

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No 22 (T) of 2017

Port of Southampton – Cowes Week Regatta:

29th July – 5th August 2017

Mariners are hereby notified that the annual Cowes Week Regatta will be held between 29th July and 5th August 2017. During this period heavy concentrations of sailing vessels of all types will be racing in The Solent, in the approaches to Cowes Harbour and Southampton Water and within The Precautionary Area. Mariners should be particularly vigilant and should maintain an efficient lookout for large vessels and sailing vessels and, at all times, should navigate with extreme caution in the area.

Start and Finish Lines

Race Starts on the 'Royal Yacht Squadron Line', which extends from the RYS flagstaff northwards to Lendy Alpha buoy (see below), are planned to commence, in general, at 1000 BST each day and will continue until the last group start at 1255 BST each day. A second start line, named 'the Bramble Line', will be established south of the Bramble Bank (see below), marked by two Committee Boats, one anchored halfway between the Williams Shipping and RORC buoys in an approximate position of 50 47.52'N, 001 18.13'W and the second in a position approximately 4 – 500 metres to the south. A third start line, "RYS Outer Line" will be in use from Tuesday 1st to Thursday 3rd August. The line will be between Lendy Alpha buoy (see below) and Williams Shipping buoy (see below). On those days, an exclusion zone for boats not starting on this start line, will be in place between 0930 and 1010. A fourth start line, 'The Shrape Line', extends from a moored Committee boat, at the southern end of the line, to the Lendy Gamma buoy (see below) may be used.

Additionally, a Committee Boat Start Line will be established daily, location to be decided daily prior to racing. The Cowes Week website (address below) should be checked for exact positions and timings daily.

Race finishes on the above lines may take place from approximately 1400 BST onwards and most racing is expected to have finished by 1600 BST daily.

Sailing mark buoys to be established

Two large, yellow, cylindrical, inflatable marks, 'Lendy Alpha' and 'Aberdeen Gamma', will be laid in the approaches to Cowes Harbour, as follows:

Lendy Alpha – 4.0 cables West South West (254° True) of Prince Consort Buoy, position 50°46'.29N, 01°18'.16W. The buoy will have a yellow light, flashing every 5

