



PORTSMOUTH



COMPETENT HARBOUR AUTHORITY

PILOTAGE EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS SYLLABUS

Examinations will be conducted orally in English.

Candidates are encouraged to contact the Harbour Master prior to examination to discuss the procedures and depth of knowledge they will be expected to demonstrate.

CANDIDATES EXPERIENCE

Candidates will be asked to detail their experience of navigating in the Portsmouth Area and their 'hands on' experience of the vessel(s) for which they are seeking a Pilotage Exemption Certificate.

Candidates will be expected to be able to provide information about navigational equipment and manoeuvring capabilities of their vessels and to put this into the context of their planned navigation within Portsmouth Harbour and its Approaches.

Candidates for Pilotage Exemption Certificates should be able to answer questions on:

PORTSMOUTH PILOTAGE DIRECTIONS

(contained in the "Dues, Rates and Charges & Pilotage Arrangements" Handbook)

Details of the Pilotage Directions including:

- a) The area of jurisdiction
- b) Vessels subject to compulsory pilotage
- c) Pilot boarding and landing places
- d) Knowledge of other vessels in the area subject to pilotage by Southampton
- e) Duties of a PEC holder

GENERAL

- a) International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea 1972, as implemented by M.S. Regulations 1996.
- b) IALA Maritime Buoyage System A – knowledge of system and its application.
- c) Relevant Merchant Shipping Notices (MSNs) and Marine Guidance Notices (MGNs).
- d) Dangerous Substances in Harbour Areas Regulations 1987 and their application to the vessel.
- e) Characteristics, limitations and restrictions of other vessels requiring special consideration.

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

- a) Regulations and Directions for navigation in the Port of Portsmouth.
- b) Dockyard Port of Portsmouth Order 2005, Regulation of Dockyard Ports Act (1865).
- c) Local Notice to Mariners for the Port and its Approaches. Candidates will be expected to display knowledge of contents and application.
- d) Working knowledge of Port Emergency Plans and procedures, i.e. **SOLFIRE**, and Commercial Port Emergency Plan.
- e) Communication procedures in the Port and its Approaches.
- f) Fog routine in the Port.
- g) Prohibited and restricted areas.
- h) Local traffic signals.
- i) Availability of tugs and their use – including the capability of the various tugs.
- j) Availability of rescue facilities in the area, i.e. lifeboats, helicopters etc, including knowledge of base stations and operating procedures.
- k) The names and features of channels, points, lakes, banks and shoals in the Harbour and its Approaches.

NAVIGATION IN THE PORTSMOUTH AREA

A candidate will need to have detailed knowledge of the following:

- a) Courses and distances in the Approaches to Portsmouth and in the Harbour.
- b) Buoy lines and track distances between buoys.
- c) Names and characteristics of navigational marks, buoys, seamarks and their light characteristics. Fog signals.
- d) The set, rate, rise and duration of the tides.
- e) The depths of water in the Harbour and its Approaches including channel and fairway depths, depths at channel buoys and on berths. The relevance of such depths to the vessel for which the Pilotage Certificate is being applied.
- f) Widths of channels and fairways.
- g) Transits leading lights and clearing marks.
- h) Names of wharves, jetties, mooring buoys and landing places.
- i) Traffic movement patterns and critical areas of navigation.
- j) Names of channels, fairways and reference points.
- k) Prominent natural features on the approach to Portsmouth and the Harbour.
- l) Anchorages, their names, positions, limits and usage.
- m) Radar patterns of navigational marks and natural and prominent features.

NOTES ON THE EXAMINATION

A Board of three people representing the following interests will normally carry out the examination:

- a) Competent Harbour Authority - normally represented by the Harbour Master.
- b) Queen's Harbour Master – normally represented by his Deputy.
- c) CHA Pilots – normally represented by the Senior Pilot.

Each participant will have time for asking the candidate questions after which the candidate will be asked to leave the examination room whilst the examiners confer and decide if the candidate has reached the required standard for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate.

If the candidate fails the examination, he will not be eligible to be re-examined until at least one month has elapsed. At any subsequent failure a period of three months will be required before re-examination.