

**WEYMOUTH & PORTLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL  
WEYMOUTH HARBOUR**

**Notice to Mariners No 04/16**

**PERSONAL WATER CRAFT (PWC) (OTHERWISE KNOWN AS JET SKIS)**

1. Weymouth Harbour Authority recognises the right of all users of craft in the harbour to enjoy their recreation in peace and safety (Weymouth Bay is part of Weymouth Harbour). Harbour Byelaws and Notices to Mariners are effective tools in implementing and promoting water safety. PWCs are dangerous machines in the wrong hands.

2. From 1<sup>st</sup> July 2004 a permit has been required to operate a PWC within the limits of the Weymouth Harbour Authority. This permit will signify the Harbour Master's specific permission (Byelaw 34.1) to use a PWC within those limits. Permits are available from the following:

- Harbour Masters Office: Weymouth (01305 838423)
- Beachside Leisure Centre: Bowleaze Cove (01305 833216)

Daily, weekly and annual permits will only be issued following payment of the relevant fee as per the Scale of Charges and completion of a safety briefing. Annual permits are only available from the Harbour Office. A reduced annual permit price applies on presentation of a valid RYA PWC Certificate or equivalent. Slipway launching fees and trailer parking are additional.

3. The following rules apply to PWC operations:

- PWCs may only be launched/used in Weymouth Bay (NTM 09/13):
  - a. Within the designated red buoy access channel at Bowleaze Cove.
  - b. To seaward of the white 8 knot buoys.
- PWCs will **not** be allowed in any zoned bathing area, water ski area (except when towing water skis), sailboard channel, or any other part of the harbour and must not cause wash within 50 metres of other categories of water user.
- All PWCs must be Data Tagged before a permit is issued. The registration number must be displayed on the craft and clearly visible at all times.
- PWCs will not be permitted to launch without valid and appropriate insurance.
- Infringement of these regulations could result in withdrawal of permit and prosecution.
- PWC owners berthed in W&PBC moorings are required to have an RYA PWC qualification.
- Children aged between 12 and 16 may only use a PWC under the direct supervision of a responsible adult, who is on the same craft. Under 12s shall not be in charge.
- Separate rules apply in Portland Harbour.

4. This Notice to Mariners replaces NTM 07/04 which is now cancelled.

NB. 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.

Keith Howorth  
Harbour Master

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016