



EAST RIDING  
OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

# SMALL CRAFT USERS

## Rules & Regulations



### OSD LEISURE & TOURISM

The Spa, South Marine Drive, Bridlington, YO15 3JH

Telephone: 01262 678255

Belvedere Boat Launch – Telephone 01262 673761

Hornsea Boat Launch – Telephone: 01964 533116



EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL  
OSD LEISURE & TOURISM UNIT

The Spa  
South Marine Drive  
BRIDLINGTON  
East Riding of Yorkshire  
YO15 3JH  
Telephone: (01262) 678255

All the beaches, promenades and slipways in Bridlington and Hornsea, other than the Harbour, are owned by and under the control of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

Bridlington Harbour, including the slipway at the western end of the South Pier, is controlled by the Harbour Commissioners, and any enquiries about the use of the Harbour should be made to the Harbour Master, Harbour Masters Office, Harbour Road, Bridlington, East Riding of Yorkshire (Tel: (01262) 670148/149).

Belvedere Boat Launch - Tel (01262) 673761  
Hornsea Boat Launch - Tel (01964) 533116

All boats fishing must abide by the Sea Fisheries Regulations set out in the North Eastern Sea Fisheries Byelaws.

## **RULES FOR THE LAUNCHING OF VESSELS**

Rules for the launching of vessels and the operation of said vessels from the East Riding of Yorkshire Council Launch Controlled Slipway at Belvedere, Bridlington, South Side and Hornsea, or any location under the control of East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

**N.B.** Vessels are those that are capable of supporting one or more persons on water and having a mechanical device capable of giving propulsion.

**OR**

Any vessel capable of supporting one or more persons on water that is greater in size than a Topper style dinghy, windsurfer board or small inflatable, including jetski.

**ALL VESSELS MUST BE COVERED BY PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR AT LEAST £2m.**

### **PRIOR TO LAUNCHING**

1. Vessels may only be launched from the Slipway and beach at Belvedere, Bridlington and Hornsea with the permission of the Boating Inspector on duty, who shall have complete discretion as to whether any vessel may or may not be launched. In particular, NO vessel will be allowed to launch:
  - If the launch fee or permit has not been paid.
  - If a valid certificate of insurance cannot be produced for visual inspection.
  - If it is considered to be unsuitable for sea usage.
  - If it is not equipped with the mandatory safety aids.
  - If the weather conditions are deemed unsuitable or small craft warnings by HMCG have been issued.
  - If an excessive number of passengers are to be carried.
  - If the person in charge appears to be incapable of operating the vessel.
  - If the trailer carrying the vessel is no longer, because of deterioration, capable of transporting the vessel in a safe manner.
  - If the person in charge is below the age of seventeen years (document to be shown when in doubt).
  - If the person in charge has been previously in breach of the launch conditions of bye-laws relating to Water Safety.

The person in charge of the vessel shall grant the inspector on duty, or any other authorised official, all reasonable facilities to inspect the vessel and any equipment therein.

**THE DECISION OF THE INSPECTOR SHALL BE REGARDED AS FINAL**

2. Notwithstanding the authority of the Inspector to prevent launching, it is stressed that the personal responsibility for ensuring the vessel is sea worthy, has the required safety equipment on board and is not overloaded with excess passengers, lies with the person in charge of the vessel. Due regard must be given to all advice by the Inspector of potential or actual hazards to mariners (salmon nets, exclusion areas, etc.,) and weather forecasts.
3. All seasonal permit holders must clearly identify their vessels with the identification mark allocated by launch control. The mark should have number(s) at least 15 to 20 cms in height and be positioned high on both sides of the bow. The allocated mark must also be painted on the trailer just aft of the ball joint. Other slipway users must have some form of identification on their vessels and trailers that allows the Inspector to readily identify ownership of either trailer or vessel.
4. Mandatory Safety Equipment is required on all vessels:
  - Life-jackets meeting British Standard Specification for each person on board. Buoyancy aids to SSBNF approval may be worn when operating at a minimum distance from the tide edge and not intending to cruise in deep waters. Whilst on board children must wear life-jackets.
  - Suitable anchor attached to a chain and a minimum length of 25 fathoms (150 feet) of rope.
  - Flares, hand held type, at least two of which must be within the expiry date shown. Mini flares are acceptable, but we strongly advise that hand held type are available on the vessel.
  - Compass - fixed or hand held.
  - Bailer - if not equipped with self bailer.
  - Whistle on lanyard - preferably on each life-jacket.
  - Fire extinguisher - Power Boats.
  - Paddles or spare engine.
5. No vessels shall be launched or used on Authority controlled slipways, beaches and sea unless there is in force, in relation to the vessel, an Insurance Policy covering third party risks, either unlimited in amount, or with a minimum fixed sum to be advised on booking fees each season, per accident by the major marine insurance companies.
6. The vessel when in use must be in charge of a competent person, not under 17 years of age, who shall at all times operate the vessel in a careful and prudent manner and not cause any nuisance or danger to any person or vessel. Due regard must be given to the Rules of Navigation at Sea, the local bye-laws governing speed restrictions and Local Warnings to Mariners notices.

