulations that have been taken from documents applicable to each harbour; all of which are under continual review and subject to change. There are other byelaws for additional bodies of water around the Solent that may not be included in this document. It is your responsibility to fully averse yourself on the rules applicable to the harbours and waters you are using and Hampshire Constabulary takes no responsibility for the content of this document. If you have any questions about the regulations applicable to each harbour, please contact the relevant Harbour Authority.

## Southampton

Link: [http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/Port\\_Information/Regulations/Byelaws/](http://www.southamptonvts.co.uk/Port_Information/Regulations/Byelaws/)

Harbour Contact: 023 8060 8208

VHF Channel 12

### Southampton Harbour Byelaws 2003

7 (1) No person shall navigate a **vessel** or operate a **personal watercraft** –

(a) without due care and caution or at a speed or in a manner which, having regard to all the circumstances at the time, including weather conditions and the type condition and use of other vessels underway, berthed or moored, or which might reasonably be expected to be underway, berthed or moored, endangers the safety of, or causes injury to any person, any other vessel, buoy, moorings, banks of the port or any other property;

(b) without reducing speed and wash effect to a safe level before passing a dredger or a vessel engaged in diving operations, underwater work, removing a sunken vessel or other obstruction or working at any buoy or mooring;

(c) without the permission of the harbour master and subject to paragraphs (a) & (b) above-

(i) at a speed exceeding six knots over the ground in any direction to the northward of an imaginary line drawn from Hythe Pier through the Weston Shelf Buoy to the Weston shore.



(ii) in the case of vessels with a draught of 6.0metres or over, when approaching or passing the oil jetties at Fawley and Hamble in Southampton Water, at a speed in excess of seven knots over the ground.

(iii) closer than 130 metres from the face of the jetties at Fawley and Hamble, unless engaged in berthing or unberthing of vessels at those jetties.

52 (3) No person shall operate a personal watercraft at a speed greater than 6 knots over the ground within 200 metres of Mean High Water Springs on either side of Southampton Water in the area hatched black on the map annexed to these Byelaws (see link above)