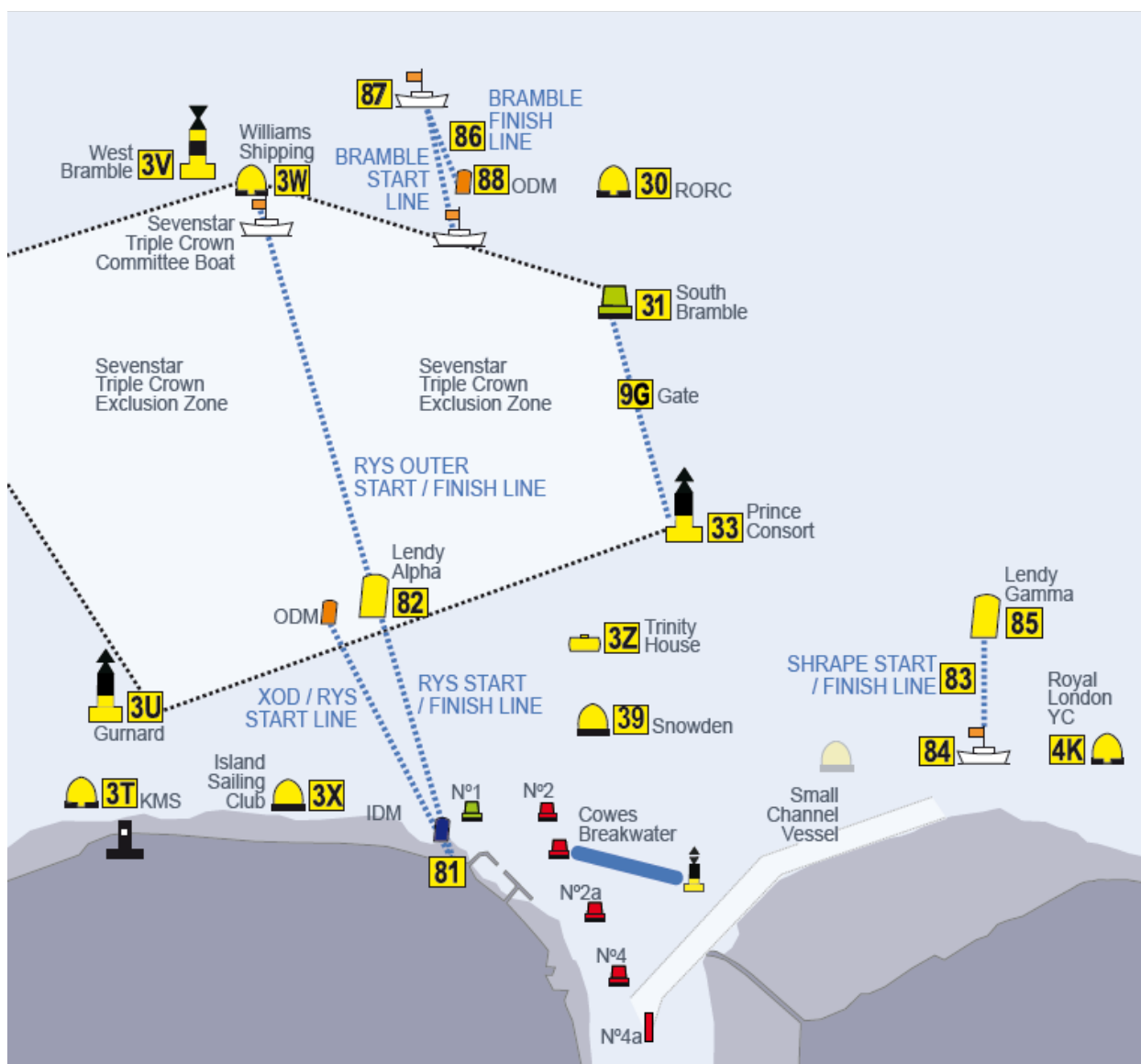
www.southamptonvts.co.uk

secs. This marks the northern end of the Royal Yacht Squadron start line for day boats and the RYS finish line for both Black and White Groups.

Lendy Gamma – 4.3 cables East South East (104° True) of Prince Consort Buoy, position $50^{\circ}46'.31N$, $01^{\circ}16'.90W$. The buoy will have a yellow light, flashing every 3 secs. This marks the northern end of the Shrape start and finish line for both Black and White Groups.

The above buoys will be laid shortly before 29th July and will be removed on 5th August, or soon thereafter.

Additionally, should one of the two Committee boats on the Bramble Line not be on station, a large, orange, inflatable cylindrical mark will be laid in its place as required.



The Precautionary Area

Mariners are advised that ABP Southampton Notice to Mariners No 3 of 2016 (Port of Southampton – Precautionary Area (Thorn Channel)) is in force and provides advice on the tracks followed by large vessels through The Precautionary Area in various tidal conditions (www.southamptonvts.co.uk). As detailed in NTM No 3 of 2016, the Southampton Harbour Master's Patrol Launch (VHF Call Sign "SP" – watching VHF Channel 12) will precede all vessels over 150 metres in length overall within The Precautionary Area showing, in addition to the normal steaming lights, an all round blue light. Additionally, the patrol launch will, whenever possible, be accompanied by 2 RIBs to assist with the escort of large vessels through the Precautionary Area. The RIBs will be flying blue flags with 'Harbour Master' in white lettering and whilst in this role are representing the Harbour Master ABP Southampton.

As permitted by the International Sailing Federation Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS 42.3 (h) – (i)) a boat may use her engine, or other means of propulsion, without retiring, to avoid the risk of collision with commercial shipping that is underway. Thus, boats are advised to have an alternative means of propulsion ready for immediate use if there is any possibility of a close quarters situation developing between them and a commercial vessel.

Within The Precautionary Area, all instructions given by 'SP' or the accompanying RIBs should be acknowledged and promptly carried out.

Cowes Week Firework Display – Speed Restriction

To ensure an orderly departure from the Cowes area following the Firework Display, at 2130 on Friday 4th August, a maximum speed limit of 15 kts will be imposed on all commercial and leisure vessels throughout Southampton Water. The speed restriction will take effect between 2130 and 2300 BST. The only craft exempted from this restriction will be the Red Funnel, Red Jet high-speed vessels, which will indicate their presence by illuminating their quick flashing yellow identification lights during the above period.

A further LNTM will be published with specific details.

Further information on Lendy Cowes Week can be found on www.lendycowesweek.co.uk

This notice will be self-canceling on 6th August 2017.

**Vessel Traffic Services Centre
Berth 37, Eastern Docks
Southampton**

**Captain M Phipps
Harbour Master**

21st July 2017

Owners, Agents, Charterers, Marinas, Yacht Clubs and Recreational Sailing Organisations should ensure that the contents of this Notice are made known to the masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft.