

**Lake District**  
National Park



# Lake Windermere Byelaws

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## Introduction

Windermere is a popular and busy lake enjoyed by many diverse groups of people. In addition to quieter pursuits such as fishing, sailing, canoeing, wind-surfing and swimming, the lake is also increasingly being used for sports boating, water-skiing and jet-skiing.

The byelaws exist to minimise potential conflict between activities and users. Please take the time to read them carefully and make sure that your use of the lake does not conflict with the safety and enjoyment of others.

## A Shared Responsibility

Three other organisations work in partnership with the Lake District National Park Authority to manage the lake and enforce the byelaws. They also work together to help you enjoy the lake in a safe and responsible way:

Lake District National Park Authority  
Murley Moss, Oxenholme Road, Kendal,  
Cumbria, LA9 7RL. Email: [hq@lakedistrict.gov.uk](mailto:hq@lakedistrict.gov.uk)  
Tel. 01539 724555:

- Byelaw enforcement
- Windermere Registration Scheme
- Lake patrol

South Lakeland District Council  
Lake Administration Office, Ferry Nab,  
Bowness-on-Windermere, LA23 3JH.  
Tel. 015394 42753:

- Boat registration
- Public jetties and moorings
- Pump out facilities
- Lake patrol

The Environment Agency  
Ghyll Mount, Gillian Way,  
Penrith 40 Business Park, Penrith,  
CA11 9BP. Tel. 08708 506506:

- Pollution
- Water quality

Cumbria Constabulary  
Police Headquarters, Carleton Hall,  
Penrith, CA10 2AU. Tel. 01768 891999



## Index to subjects

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The Windermere Registration Byelaws 1988 and the Windermere Navigation Byelaws 1986 (including the 1992 Amendments) were introduced by the Lake District Special Planning Board (now the Lake District National Park Authority) under Section 13 of the Countryside Act 1968 for the control of power driven vessels and of navigation on Windermere.

The Windermere (Prevention of Pollution) Byelaws 1977 were introduced by the North West Water Authority under Section 5 of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act 1951 to control pollution on the lake. The byelaws are now enforced by the Environment Agency.

# Windermere Registration Byelaws 1988

## General

- 1 These byelaws may be cited as “The Windermere Registration Byelaws 1988”.
- 2 These byelaws shall be applicable to the lake known by the name of Windermere.
- 3 In these byelaws the following words and expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively:
  - 3.1 The word “lake” means the lake specified in byelaw 2 above and all waters other than rivers connected therewith navigable by vessels from Waterhead at Ambleside in the north to the south east side of the Bridge opposite the Swan Hotel at Newby Bridge in the south.
  - 3.2 The word “vessel” includes every description of water craft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water and includes all hovercraft as defined in the Hovercraft Act 1968 and aeroplanes (seaplanes and amphibians).
  - 3.3 The term “power driven vessel” means any vessel propelled by machinery.
  - 3.4 The word “Board” means the Lake District Special Planning Board.
  - 3.5 The term “approved mark” means a distinguishing mark which has been approved by the Board for the purposes of these byelaws.
  - 3.6 The term “annual mark” means a mark of the size and colour and shape prescribed by the Board by resolution for the purpose of indicating that a power driven vessel has been registered in any year.

## Registration

- 4 No owner or other person lawfully or wrongfully having the command, charge or management of a power driven vessel shall knowingly cause it to be brought, kept, let for hire or used on the lake unless it is registered with the Board as provided by byelaw 5.
- 5 A power driven vessel may be registered with the Board in the following manner:
  - 5.1 An applicant for registration of a power driven vessel shall pay to the Board such reasonable sum by way of registration fee for each year of registration as may be fixed from time to time by the Board by resolution.
  - 5.2 An applicant for registration of a power driven vessel shall deliver to the Board on a form of application supplied by the Board such information as may from time to time be prescribed by the Board by resolution.
  - 5.3 Upon receipt of the form of application and of the registration fee the Board shall allocate to the power driven vessel a number and shall prescribe its size and design and shall notify the applicant of this number and of its prescribed size and design.
  - 5.4 Upon registering the power driven vessel in the manner specified in this byelaw the Board shall also issue in respect of the vessel two annual marks.
  - 5.5 The applicant shall cause the number of the size and design prescribed to be displayed on both sides of the hull of the power driven vessel in such a manner and position to be clearly visible.

