

PORT OF LONDON AUTHORITY

**PORT OF LONDON
RIVER BYELAWS
1978**

(as amended)

with the International Regulations
for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972
(as amended)
and explanatory notes.

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INTRODUCTION

The International Regulations and the Port of London River Byelaws

This booklet first sets out the 1972 International Regulations (as amended by IMO Resolutions A464(XII), A626(15), A678(16) and A736(18)) and as now given effect by the Merchant Shipping (Distress Signals and Prevention of Collisions) Regulations 1996 with notes showing how these are varied by the Port of London River Byelaws 1978 (as amended). Then follow the Byelaws, with cross-references to the International Regulations. The text of the 1978 Byelaws is given as amended by the Port of London River (Amendment) Byelaws 1987, the Port of London River (Amendment) Byelaws 1988 and the Port of London River (Amendment) Byelaws 1992.

The notes and diagrams and other information contained in the Appendices are not part of the International Regulations or of the Byelaws. In particular, the notes appearing in the text of the International Regulations and of the Byelaws, though intended for the convenience of river users, should not be treated as authoritative statements of the law: any legal proceedings will be brought under the provisions of the Byelaws (and of the 1972 International Regulations as applied by the Byelaws), not under this booklet.

GENERAL NOTES

The Byelaws (including the International Regulations as modified by the Byelaws) apply with a few exceptions on the Thames within the port limits (for a description of the port limits see Appendix II on pages 56 and 57), but they do not apply within the Medway approach area (see byelaw 2(1)). The limits of the Port of London and of the Medway approach area are shown on the maps on pages 62 and 63. For the rules governing navigation in the Medway approach area reference should be made to the byelaws of the Medway Ports Authority.

The attention of mariners is called to the provisions of the Port of London Act 1968, section 108, which is set out in Appendix I on page 56. The requirements of that section are additional to those of the International Regulations and of the Byelaws.

Penalties

A person who offends against the Byelaws (including the International Regulations as applied by the Byelaws) is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1,000 for each offence and a daily fine of £100 (except that in the case of an offence against byelaw 53 or 56 the maximum fine is £200 and the maximum daily fine £20).