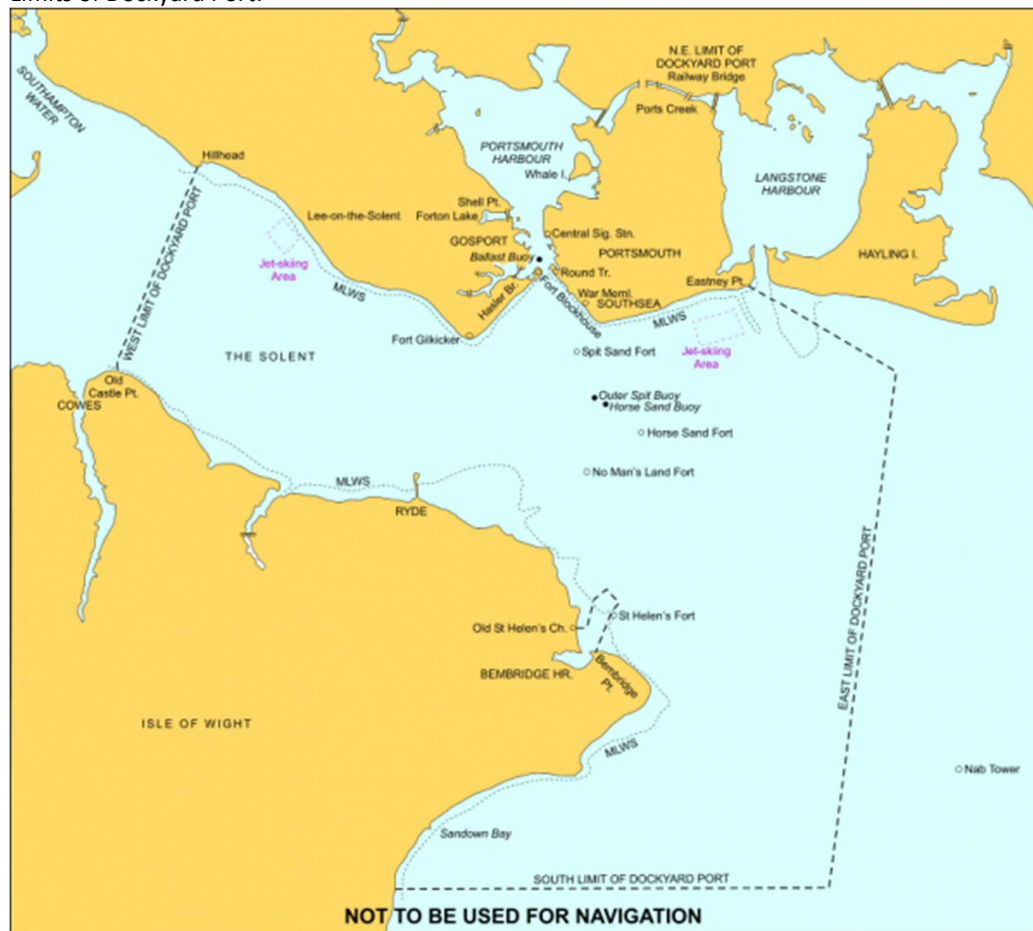
## Portsmouth Harbour

Link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/qhm-portsmouth>

Harbour Contact: 02392 723117

VHF Channel 11

Limits of Dockyard Port:



### The Dockyard Port of Portsmouth Order 2005

#### Speed of Vessels navigating the Dockyard Port

8. (2) Subject to paragraph (1) above, no vessel, when navigating within the Harbour or (except for water-skiers and jet-skiers in an area for the time being designated by the Queen's Harbour Master and marked by buoys) when within 0.5 nautical miles of the line of mean low-water springs in any part of the Dockyard Port outside the Harbour shall proceed at a greater speed than 10 knots through the water save for the purpose and subject to the conditions specified in a licence in writing given by the Queen's Harbour Master.

#### Vessels to be navigated with care and caution

9. The Master of a vessel navigating the Dockyard Port shall navigate the vessel with care and caution and in such a manner as shall not cause annoyance to the occupants of any other vessel or cause damage or danger to any other vessel or to any moorings or other property.

### **Water-skiing, etc.**

11.—(1) Save with licence in writing of the Queen's Harbour Master no water-skiing, jet-skiing or windsurfing is permitted within the Harbour.

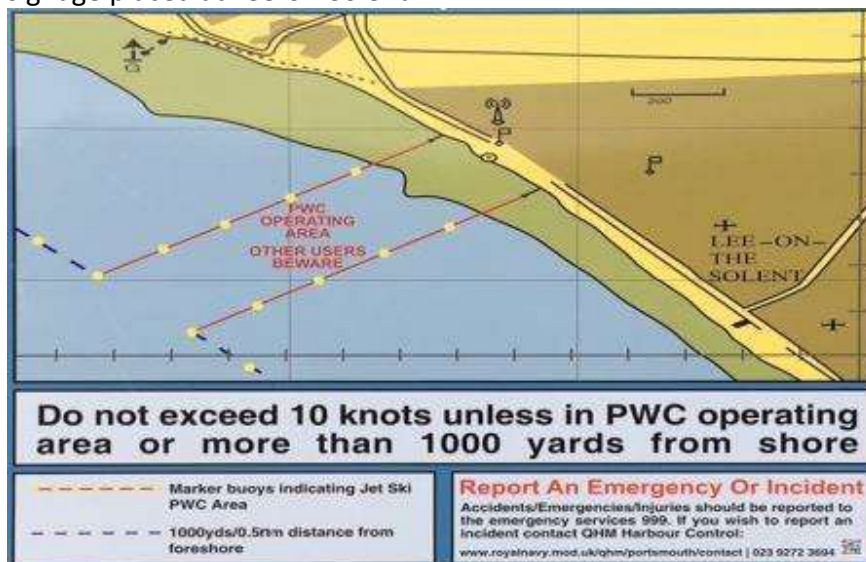
### **Direction No 1/16 [<https://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/qhm/portsmouth/local-notice>]**

In accordance with The Dockyard Port of Portsmouth Order 2005 no PWC use is permitted within the harbour or within 0.5 of a nautical mile from shore outside the harbour without a licence from QHM.

Licensed PWC users may use their craft anywhere within the Dockyard Port of Portsmouth, but all users must obey the Speed Limit of 10 knots within the harbour or within 0.5 nm (1000 yards) from the Low Water springs line (General Direction 4/13) except in specially designated areas. At all times, PWC operators are to operate their craft responsibly and remain a safe distance from other water users, particularly when operating at high speed.

### **DESIGNATED AREA - LEE ON SOLENT**

This area is marked by yellow buoys at the east and west limits extending out from the groynes either side of the slipway. A buoy is placed either side of the outermost bouys, indicating the extent of the 1000yd (0.5nm) distance from shore. Within this area, PWCs, commonly known as jet skis, are authorised to exceed 10 knots. PWC operators remain responsible for their own safety and that of other water users and they are to ensure they remain a safe distance from other craft and swimmers at all times. The image below shows the inshore arrangements and signage placed at Lee-on-Solent.