- 5.6 The applicant shall also cause the annual marks to be displayed on both sides of the hull adjacent to but not touching or obscuring the number referred to in byelaw 5.5 and so as to be clearly visible.
- 5.7 Where a power driven vessel displays an approved mark in a manner and position so as to be clearly visible it may be registered without the requirements of byelaws 5.3 and 5.5 being satisfied.
- 5.8 In the case of a power driven vessel entitled to the benefit of byelaw 5.7 the requirements of byelaw 5.6 shall be satisfied provided that the annual marks are displayed in a manner which makes them clearly visible on both sides of the hull or superstructure.
- 6 6.1 Registration shall be deemed to have taken place when the prescribed number is notified to the applicant together with the supply of the annual marks and shall lapse on the 31st day of December in any year.
- 6.2 Where in accordance with byelaw 5.7 a power driven vessel is exempted from the requirements of byelaws 5.3 and 5.5 registration shall be deemed to have taken place from the date on which the Board notifies the applicant that the power driven vessel is so exempted and supplies the annual marks.
- 7 Registration may be renewed in the manner provided in byelaw 5.
- 8 If a power driven vessel has been registered with the Board and during the year for which registration is valid any of the requirements of the foregoing byelaws as to the display of numbers, annual marks or the approved mark are not complied with then registration shall lapse for so long as the requirements are not so complied with.
- 9 Upon every transfer of ownership of a power driven vessel which is registered with the Board the transferor shall within fourteen days of the date of transfer notify the Board in writing of the number or approved mark of the power driven vessel transferred and the name and address of the transferee.
- 10 Where a power driven vessel is licensed or certificated by the appropriate authority by virtue of S.94 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907 or S.2 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1894 respectively or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof and the same power driven vessel displays an approved mark in a manner and position so as to be clearly visible it shall not be deemed an offence against these byelaws to cause that vessel to be brought, kept, let for hire or used on the lake without it being registered with the Board.
- 11 It shall be deemed not an offence against these byelaws for the following persons in circumstances necessary to the proper execution of their duty to use on the lake a power driven vessel which is not registered with the Board.
- (i) a police officer
  - (ii) an officer of the South Lakeland District Council
  - (iii) an officer of the National Rivers Authority
  - (iv) any person or servant of any person acting with the authority of the Lake District Special Planning Board.
- 12 Any person who knowingly provides the Board with false information when making an application for registration as provided in byelaw 5 or when notifying the Board of a transfer of ownership as provided in byelaw 9 shall be guilty of an offence under these byelaws.

## Penalties

- 13 Any person who shall offend against the foregoing byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding One Hundred Pounds.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Lake District Special Planning Board this twenty third day of August One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty Eight.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE LAKE  
DISTRICT SPECIAL PLANNING BOARD  
was hereunto affixed in the presence of: L.S.

Signed: J. TOOTHILL  
National Park Officer.

The foregoing byelaw(s) are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State and shall come into operation on the 13th day of October 1988.

Signed by authority of the  
Secretary of State

Home Office London SW1  
7th October 1988

Signed: C. L. SCOBLE  
An Assistant Under-Secretary of State

# Windermere Navigation Byelaws 1986

- 1 These byelaws may be cited as the 'Windermere Navigation byelaws 1986'.
- 2 These byelaws shall be complied with by all vessels on the lake known as Windermere.
- 3 In these byelaws the following words and expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively:
  - 3.1 the word 'lake' means the lake specified in byelaw 2 above and all waters other than rivers connected therewith navigable by vessels from Waterhead at Ambleside in the north to the south east side of the Bridge opposite the Swan Hotel at Newby Bridge in the south;
  - 3.2 the word 'vessel' includes every description of water craft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water and includes all hovercraft as defined in the Hovercraft Act 1968 submarines and aeroplanes (seaplanes and amphibians) (but excludes the Windermere Ferry) and in the case of a vessel being used for the purposes of water-skiing the expression 'vessel' shall be deemed to include any tow-rope attached thereto and any water-skier being towed therefrom;
  - 3.3 'Windermere Ferry' means the ferry vessel plying for the carriage of persons and vehicles on the lake between Ferry Nab and Ferry House and any vessel or vessels used in permanent substitution therefor;
  - 3.4 the term 'power-driven vessel' means any vessel propelled by machinery;
  - 3.5 the word 'Board' means the Lake District Special Planning Board;
  - 3.6 the word 'length' in relation to a vessel means the overall length of the vessel;
  - 3.7 the word 'mile' means an International Nautical Mile of 1852 metres;
  - 3.8 the word 'visible' in relation to lights means visible on a dark night with a clear atmosphere;
  - 3.9 the word 'fairway' means a navigable channel running between two areas of shallow water;
  - 3.10 the word 'parascending' means the activity of towing behind a boat at a height above the water governed by the speed of the vessel a person securely attached to a parachute or like device;
  - 3.11 the words 'competent person' shall exclude any person who has not attained the age of 16 years;
  - 3.12 the word 'master' shall mean the person having the command charge or management of a vessel for the time being;
  - 3.13 the word 'drugs' means any intoxicant excluding alcohol.
  - 3.14 A power-driven vessel under sail and not under power shall be deemed for the purposes of these byelaws to be a sailing vessel and a vessel under power, whether under sail or not, shall be deemed for the purposes of these byelaws to be a power-driven vessel.
  - 3.15 A vessel is under way within the meaning of these Byelaws when she is not at anchor, made fast to the shore, aground or attached to a mooring.
- 4 **Byelaws Concerning Lights**
  - 4.1 The master of every vessel shall comply with the provisions of these byelaws concerning lights (that is to say, byelaws 4(2) to 4(12)), in all weathers from sunset to sunrise. The lights prescribed by these byelaws shall also be exhibited from sunrise to sunset in restricted visibility.

