KITE SURFING WITHIN THE POOLE HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS AREA OF JURISDICTION

Following lengthy consultation (including a 28 public consultation) with the Kite Surfing community, British Kite Sports Association and others, the following General Direction was approved by Poole Harbour Commissioners and came into force on 28th March 2014:

GENERAL DIRECTION

1. This direction is given pursuant to article 12 of the Poole Harbour Revision Order 2012 (“the 2012 Order”) in respect of any surfboard or similar vessel powered by a kite (“a Kite Surfer”). This direction shall apply in all parts of the Harbour, as defined by article 4 of the 2012 Order (“the Harbour”).

2. No Kite Surfer shall be operated in the Harbour by any person who is not in possession of a “Kite Surfing Permit”. Such a permit denotes a declaration that the holder has at least 3rd party public liability insurance, a competency statement to confirm ability to self-rescue and deep water pack down, has paid the relevant dues and agrees to abide by appropriate terms and conditions issued by the Harbour Master.

3. Students of BKSA registered schools while undergoing training under the direct supervision of a BKSA accredited instructor will be exempt from the requirement to purchase a permit, however they must wear a “rash” vest provided by their school.

4. Persons issued with a “Kite Surfing Permit” must display the supplied tag at all times when kite surfing.

5. Any person in charge of a Kite Surfer, or is otherwise responsible for its management or operation who fails to comply with this Direction shall be guilty of an offence pursuant to article 15 of the 2012 Order and may be prosecuted.

Mariners are reminded that Radar, AIS, CCTV, telephone and VHF channels are recorded.

Captain B P Murphy
Harbour Master
Terms & Conditions
For Kite Surfing in Poole Harbour

1. Kite Surfers must have a valid permit to Kite Surf in Poole Harbour which must be prominently displayed and presented to any employee of Poole Harbour Commissioners upon request.

2. Kite Surfing in Poole Harbour must be covered by insurance to cover third party risks as a minimum.

3. Kite Surfers must have the competence to self-rescue and full pack down in deep water. Unless they are under training by a BKSA registered training school.

4. Kite Surfers will not allow any person to use their Kite Surf equipment unless that person has a valid permit to Kite Surf in Poole Harbour.

5. Kite Surfing is not permitted in the Harbour entrance or the main channels between the Bar buoy and the Turning Basin.

6. Kite Surfing is not permitted south of an imaginary line running between South Haven Point and Shipstal Point.

7. Kite Surfing in areas where there are swinging moorings shall be avoided.

8. Kite Surfing, launching or landing is not permitted between the shore and the 50m buoyed exclusion zone at Whitley Lake.

9. The preferred area for Kite Surfing is shown on the attached chartlet. The areas marked eelgrass beds should be avoided.

10. If lifeguards have deployed black and white chequered flags indicating a launch/recovery lane, then this shall be used. Kite Surfers must stay well clear of swim only zones.

11. Kite Surfers should be aware that other activities take place throughout the Harbour and that no area is designated for Kite Surfing only.

12. Kite Surfing is only permitted from sunrise to sunset.

13. No jumping or railing equipment is permitted in Poole Harbour.
14. Transgression of these Terms and Conditions may result in the withdrawal of the permit without refund.

Terms & Conditions
Additionally for Training Schools

1. Schools shall pay a fee in advance which will replace the permit otherwise required by their students while under instruction.

2. Each school shall supply uniquely coloured Rash Vests for their students to wear. This replaces the requirement of a permit.

3. A limit of eight students on the water per school at any one time shall apply.

4. Instructors must be BKSA qualified, will wear a coloured Rash Vest and be easily identified as the instructor.

5. A copy of the schools risk assessment must be provided to PHC.

These terms and conditions shall apply in all parts of the Harbour, as defined by article 4 of the 2012 Order (“the Harbour”). This includes seaward of the Harbour entrance and along the Sandbanks Peninsular.

Offences may lead to prosecution under Poole Harbour General Directions for which the maximum fine is £2,500 plus costs.

Kite Surf permits can be purchased online at www.phc.co.uk by using your PC, tablet or smart phone. Alternatively permit application forms can be obtained from the Harbour Office or from the PHC website above.

Training Schools should apply to the Harbour Master.
PREFERRED KITE SURFING AREA IN POOLE HARBOUR