### **DESIGNATED AREA - EASTNEY**

A PWC area is established 600m south of the beach at Eastney and 400m west of the approaches to the Langstone Harbour entrance. This area is not marked by buoys.

## River Hamble

Link: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/thingstodo/riverhamble/waterways/byelaws>

Harbour Contact: 01489 576387

VHF Channel 68

4. No vessel, except those listed in paragraphs 3(i) to 3(v), shall proceed at a speed of greater than 6 knots through the water (*from No 1 pile at the entrance, extending up-river*).

5. The master of a vessel in the river shall navigate the vessel with care and caution and in such a manner and at such a speed as shall not cause nuisance, annoyance, excessive wash, damage or injury nor danger of damage or injury to any other vessel, person, or property in the river nor to the banks of the river or any person or property thereon.

24. A person shall not navigate any vessel in the river whilst under the influence of drink or drugs to such an extent as to be incapable of taking proper control of the vessel.

27. No person or persons shall engage in water-skiing, aquaplaning, parakiting or any similar activity or in the towing of such person or persons within the river.





## Chichester

Link: <https://conservancy.co.uk/page/byelaws>

Harbour Contact: 01243 512 301

VHF Channel 14



### The Chichester Harbour Byelaws, 1973

4. The master of a vessel navigating the harbour shall navigate the vessel with care and caution and in such care and caution manner as shall not cause annoyance to the occupants of any other vessel or cause damage or danger to any other vessel or to any moorings or other property.

5. The master of any power-driven vessel shall not, subject to the requirements of maintaining adequate steerage way and control, suffer or cause her to be navigated or driven in the harbour at a speed exceeding **eight** knots through, on or over the water.

21. A person shall not navigate any vessel within the harbour whilst under the influence of drink or drugs to such an extent as to be incapable of taking proper control of the vessel.

24. No person or persons shall engage in water-skiing, aqua-planing, or the like, or in the towing of such person or persons within the limits of the harbour without the written consent of the Conservancy and subject to any terms and conditions they may impose.

## Langstone

Link: <http://www.langstoneharbour.org.uk/boating-byelaws.php>

Harbour Contact: 02392 463419

VHF Channel 68

### Langstone Harbour Byelaws (1994)

5. The Master shall navigate his vessel with such care and caution and at such speed and in such manner as not to endanger the lives of or cause injury to persons or damage to property and as not to obstruct the navigation, manoeuvring, loading or discharging of vessels or moorings or other property.



6. ... the Master of a vessel shall not cause or permit the vessel to proceed over the ground (a) at a speed greater than **10 knots** or (b) in the Langstone Marina approach channel between the points marked A and B on the plan annexed to these byelaws, at a speed greater than 5 knots.

17. The Master of a vessel shall, when required by the Harbour Master or a Police Constable, stop or so navigate the vessel so as to allow the Harbour Master or Police Constable, as the case may be, to board the vessel for the purpose of ascertaining whether any relevant part of these Byelaws has been or is being duly observed.

18. A persons hall not navigate any vessel in the harbour whilst under the influence of drink or drugs to such an extent as to be incapable of taking proper control of the vessel.

51 (1) No person shall engage or take part in water skiing or aquaplaning except with the written permission of the Authority given either specifically or generally and only in such areas as may be designated and in accordance with such reasonable conditions as may be imposed.