- 4.2 a) 'Masthead light' means a white light placed over the fore and aft centreline of the vessel showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 225 degrees and so fixed as to show the light from right ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on either side of the vessel;
- b) 'Sidelight' means a green light on the starboard side and a red light on the port side each showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 112.5 degrees and so fixed as to show the light from right ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on its respective side;
- c) 'Sternlight' means a white light placed as nearly as practicable at the stern showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 135 degrees and so fixed as to show the light 67.5 degrees from right aft on each side of the vessel;
- d) 'All round light' means a light showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 360 degrees.
- 4.3 A power-driven vessel of 12 metres or more in length, when under way, shall carry lights of an intensity so as to be visible at the following minimum ranges;
- a) a masthead light, 3 miles;
- b) sidelights, 2 miles;
- c) a sternlight, 2 miles.
- 4.4 A power-driven vessel of less than 12 metres in length, when under way shall carry lights of intensity so as to be visible at the following minimum ranges:
- a) a masthead light, 2 miles;
- b) sidelights, 1 mile;
- c) a sternlight, 2 miles;
- or, in lieu of the foregoing, an all round white light and sidelights, minimum visibility 2 miles and 1 mile respectively.
- 4.5 A power-driven vessel of less than 7 metres whose maximum speed does not exceed 7 knots may in lieu of the lights prescribed in byelaw 4.4 exhibit an all-round white light and shall, if practicable, also exhibit sidelights, minimum visibility 2 miles and 1 mile respectively.
- 4.6 The masthead lights or all round white light on a power-driven vessel of less than 12 metres in length may be displaced from the fore and aft centreline of the vessel if centreline fitting is not practicable, provided that the sidelights are combined in one lantern which shall be displaced from the fore and aft centreline of the vessel by the same amount and in the same direction.
- 4.7 A power-driven vessel when towing another vessel shall carry, in addition to the lights prescribed in byelaws 4.3 to 4.6 (as the case may be) an additional masthead light of similar intensity in a vertical line above or below that light.
- 4.8 A vessel being towed shall exhibit
- i) sidelights, minimum intensity 1 mile;
- ii) a sternlight, minimum intensity 2 miles.
- 4.9 A sailing vessel underway shall exhibit
- i) sidelights, minimum intensity 1 mile;
- ii) a sternlight, minimum intensity 2 miles.

- 4.10 In a sailing vessel of less than 20 metres in length the lights prescribed in byelaw 4.9 may be combined in one lantern carried at or near the top of the mast where it can best be seen.
- 4.11 A sailing vessel of less than 7 metres in length or a vessel under oars shall, if practicable, exhibit the lights prescribed in byelaw 4.9 or 4.10, but if she does not, she shall have ready at hand an electric torch or lighted lantern showing a white light which shall be exhibited in sufficient time to prevent collision.
- 4.12 A vessel at anchor in or near a fairway, shall carry forward where it can best be seen, a white light visible all round the horizon at a distance of at least 1 mile. This byelaw shall not apply to vessels and boats when at their permanent recognised moorings, if those moorings are out of the fairway.
- 4.13 The Windermere Ferry shall carry headlights in its direction of motion, together with deck illumination.

## **5 Conduct in Restricted Visibility**

- 5.1 The master of every vessel shall comply with the provisions of these byelaws as to conduct in restricted visibility.
- 5.2 Every vessel shall, in fog, mist, falling snow, heavy rain storms or any other conditions similarly restricting visibility, go at a moderate speed, and shall, if necessary, slacken speed or stop or reverse in order to avoid risk of collision.
- 5.3 Every vessel shall at all times carry a whistle or other means of making an efficient sound signal.
- 5.4 A power-driven vessel making way through the water shall, in fog, mist, falling snow, heavy rain storms or any other conditions similarly restricting visibility, sound at intervals of not more than two minutes one prolonged blast.
- 5.5 A power-driven vessel under way but stopped and making no way through the water shall sound at intervals of not more than two minutes, two prolonged blasts in succession with an interval of about two seconds between them.
- 5.6 A vessel at anchor or aground in a fairway, a vessel restricted in her ability to manoeuvre, a sailing vessel, a vessel engaged in fishing and a vessel engaged in towing, shall, instead of the signals prescribed in Byelaws 5.4 and 5.5, sound at intervals of not more than two minutes, three blasts in succession, namely one prolonged, followed by two short blasts.
- 5.7 Every vessel shall, in fog, mist, falling snow, heavy rain storms or any other conditions similarly restricting visibility display the lights required to be carried on vessels by virtue of Byelaws 4.3 to 4.12.

