

SOLENT RACING MARKS 2011

Mark Name and Position Changes 2011

As usual, there are a number of name changes this year, and one slight position change, as follows:

<u>2010 name</u>	<u>2011 Details</u>	<u>Latitude N</u>	<u>Longitude W</u>
Burges Salmon	Now named Goodacre Yacht Repairs	50 47.31	01 12.10
Champagne Mumm	Now named Garmin	50 45.64	01 23.12
DAKS	Now named Peters & May 2	50 45.53	01 14.39
Gales HSB	Now named Seafarers Ale	50 46.15	01 16.65
Lynx Sports	Now named Folkboats UK	50 45.11	01 27.34
Navigate Solutions	Now named Gurnard SC	50 45.97	01 19.45
Peters & May (off Beaulieu)	Now named Cowes Radio	50 46.13	01 22.19
Simon Vigar	Now named South Coast Yachting	50 48.46	01 15.72
Williams Shipping	Moved about 60 metres west to new position	50 47.20	01 18.55

Solent Mark Designations

In recent years, SCRA and Cowes Week have published a list of 90 of the main racing marks in the Solent area using 2-digit identifiers. For 2011, we have agreed to replace the 2-digit list with a new Solent Mark Designations list with over 150 marks, so including far more of those that are commonly used. This list develops ideas put forward by Philip Gage, to whom SCRA is very grateful.

A mark symbols list is also published separately, and this is unchanged apart from new buoy names.

The Solent Mark Designations 2011 list is attached. Each mark is described by just two characters - either two digits or one digit and one letter. The list is recommended for use by all clubs and race organisers where courses are given on the radio, and may be used for course boards if desired.

The whole area has been divided into 8 zones, numbered 1 to 6 from west to east, plus Zone 7 for Southampton Water and Zone 8 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)	Zone 8	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:

2H	Paul Jackson	West Solent Zone	26	Hamstead Ledge	West Solent
6A	Nomansland Fort	Eastern Approaches	6D	West Princessa	Eastern Approaches
4F	Air Canada	Mid Solent (W)	41	East Bramble	Mid Solent (W)

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, an arrangement that fits in with an established pattern agreed between the Lymington and Yarmouth Clubs.

Zone 8 lists some commonly used inflatable marks. Sometimes, the alpha-numeric designation (like 8C) will suffice, otherwise, race committees will need to describe the mark being used and/or its position. In Zone 8, there is also room for local use by Clubs. They may perhaps use this to add marks, or to give the positions where inflatable marks are often laid, so that only the buoy shape/colour needs to be announced on the radio.

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; and so on.

Because the mark designations are in order from west to east, it is intended that the designations will not change for several years, even if the mark names change or if buoys are moved slightly. This should remove the need for annual re-programming of GPSs. Any new marks will be given a designation at the end of their zone list in. The alphabetical list will be updated annually as necessary.

SCRA hopes that Clubs will find this list useful, and will welcome any feedback to admin@scra.org.uk.

Peter Bateson
SCRA Hon Secretary

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