

## HOLYHEAD – Marine Safety & Information Circular

02/2025

### Swinging Moorings

Issued 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2025  
Expires 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2025

#### **Integrity of Moorings**

In the past boats in different areas of the New Harbour have broken adrift. Some instances have been notified to Port Control – others have not! Please advise Port Control as soon as practical if you do have an incident as its much better for us to find out first-hand and we may be able to assist.

It is recommended moorings be serviced annually by a competent person or organization. Moorings should be lifted, inspected, and re-laid bi-annually.

Toward the end of the season it is suggested, particularly in view of the increasing chance of adverse weather, that **Sailing Clubs, Marinas, and Mooring Associations** consider how to assess the condition of moorings in the areas they are responsible for, and indeed that they remain fit for purpose throughout the year.

#### **Use of Polyester Lifting Slings in Mooring Arrangements**

It is noted at various locations around the Harbour polyester lifting slings have been incorporate as part of mooring arrangements. It is suggested that Sailing Clubs, Marinas, and Mooring Associations determine if/where inclusion of such slings are appropriate in moorings arrangements for the parts of the harbour they lease, and make their findings available to mooring owners.

There is a great deal of guidance available regarding swinging mooring arrangements including section 4.6 of the Yacht Harbour Associations code of practice.

#### **Vessels Remaining on Moorings Over Winter**

If the intention is for some vessels to remain at their moorings over winter it is absolutely the responsibility of the Owner (or Sailing Clubs, Marinas, and Mooring Association) to maintain the mooring.

As a general responsibility for the safe operation of the port the Harbour Authority may inspect moorings above water. If it is felt a vessel could become a nuisance/danger the Harbour Master, under various powers entrusted in him, have the boat moved and placed at a safe location at the expense of

the owner. It is suggested that Sailing Clubs, Marinas, and Mooring Associations make their members aware of this.

It should also be noted that the Harbour Authority will attempt to recover costs associated with salvage of wrecks that are, or could become, a danger to navigation. Owners, Sailing Clubs, Marinas, and Mooring Associations should be aware that a policy cap is placed on salvage operations in most boat insurance policies, often at a very low value. It is suggested that you review any requirements you may have regarding insurance/salvage clauses in mooring leases and that they are sufficient to cover salvage costs.

Enjoy the Harbour.

John Goddard  
Harbour Master  
Holyhead Harbour