## **6 Steering and Sailing Byelaws**

- 6.1 The master of every vessel shall navigate the said vessel in accordance with the following byelaws relating to steering and sailing and shall at all times maintain a proper lookout by sight and hearing as well as by all available means appropriate in the prevailing circumstances.
- 6.2 When two sailing vessels are approaching one another, so as to involve risk of collision, one of them shall keep out of the way of the other as follows:
  - (a) when each has the wind on a different side, the vessel which has the wind on the port side shall keep out of the way of the other;

- (b) when both have the wind on the same side the vessel which is to windward shall keep out of the way of the vessel which is to leeward;
- (c) if a vessel with the wind on the port side sees a vessel to windward and cannot determine with certainty whether the other vessel has the wind on the port or on the starboard side, she shall keep out of the way of the other.

For the purposes of this byelaw the windward side shall be deemed to be the side opposite to that on which the mainsail is carried.

- 6.3 When two power-driven vessels are meeting head on, or nearly head on, so as to involve risk of collision, each shall alter her course to starboard so that each may pass on the port side of the other.
- 6.4 When two power-driven vessels are crossing so as to involve risk of collision, the vessel which has the other on her own starboard side shall keep out of the way and shall if the circumstances of the case admit, avoid crossing ahead of the other vessel.
- 6.5 When a power-driven vessel and a sailing vessel are proceeding in such directions as to involve risk of collision, the power-driven vessel shall keep out of the way of the sailing vessel.
- 6.6 When two vessels, one of which (whether or not fitted with propelling machinery or carrying sails) is being manually propelled solely by the use of oars, are proceeding in such directions as to involve risk of collision, the vessel which is not under oars shall keep out of the way of the other.
- 6.7 Where by any of these byelaws one of the two vessels is to keep out of the way, the other shall keep her course and speed. When, from any cause, the latter vessel finds herself so close that collision cannot be avoided by the action of the giving-way vessel alone, she shall also take such action as will best aid to avert collision.
- 6.8 Every vessel which is directed by these byelaws to keep out of the way of another vessel shall, so far as possible, take positive early action so as to ensure a safe passing distance, and shall, if the circumstances of the case admit, avoid crossing ahead of the other.
- 6.9 Every power-driven vessel which is directed by these byelaws to keep out of the way of another vessel shall, on approaching her, if necessary, slacken her speed or stop or reverse.
- 6.10 If a power-driven vessel is in any circumstances unable to manoeuvre in compliance with these byelaws, she shall sound the letter 'D' in the Morse Code (that is to say one long blast followed by two short blasts) to indicate 'I am unable to give way'. It shall then be the duty of the other vessel to keep clear.
- 6.11 Notwithstanding anything contained in these byelaws, every vessel overtaking any other vessel shall keep out of the way of the overtaken vessel.
- 6.12 When two power-driven vessels are approaching, from approximately northerly and southerly directions respectively, a pier or landing stage preparatory to going alongside it and both vessels are at nearly equal distance therefrom, the vessel which is to the northward of the other shall give way and allow the other vessel to go alongside first. If, owing to miscalculation of distance, any doubt exists as to which vessel is alongside first, the vessel which is to southward of the other shall sound 1 long blast to indicate 'I am going alongside' and that other vessel shall acknowledge by sounding 3 short blasts.

- 6.13 If necessary to attract attention in the interests of safety, one prolonged blast shall be sounded by a power-driven vessel when starting from any pier or landing stage.
- 6.14 All vessels shall, whenever possible, pass astern of the Windermere Ferry. Whether passing astern or ahead, vessels shall not pass nearer than two ferry lengths (60 metres) of the said ferry except that no vessel shall pass between the said ferry and the shore when the said ferry is within three ferry lengths (90 metres) of the shore.

**7 Interference with Windermere Iron Steamboat Company Limited.** Notwithstanding anything contained in these byelaws, the master of any vessel shall not intentionally or recklessly hamper the safe passage of a vessel of Windermere Iron Steamboat Company Limited in the areas of the lake specified in byelaw 11.1 (a), (c) and (d).

**8 Reckless Navigation.** No master of any vessel on the Lake shall navigate it recklessly.

**9 Navigating Without Due Care And Attention.** No master of any vessel shall navigate it without due care and attention or without reasonable consideration for other vessels or for the public using the Lake.

**10 Drunken Navigation**

No master of any vessel or any other person shall navigate it while unfit to do so through drink or drugs.