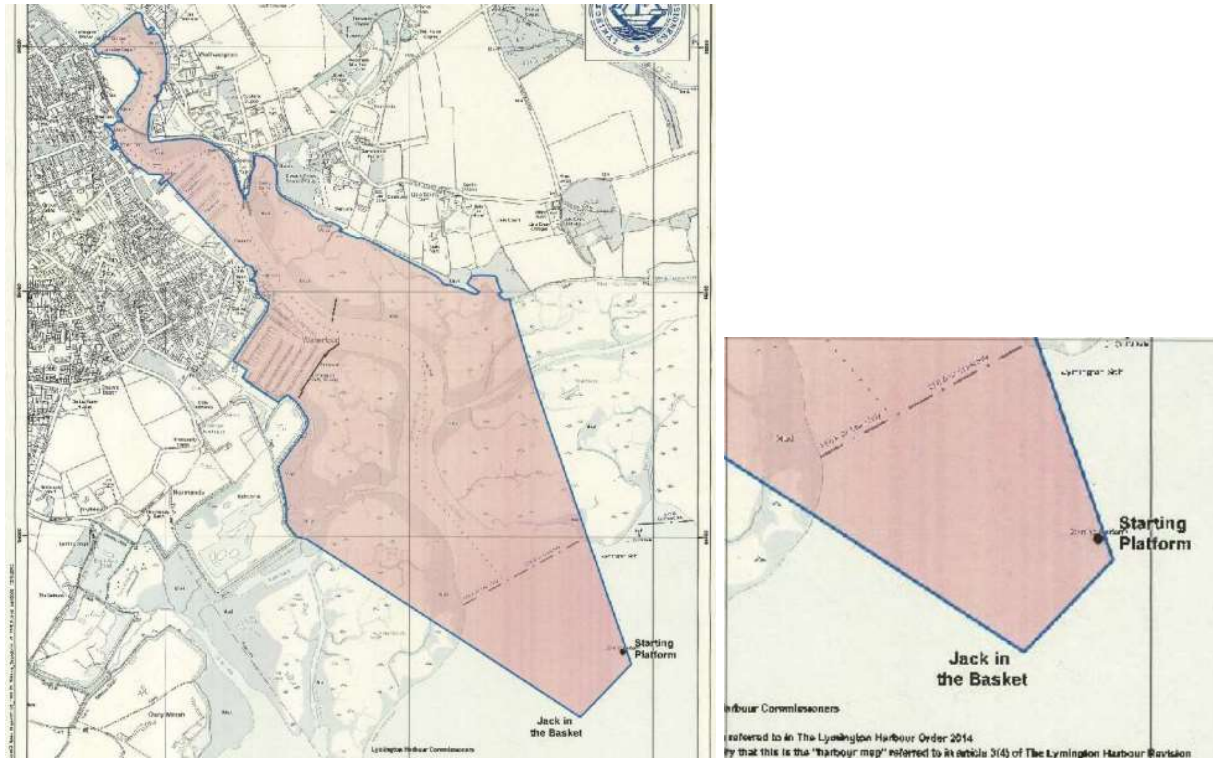
53 (1) Except as provided in paragraph (4) of this byelaw, no person shall ride or navigate or use a jet ski in that part of Langstone Harbour known as the Run being that area of Langstone Channel between the southernmost extremity of Langstone Harbour off Eastney peninsula to the south west corner of the Mulberry Harbour wreck and then south eastwards to a point 30 yards east of the pontoon at Ferry Point Hayling Island such area being shown by cross hatching on the plan annexed hereto.

## Lymington

Link: <https://www.lymingtonharbour.co.uk/safety-navigation>

Harbour Contact: 01590 672014

VHF Channel 66



### Lymington Harbour General Direction 2014

3.2 Speed Limit: Every vessel navigating the Harbour shall unless otherwise authorised by the Harbour Master in writing, subject to the requirements of the Collision Regulations and maintaining adequate steerage way and control, be navigating at a speed not exceeding 6 knots through the water. *There is an advisory limit of 4 knots applies above the wooden wave screens which mark the entrance to the inner harbour.*

3.4 Wash: A vessel shall not be navigated or manoeuvred in any part of the Harbour in a manner or at a speed so as to cause wash to be generated that may cause damage to or endanger the safety of other persons, vessels or property.

3.6 Navigating whilst under influence of drink or drugs: A person shall not navigate any vessel in the Harbour whilst under the influence of drink or drugs to such an extent as to be incapable of taking proper control of the vessel.

4.5 Personal Water Craft: No person shall engage or take part in any activity involving personal water craft within the Harbour except with the written permission of the Commissioners, given either specifically or generally, and only in such areas as may be designated and in compliance with such reasonable conditions as may be imposed.



