

Regatta House

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SOLENT AREA MARK CHANGES 2019

- ❖ **Two yellow race marks outside Poole and one in Southampton Water are added to the list:**

| Code | Name | Latitude N | Longitude W | Location |
|------|--------------|------------|-------------|--|
| 1D | The Rig Shop | 50 41.08 | 01 54.26 | About 1 mile E of East Looe channel buoys EL1 and EL2 |
| 11 | East Hook | 50 40.58 | 01 55.23 | About ⅓ mile SE of East Looe channel buoys EL1 and EL2 |
| 7L | Hovercraft 4 | 50 52.66 | 01 22.42 | Inshore of buoy 7K NW Netley. Lat/long approximate |

- ❖ **There are new names for existing yellow race marks:**

The 2-character codes and positions of these marks do not change, only the names are different.

| Code | Name for 2019 | Previous name |
|------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 2A | Chewton Glen | Hurst |
| 2K | Cowes Radio | 1851 Trust |
| 3E | YachtDataBank | Dick Johnson |
| 3Q | Care Learning Centre | East Bay |
| 3T | CHS | KMS |
| 4C | Club2Class.com | Rigit UK Rigging |
| 4G | Velociwrap Graphics | Cutter |
| 4Q | John Fisher | Robin Culpan |
| 5A | Regatta Lets | Quarr |
| 5K | Suffolk Sails | Alfie |
| 50 | Fairhall West | Stokes Bay SC West |
| 51 | SBSC Central | Stokes Bay SC Central |

- ❖ **There is a new name and changed position/co-ordinates for this listed mark, to the following:**

| Code | Name for 2019 | Previous Name | New Latitude N | New Longitude W |
|------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 3B | NGR | Newtown East | 50 44.36 | 01 23.80 |

- ❖ **There is a changed position/co-ordinates for this listed mark, to the following:**

| Code | Name | New Latitude N | New Longitude W |
|------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 3F | Elephant Boatyard | 50 44.72 | 01 21.95 |

- ❖ **The following marks have been removed from the list this year.** The two marks in Zone 7 no longer exist. Those in Zone 5 have been taken off the list at the request of QHM Portsmouth.

| Code | Name |
|------|-------------|
| 7M | Bird Pile |
| 7X | Hamblecliff |

| Code | Name |
|------|-----------------|
| 5R | Horse Sand Buoy |
| 5S | Saddle |

- ❖ **Do not use old charts or lists!**

- ❖ **Main channel buoys:** QHM Portsmouth and ABP Southampton have requested that **3V West Bramble**, **4A Reach**, **4D Calshot** and **4T Norris** should not be used as rounding marks for racing, although they may be used as passing marks, e.g. to keep boats out of a channel.

Before other main channel marks are used, consideration should be given to shipping needs.

Mark **5Q Outer Spit** may only be used if prior consent has been obtained from the QHM Port Safety Team, which may only be sought in weekday office hours.

SOLENT AREA RACING MARK CODES & LIST

The list contains some 150 of the main racing marks in the Solent and adjacent waters. Each mark is described by a code containing just two characters - one digit & one letter, or two digits. The list is recommended to all clubs and race organisers for use especially when courses are given on the radio, saving air time as the code can be used instead of the name.

The list shows marks that are intended to be used for any suitable race. There are other local marks in the Solent, e.g. off Lymington and Yarmouth, Portsmouth and Bembridge, Cowes and Gurnard. These are intended for local use only. In most cases, the local clubs or associations who lay them do not want them used by "all and sundry" and are grateful for that to be respected.

The whole area has been divided into 9 zones, numbered 1 to 6 from west to east, plus Zone 7 for Southampton Water and Zones 8 & 9 for "specials." The zones are:-

| | | | |
|--------|----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Zone 1 | Western Approaches to the Solent | Zone 5 | East Solent |
| Zone 2 | West Solent | Zone 6 | Eastern Approaches to the Solent |
| Zone 3 | Mid-Solent (Western part) | Zone 7 | Southampton Water |
| Zone 4 | Mid-Solent (Eastern part) | Zones 8 & 9 | Laid Marks and Local Marks |

Each buoy within a Zone has a letter or number to identify it. The unique designation for each mark is made up of the Zone number plus the buoy letter or number. Some examples:

| | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|------------------|----|----------------------|--------------------|
| 2A | Chewton Glen | West Solent Zone | 26 | Hamstead Ledge | West Solent |
| 3P | Cowes Yacht Haven | Mid Solent (W) | 4Q | John Fisher | Mid Solent (E) |
| 5A | Regatta Lets | East Solent | 6F | Bembridge Ledge Buoy | Eastern Approaches |

Within each zone, the marks are in order of longitude from west to east, except for Zone 2 West Solent where they are further split into marks on the mainland side, marks in the middle, and marks on the Island side, to fit in with the pattern agreed between the Lymington and Yarmouth Clubs. There is an exception: new marks, added since the current code system began in 2011, may have a code at the end of their Zone.

Zone 8 is for local use by Clubs to add marks. Zone 9 is for laid marks and starts by listing some commonly used inflatable marks. Sometimes the code alone may suffice (e.g. 9A for Windward Laid Mark or 9H for Outer Distance Mark) but otherwise, the mark and/or its position should be described. There is further room in Zone 9 from 9P onwards to give positions where inflatable marks are often laid, so that only the buoy shape/colour needs to be announced.

Clubs operating only in some of the zones can publish just those Zones. For much of the racing in the central Solent, only Zones 3 and 4 will be needed; Southampton Water racing where only Zone 7 is needed; etc.

The Solent Mark Codes list is published afresh each February, with changes for the year ahead. Normally, the designated code for each mark does not alter, even if the name changes or if a buoy is moved slightly. This removes the need for extensive annual re-programming of GPSs; and the inadvertent use of last year's codes will usually still allow boats to go to the intended mark.

We welcome feedback - to admin@lendycowesweek.co.uk please.

Cowes Week Ltd and SCRA are grateful to all the sponsors. Enquiries about sponsoring buoys for future seasons are always welcome and opportunities are usually available. Marks are often named by businesses, in memory of someone, or with a favourite boat name. Contact admin@lendycowesweek.co.uk.

Peter Bateson

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P.T.O.