**11 Speed Limits**

11.1 No master of a vessel shall knowingly cause or permit it to be navigated at a greater speed than 6 miles per hour (eleven kilometres) through the waters of the Lake in any of the following areas:

- (a) at the northern end of the Lake, the area north of a straight line drawn from Wansfell Boathouse (on the eastern shore) (O.S. NY 381 025) to the Green Tuft (O.S. NY 374 020) and thence to Fisherty How (on the western shore).(O.S. NY 373 018);
- (b) in White Cross Bay the area bounded by a straight line drawn between the White Cross erected on the northern shore of the bay (O.S. NY 389 005) and the westernmost point of the southern shore (O.S. NY 391 001);
- (c) in the vicinity of Bowness Bay and Belle Isle the area bounded by:
  - (i) a straight line drawn from the north-eastern corner of the house known as 'Strawberry Gardens' (on the western shore) (O.S. SD 388 975) through the northernmost point of Lady Holme (O.S. SD 398 975) thence to the northernmost point of Roughholme (O.S. SD 399 980) and thence to the northernmost point of the house known as 'Rayrigg Hall' (on the eastern shore) (O.S. SD 403 981);
  - (ii) a straight line drawn from The Ferry Landing (on the western shore) (O.S. SD 391 957) to Ferry Nab (on the eastern shore) (O.S. SD 396 958);
- (d) at the southern end of the lake the area south of a straight line drawn from Ringing Crag (on the eastern shore) (O.S. SD 382 883) to a point on the western shore at O.S. SD 378 883;

- (e) this Byelaw shall not apply to any person undertaking an attempt on a British National and/or World Water Speed Record, officially approved by the Lake District Special Planning Board and by and held under the rules and supervision of the Royal Yachting Association and the Union Internationale Motonautique;

## **12 Young Persons**

- 12.1 No power-driven vessel of greater capacity than 4 brake horse power or 3 kilowatts, according to the manufacturers' specification for engine measurement, shall be navigated by a person under the age of 16 years.

## **13 Water Skiing**

- 13.1 The master of a power-driven vessel shall not knowingly cause or permit it to be used for the purposes of water-skiing except in accordance with the following paragraphs;
  - (a) when towing a water skier the vessel shall carry two competent persons, one of whom shall navigate the vessel and the other of whom shall watch the water skier and relay his signals to the navigator;
  - (b) the vessel shall be equipped with a mirror so constructed and fixed as to enable the navigator of the vessel to observe the water-skier and vessels to the rear of his vessel.
- 13.2 The master of a power-driven vessel shall not knowingly cause or permit it to tow more than two water-skiers at any one time. Provided that this byelaw shall not apply to any person who has first obtained the written approval of the Lake District Special Planning Board.
- 13.3 No water skier shall ski in such a manner as to cause danger or give reasonable cause for annoyance to any other vessel or member of the public using the lake.
- 13.4 No water skier on the lake shall ski while unfit to do so through drink or drugs.

## **14 Parascending**

No person shall knowingly cause or permit to be used any vessel for the purposes of parascending unless the prior written approval of the Lake District Special Planning Board has first been obtained.

## **15 Avoidance Of Immediate Danger**

In obeying and construing these Byelaws due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigation and collision and to any special circumstances, including the limitations of the craft involved, which may render a departure from the above Byelaws necessary in order to avoid immediate danger.

## **16 Aeroplanes And Hovercraft**

No person shall knowingly cause or permit to be navigated on the surface of the lake any vessel which is an aeroplane or hovercraft unless the prior written approval of the Lake District Special Planning Board has first been obtained.

## **17 Restricted Navigation In Certain Bays**

- 17.1 The master of a vessel shall comply with the byelaws relating to restricted navigation in certain bays.

- 17.2 No power-driven vessel shall be navigated for pleasure purposes in that part of the lake known as Pull Wyke Bay west of a straight line drawn between (O.S. NY 369 024) on the northern shore of the bay and (O.S. NY 368 021) on the southern shore of the bay between 1 March and 1 August in any year.

Provided that it shall not be an offence under this byelaw for any person to navigate under power in the said Bay for the purpose of mooring or leaving a mooring lawfully granted by the South Lakeland District Council or for the purpose of making lawful access to and from the shore.

- 17.3 a) No vessel shall be navigated for pleasure purposes propelled otherwise than by hand in that part of the lake known as High Wray Bay to the west of a line 88.39 metres in length marked by buoys drawn between the boathouse on the northern shore of the bay (O.S. NY 376 005) and the boathouse on the southern shore (O.S. NY 377 004)
- b) The area specified in paragraph (a) of this byelaw shall at all times be a public bathing place.

## **18 Noise And Silencers**

- 18.1 The master of every vessel propelled by an internal combustion engine shall comply with the byelaws relating to the emission of noise and the fitting of silencers.

- 18.2 Every vessel propelled by an internal combustion engine shall be fitted with a silencer expansion chamber or other contrivance suitable and sufficient for reducing as far as may be reasonable the noise caused by the escape of the exhaust gases from the engine.