## Keyhaven

Link: <https://www.visitmyharbour.com/harbours/solent/keyhaven>

Harbour Contact: 01590 645695

VHF Channel 37



## Beaulieu

Link: <https://www.beaulieuriver.co.uk/safety-and-regulations/>

Harbour Contact: 01590 616200

VHF Channel 68



## Cowes and Newport

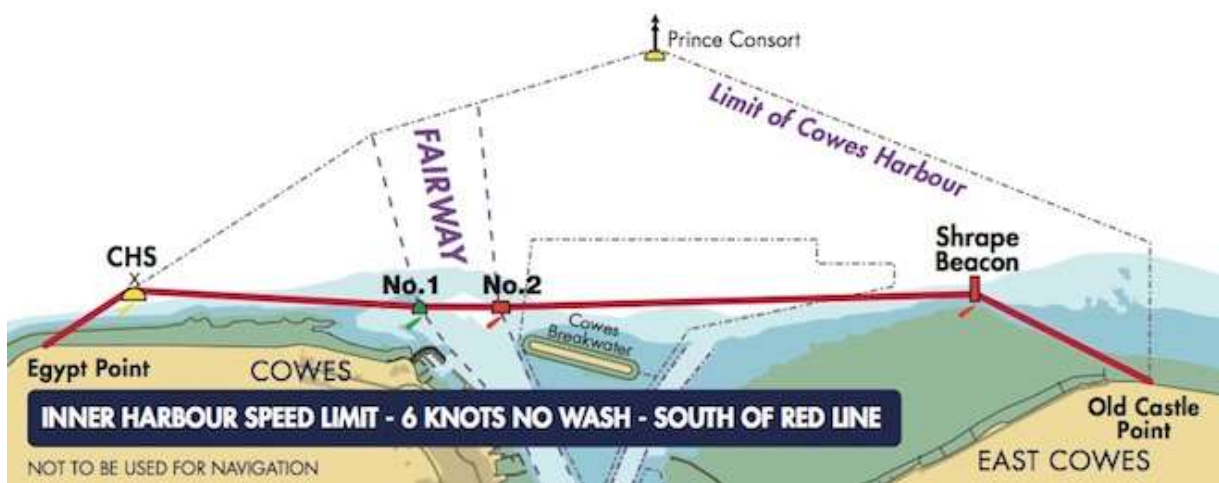
Link: [https://www.cowesharbourcommission.co.uk/general\\_directions](https://www.cowesharbourcommission.co.uk/general_directions)

Harbour Contact: 01983 293952

VHF Channel 69

Cowes Harbour is regulated using a set of General Directions:-

3.2.1. Every vessel navigating the Inner Harbour of Cowes or within 100 metres of the Mean High Water Mark shall unless otherwise authorised by the Harbour Master in writing, subject to the requirements of maintaining adequate steerage way and control, be navigated at a speed not exceeding 6 knots through the water.



Note: in Newport there is 4 knot speed limit between Five Trees Point and Newport Quay (Newport Byelaws)

3.2.2. Complying with the maximum permitted speed will not exonerate the Master of any vessel from the responsibility of reducing speed as necessary in the observance of normal practice of safe seamanship. This includes, but is not limited to, when passing mooring trots, pontoons, vessels alongside quays, jetties or pontoons, vessels engaged in maritime works and when approaching the Cowes Chain Ferry. Vessels shall at all times be navigated with care and caution and in such a manner so as not to endanger the safety of other persons or cause nuisance to the occupants of any other vessel, person or property.

3.3. Wash - A vessel shall not be navigated or manoeuvred in any part of the Inner Harbour or within 100 metres of the shore in a manner or at a speed so as to cause wash to be generated that may cause damage to or endanger the safety of other persons, vessels or property.

3.6.1. No person shall navigate or attempt to navigate a vessel when unfit by reason of drink or drugs.

## Bembridge

Link: <http://www.bembridgeharbour.co.uk/berthing/bhic-bylaws>

Harbour Contact: 01983 872828

VHF Channel 80

7. The master of any power driven vessel shall not, subject to the requirements of maintaining adequate steerage way and control, suffer or cause her to be navigated or driven in the harbour at a speed exceeding eight knots through, on or over the water.

9. The master of a vessel navigating the harbour shall navigate the vessel with care and caution and in such manner as shall not cause annoyance to the occupants of any other vessel or cause damage or danger to any other vessel or to any moorings or other property.

## Ryde

[www.rydeharbour.co.uk](http://www.rydeharbour.co.uk)



## Wootton Creek (Portsmouth QHM)



## Yarmouth



Link: <https://www.yarmouth-harbour.co.uk/harbour-rules-and-safety/general-directions-and-harbour-legislation/>

Harbour Contact: 01983 760321

VHF Channel 68

### Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) General Directions 2012 and The Yarmouth (Isle of Wight) Harbour Revision Order 2011

The Master of a vessel navigating within the Harbour shall navigate the vessel with care and caution and in such a manner as shall not cause nuisance to the occupants of any other vessel or cause damage or danger to any other vessel, person or property

#### Speed Limits

Speed limits are in place and required to be complied with to ensure navigational safety for all harbour users and to avoid the creation of undue wash.

- (a) Every vessel navigating within the Inner Harbour shall not exceed a speed over the ground of four knots.
- (b) In respect of that part of the Outer Harbour enclosed to the east by the pier from the shore to the pier head, a line joining the eastern end of the pier head to Black Rock buoy, a line from Black Rock buoy due south to the shore to the west, and on the landward side by the level of high water within the area so enclosed every vessel navigating therein shall not exceed a speed over the ground of six knots.