7. The person in charge of any vessel who intends to operate beyond visual range of the Observers at Belvedere, Main Coast Guard Station, or Hornsea must notify the Inspector of his intended route and estimated time of return.
8. **ALL VESSELS MUST RETURN TO THE SLIPWAYS AT LEAST ONE HOUR BEFORE SUNSET.** Failure to do so WILL invoke the Coastguard mounting a search and rescue operation, it being essential to get a search underway before nightfall. Save in exceptional cases, ALL vessels must return to the site they launched from. Should it be necessary to beach or seek shelter elsewhere, the Inspector at Belvedere (01262 673761), Hornsea (01964 533116), or H.M. Coastguard (999) **MUST BE NOTIFIED** of the whereabouts of the vessel and crew.
9. Motor vehicles are not allowed on the slipways, promenades or beaches in the authority except, with the permission of the Inspector, vehicles may use Belvedere and Hornsea to tow a boat on the slipways and across the beaches. It shall be a condition of consent that the instructions of the Inspector are complied with. No vehicle shall be allowed to remain on the beach except for as long as is necessary to launch the vessel. Immediately after the vessel has been launched the vehicle must be returned to the Belvedere car park, and in the case of Hornsea, to the boat compound.

### **GOING TO SEA**

10. All vessels shall proceed directly out to sea not more than 8 knots down the buoyed channel (Bridlington) until well clear of the bathers. A sharp look out for persons bathing, paddling or using the sea must be kept at all times and in particular when approaching the beach via the buoyed channel (Bridlington), the vessel should approach the beach with only sufficient speed to maintain steerage. Extreme caution should be displayed with a readiness to take avoiding action given the circumstances warrant it. Except when launching or approaching the beach via authorised launching channel **NO PERSONS IN CHARGE OF OR HAVING CONTROL OF A VESSEL MAY ALLOW THE VESSEL TO ENTER THE PUBLIC SAFETY ZONE WHICH EXTENDS SEAWARDS FROM THE TIDE EDGE FOR 300 METRES ON ALL BEACHES CONTROLLED BY THE EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL.**
11. **JET SKI'S MUST KEEP 300 METRES SEAWARDS FROM THE TIDE EDGE EXCEPT WHEN LAUNCHING.**
12. All vessels when towing a water skier must have two occupants, one to act as a helmsman and forward out look, the other to watch the skier.

**WARNING:** Salmon nets are often used near the beaches. The nets extend about 360 metres seaward from the beach. Persons in charge of vessels must keep a sharp look out for such nets, must not go inside the area of the nets, and keep well to the seaward side of them. Should notification be received from H.M. Coastguard that conditions are likely to become dangerous, a red flag will be flown at Belvedere Boat Launch, or Hornsea Boat Launch. From Bridlington Harbour a storm cone or blue and white chequered flag must also be accepted as a warning of dangerous conditions.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

13. Persons using the vessel launching facilities at any of the Council's locations do so at their own risk and the Council will accept no liability for claims, proceedings, damages, charges and costs howsoever caused, whether in relation to property or the death or injury to any persons whether in contract or tort in other manner, directly or indirectly as a result or in connection with the boat launching facilities insofar as the same results from the negligence of the Council, its employees or agents.
14. These conditions may be suspended, varied or withdrawn at any time by the Council. Any permit issued may be withdrawn or cancelled forthwith should the person to whom it is issued be in breach of any of the conditions set out in this document.
15. Vessels may not be launched before 0800 hrs and then only during the period from Easter or 1st April (whichever is earlier) until 31st October.

### **VHF RADIO TELEPHONY**

To owners of small craft equipped with VHF Transmitting and Receiving apparatus for use on the International Maritime Band Frequencies.

In addition to owners complying with the Licensing requirement and Operating Regulations as laid down by the Department of Trade and Industry, the East Riding of Yorkshire Council in the interest of safety and avoidance of confusion, requires owners to adopt their "call sign", the number and letter allocated by The East Riding of Yorkshire Council or their boat's name.