- 18.3 (a) No vessel propelled by an internal combustion engine shall be used on the lake so that the exhaust gases from the engine escape into the atmosphere without first passing through the silencer, expansion chamber or other contrivance required by these byelaws to be fitted;
- (b) Every such silencer expansion chamber or other contrivance shall at all times while the vessel is used on the Lake be maintained in good and efficient working order and shall not have been altered in such a way that the noise caused by the escape of the exhaust gases is made greater by the alteration.

Provided this byelaw shall not apply to any person undertaking on the lake an attempt on a British National and/or World Water Speed Record officially approved by and held under the rules and supervision of the Royal Yachting Association or the Union Internationale Motonautique.

## **19 Notice Of Accidents**

- 19.1 If in any case owing to the presence of a vessel in or on the Lake an accident occurs whereby any vessel is damaged or personal injury is caused to any person, each and every vessel involved shall stop as soon as is practicable and the master of each vessel shall, if required to do so by any person having reasonable grounds for so requesting, give his name and address and also the name and address of the owner and the name and registration number, if any, of the vessel.

- 19.2 The master of every vessel which, through accident or other similar cause has sunk or is stranded in the Lake shall forthwith give notice to the South Lakeland District Council Lake Warden or to the Police of the position of such vessel.

**20            Directions Of Lake Wardens, Police Etc.,**

The master of every vessel shall obey and conform to the directions of any authorised officer of the South Lakeland District Council, the Lake District Special Planning Board or any Police Constable relating to the navigation, mooring or unmooring of such vessel.

**21            Interference With Craft**

21.1 No person other than a duly authorised officer of the South Lakeland District Council, the Lake District Special Planning Board or any Police Constable acting in the course of his duty shall cast off the mooring line or lines of any vessel unless he does so with the permission of the owner or master of the vessel.

21.2 No person shall start the engine or in any way interfere with the machinery of any vessel without the permission of the owner or master of the vessel.

**22            Defence Of Due Diligence**

In any proceedings taken to enforce any provision of these Byelaws which are taken against a person by virtue of the fact that he is the master of a vessel it shall be a defence for the person charged to prove that he used all due diligence to secure compliance with the provision.

**23            Enforcement Of Byelaws**

In addition to the powers of enforcement conferred by Section 90 (6) of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 the power to enforce these byelaws shall be exercisable by any Police Constable.

**24            Power Of Arrest**

For the purposes of these Byelaws it shall be lawful for a police constable to arrest without warrant a person committing an offence under Byelaws 10 and 13.4.

**25            Restricted Launching And Retrieval Of Powered Boats At Waterhead**

No person shall without lawful authority launch or retrieve any powered boat from the beach at Waterhead between a point adjacent to the Windermere Iron Steamboat Company Limited pier at the south end thereof and a point to the north abutting the boundary of the Wateredge Hotel otherwise than in accordance with the provisions as may be laid down from time to time by the South Lakeland District Council.

**26            Penalties**

Any person offending against any of the foregoing byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £400.00.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Lake District Special Planning Board this third day of September 1986.

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE LAKE  
DISTRICT SPECIAL PLANNING BOARD  
was hereunto affixed in the presence of: L.S

Signed: J. TOOTHILL  
National Park Officer.

The foregoing byelaws are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State and shall come into operation on the 4th day of December 1986.

Signed by authority of the  
Secretary of State  
Home Office London SW1  
26 November 1986

Signed: Q. J. THOMAS  
An Assistant Under Secretary of State.

## **b) Windermere Navigation (Amendment) (No. 1) Byelaws 1992**

- 1 These byelaws may be cited as the Windermere Navigation (Amendment) (No 1) Byelaws 1992.
- 2 These byelaws shall be applicable to the lake known as Windermere.
- 3 The Windermere Navigation Byelaws 1986 are hereby amended as follows:

- (1) In byelaw 3 there shall be added the following further definitions:

“3.16 For the purposes of these byelaws, the expression “water-skiing” means those activities whereby persons are towed on water by a power-driven vessel whilst:

- (a) being supported by means of:

- (i) a solid ski or skis; or
- (ii) another shaped solid device attached to the feet or held between the body and the water; or

- (b) being towed barefoot; but no other activity whatsoever including, for the avoidance of doubt, any activity whereby a person is towed by a power-driven vessel whilst being supported in or on the water by any inflatable device which is for the time being inflated, and the term “water-skier” shall be construed accordingly;

3.17 “inflatable device” means anything designed, adapted or constructed solely for the purpose of recreational use in conjunction with a power-driven vessel, whether or not the same is used to support a person or persons in or on the water and which maintains its shape and derives its buoyancy from being inflated, but excludes any inflatable vessel.”

- (2) In byelaw 6 there shall be added the following further byelaw:  
“6.15 No master of a power-driven vessel shall knowingly cause or permit it to be used for the purposes of towing any inflatable device.”