### **COMMENTS**

**Launch Site Call Signs = BRIDLINGTON IS "BELVEDERE COMPOUND", HORNSEA IS "HORNSEA COMPOUND"**

**The site receives and transmits on 157.850 MHZ Channel 37**

**The site monitors but does not transmit on channel 16 - The Distress Safety and Calling Frequency.**

**Calls to and from the site to be made on Channel 37 only.**

**Calls to the COASTGUARD = Channel 16 - please note that after the initial call you may be requested to switch to channel 67.**

## ADVISORY NOTES FROM THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME REGULATIONS FOR USE IN CROWDED WATERS

1. Two power boats meeting head on shall alter course to 'Starboard'.
2. Two power boats crossing; the vessel which has the other on her Starboard side shall give way.
3. Powered boats and other vessels; the powered boat shall give way to any boat or vessel which is not mechanically propelled.
4. Vessels to keep course and speed : the vessel with right of way shall keep her speed and course.
5. Vessels overtaking shall keep well clear of an overtaken vessel.
6. Vessels in narrow channels : every powered boat shall, when it is safe and practicable, keep to that side of the channel that lies on her Starboard side.
7. Powered boats when launching from slipway must proceed directly to sea at low speed - no warming up is permitted (this also applies to launching from the beach).
8. Special circumstances: In obeying and interpreting the rules, due regard shall be given to all dangers of navigation and collision, and to any special circumstances which may render departure from the above ruled necessary to avoid immediate danger.

### SOUND SIGNALS

|                |   |                              |
|----------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1 short blast  | - | altering course to starboard |
| 2 short blasts | - | altering course to port      |
| 3 short blasts | - | going astern                 |
| starboard      | - | right                        |
| port           | - | left                         |

The above are notes only - it is the duty of the person in charge of any vessel to observe all statutory regulations and the Rules of the Sea.

### SAILING CRAFT

1. When two sailing vessels are approaching each other :
  - When each has the wind on a different side, the one which has the wind on the port side shall keep out of the way.
  - When both have the wind on the same side, the windward vessel shall keep clear of the leeward vessel.

**BOAT COMPOUNDS  
REGULATIONS FOR SECURITY OF CONTENTS**

1. In order to maintain security, prevent wastage of Police time, and avoid unnecessary expenditure on enquiries **OWNERS MUST INFORM** the Belvedere or Hornsea Boating Inspectors on duty of their intention to:
  - Remove their craft from its berth.
  - Initially place their craft in its berth.
  - Sell their craft whilst in its berth.
  - Create joint ownership of a craft that is registered as one owner only.
  - Have during their absence, third parties working on their craft.
  - The Council take no responsibility for any equipment left in the boat whilst it is berthed in the compound.
2. Subletting of berths is not allowed, the berth allocated being for a craft answering the record description given on the application form.
3. Third parties must be accompanied by the Permit holder and the holder will be held responsible for their actions.
4. No craft, whilst berthed, will carry any sign depicting it is 'FOR SALE'. The seller will notify the Officer of his intention to sell and provide a card bearing relevant details for display in the office.
5. No vehicle may occupy any Berth Space other than actual Permit Holder for that Berth.
6. Good housekeeping must be adhered to - litter etc., should be placed in the receptacles provided.
7. Compressors - the use of compressors in the compounds or on land owned by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council is forbidden.
8. The facilities at Belvedere and the Leisure Boat Compound at Hornsea are strictly for Leisure purposes and no person may use the said facilities for commercial gain.
9. The compound can only accept craft plus engine plus trailer of a total length not in excess of 20 ft. Berths cannot be allocated to owners having craft plus engine plus trailer exceeding 20 ft.
10. **COMPOUND OPENING TIMES**  
Easter or 1st April to 31st October.  
Easter or 1st April to 1st May by request - 24 hours notice required.  
Daily times are available on (01262) 673761 or 678255.  
1st October to 31st October by request - 24 hours notice required.  
The compound will be closed for the winter from 1<sup>st</sup> November to Easter or 1<sup>st</sup> April, whichever is the soonest.
11. **NON PAYMENT OF BERTHING FEES**

Owners leaving their craft in the compound who have not paid the Berthing fee within **ONE MONTH** due notice from the 1st April (Summer Berthing) or the 1st November (Winter Berthing) will, following due notice via letter to the last known address of the owner, have their craft removed from the Compound.