- (3) In byelaw 11 there shall be added the following further byelaw:  
“11.2 No master of a power-driven vessel shall knowingly cause or permit it to be navigated at a greater speed than 6 miles per hour (11 kilometres per hour) when towing another vessel.”

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Lake District Special Planning Board this 7th day of July 1992

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE LAKE  
DISTRICT SPECIAL PLANNING BOARD

was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

Signed: J. TOOTHILL  
National Park Officer

The foregoing byelaws are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State and shall come into operation on the 23rd day of August 1993

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

12 August 1993  
Home Office

Signed: M. E. HEAD

# **Windermere Navigation (Amendment) (No. 2) Byelaws 1992**

- 1 These byelaws may be cited as the Windermere Navigation (Amendment) (No 2) Byelaws 1992.
- 2 These byelaws shall be applicable to the lake known as Windermere.
- 3 The Windermere Navigation Byelaws 1986 are hereby amended as follows:  
In byelaw 11 there shall be added the following further byelaws:  
“11.3 Save as hereinafter provided, no master of a power-driven vessel shall knowingly cause or permit it to be navigated at a greater speed than 10miles per hour (16.093) Kilometres per hour) through those waters of the lake which fall outside the areas defined for the purposes of byelaw 11.1 (a) to (d) inclusive;  
11.4 The use of a power-driven vessel in circumstances necessary to the proper execution of his duty by any of the following persons, that is to say:
  - (a) a police officer;
  - (b) an officer of the National Rivers Authority;
  - (c) any person, or employee of any person, employed by or acting with the authority of the Lake District Special Planning Board; or
  - (d) any person taking part in rescue operations or in securing the safety of persons on the lakeshall not be deemed an offence against these byelaws.”
- 4 Nothing contained in byelaws 11.3 and 11.4 shall prevent the navigation of a power-driven vessel at a speed exceeding 10miles per hour (16.093 kilometres per hour) until the expiration of five years from the coming into operation of these byelaws.
- 5 From the date when these byelaws take effect by virtue of byelaw 4, the following byelaws shall be revoked in the manner specified herein:
  - (1) In byelaw 3.2, the last part of the byelaw, from the words “and in the case of” in line 5 to the end.
  - (2) Byelaw 3.16, the whole paragraph.
  - (3) Byelaw 11.1(e), the whole paragraph.
  - (4) Byelaw 13, the whole byelaw.
  - (5) In byelaw 18.3, the last part of the byelaw, from the words “PROVIDED this byelaw” in line 10 to the end

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Lake District Special Planning Board this 7th day of July 1992

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE LAKE  
DISTRICT SPECIAL PLANNING BOARD

was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

Signed: J. TOOTHILL  
National Park Officer

The foregoing byelaws are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions and shall come into force on the 29th day of March 2000

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State 29 February 2000

Signed: Chris Mullin  
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State  
Department of Environment,  
Transport and the Regions

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Byelaws as confirmed by authority of the Secretary of State on 29 february 2000.

Signed: P. H. Tiplady  
National Park Officer

# **Windermere Navigation (Amendment) (No.3) Byelaws 1992**

- 1 These byelaws may be cited as the Windermere Navigation (Amendment) (No.3) Byelaws 1992.
- 2 These byelaws shall be applicable to the lake known as Windermere.
- 3 The Windermere Navigation Byelaws 1986 are hereby amended as follows:  
In byelaw 26 there shall be deleted "£400.00" in the second line and there shall be substituted the words "level 2 on the standard scale".

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Lake District Special Planning Board this 7th day of July 1992

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE LAKE  
DISTRICT SPECIAL PLANNING BOARD  
was hereunto affixed in the presence of:

Signed: J. TOOTHILL  
National Park Officer

The foregoing byelaws are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State and shall come into operation on the 7th day of June 1993

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

28th May 1993  
Home Office  
London SW1

Signed: M. E. HEAD  
An Assistant Under-Secretary of State

## **National Rivers Authority**

# **Windermere (Prevention of Pollution) Byelaws 1977**

The National Rivers Authority in pursuance of the provisions of Section 5 of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act 1951 Do Hereby make the following byelaws:

- 1 Subject to byelaw 3, no person being the owner or the hirer thereof shall keep or use or knowingly permit to be kept or used on the stream any vessel provided with a sanitary appliance of such design that polluting matter normally passes or can pass into the stream.
- 2 Where any vessel is fitted with a sanitary appliance such appliance shall be so designed, constructed and at all times maintained as reasonably to prevent any such passage as aforesaid.
- 3 The owner or master of every vessel present on the stream at the date of coming into force of these byelaws, and of every vessel entering the stream on or after such date, if such vessel is fitted with sanitary arrangements or appliances so designed or constructed as to permit the passage into the stream of polluting matter, shall without delay give notice to the Authority specifying the nature of such arrangements aforesaid and shall, upon being requested by the Secretary and Solicitor of the Authority or other Officer of the authority so to do, afford such Officer facilities for the taking by him of such steps by way of sealing or otherwise as may be reasonably necessary for preventing the passage into the stream of polluting matter from the vessel so long as the vessel remains on the stream, and so long as the vessel remains on the stream no interference or alteration shall be made with the sealing or other steps so taken as aforesaid except with the approval of the Authority. Any notice under this byelaw shall be given in writing to the National Rivers Authority, Chertsey Hill, London Road, Carlisle CA1 2QX.
- 4 No person shall discharge polluting matter into the stream from any sanitary appliance used thereon.
- 5 In these byelaws the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say:  
“Authority” means the National Rivers Authority.  
“hirer” means any person to whom a vessel shall be on hire or any person in charge thereof by the appointment or permission of the owner.  
“person” includes a body corporate.  
“the stream” includes the waters of Windermere.  
“sanitary appliance” means any device or apparatus for the reception of polluting matter.  
“polluting matter” means human excreta.  
“vessel” includes a ship, boat and craft of every kind however navigated, propelled or moved, including those permanently moored.
- 6 The foregoing byelaws came into force on the 1st January 1977.

# **Notes to**

## **a) Windermere Byelaws 1986**

### **Control of Parascending, Landing Aeroplanes and use of Hovercraft**

#### **Guidelines**

Henceforth it will be necessary before using the surface of Windermere for the purposes of the above activities to obtain the consent of the Lake District National Park Authority.

The Authority has issued the following guidelines for the benefit of those wishing to use the lake for such purposes.

#### **Notice of activity or event**

The Authority will require a minimum of two months notice prior to the proposed date of the event in which to consult the District and Parish Councils and the Lake User Committee. Wherever possible greater notice would be appreciated.

#### **Avoidance of Peak Periods**

There will be an absolute ban on bank holiday week-ends unless the proposed venture forms part of a public display sanctioned by South Lakeland District Council. During June, July, August and September no more than one consent per month for parascending will be sanctioned. Aircraft and hovercraft will not normally be sanctioned at all during that period.

#### **Compliance with Statutory Safety Requirements**

Applicants must show that they have given notice to the Air Traffic Control Centre and that they will comply with the Air Navigation Order 2000 (parascending and aeroplanes).

#### **Third Party Insurance**

A certificate must be produced with the application.

#### **Areas of Activity**

Applicants will be required to show on a map where they propose to carry on their activity. For nature conservation reasons certain areas of the lake may be prohibited. Further information on this aspect may be obtained by contacting Phil Taylor at the Authority's office in Kendal (Tel: 01539 724555).

#### **Rescue Vessels**

An undertaking that a rescue vessel will be available must be given.

#### **Specified Dates**

Consent will only be given in respect of specified dates.

## **Public Flights**

Consent will not be given for flights involving public transportation or instruction i.e. flights required to begin and end at a licensed aerodrome as defined in Article 101 of the Air Navigation Order 2000 (as amended) (see below).

## **Publicity**

Applicants will be required to advertise in a local newspaper the fact that consent has been granted together with the details.

## **Extract from the Air Navigation Order 2000 (as amended)**

Aerodromes - public transport of passengers and instruction in flying

- 101 (1) An aircraft to which this paragraph applies shall not take off or land at a place in the United Kingdom other than:
- (a) an aerodrome licensed under this Order for the take-off and landing of such aircraft; or
  - (b) a Government aerodrome, notified as available for the take-off and landing of such aircraft, or in respect of which the person in charge of the aerodrome has given his permission for the particular aircraft to take off or land as the case may be;
- and in accordance with any conditions subject to which the aerodrome may have been licensed or notified, or subject to which such permission may have been given.
- (2) Subject to paragraph (3), paragraph (1) applies to:
- (a) aeroplanes of which the maximum total weight authorised exceeds 2730 kg and which are flying:
    - (i) for the purpose of the public transport of passengers;
    - (ii) for the purpose of instruction in flying given to any person for the purpose of becoming qualified for the grant of a pilot's licence or the inclusion of an aircraft rating, a night rating or a night qualification in a licence; or
    - (iii) for the purpose of carrying out flying tests in respect of the grant of a pilot's licence or the inclusion of an aircraft rating or a night rating in a licence;
  - (b) aeroplanes of which the maximum total weight authorised does not exceed 2730 kg engaged on either:
    - (i) scheduled journeys for the purpose of the public transport of passengers;
    - (ii) flights for the purpose of the public transport of passengers beginning and ending at the same aerodrome;
    - (iii) flights for the purpose of:
      - (aa) instruction in flying given to any person for the purpose of becoming qualified for the grant of a pilot's licence or the inclusion of an aircraft rating, a night rating or a night qualification in a licence; or

- (bb) a flying test in respect of the grant of a pilot's licence or the inclusion of an aircraft rating, a night rating or a night qualification in a licence; or
    - (iv) flights for the purpose of the public transport of passengers at night;
  - (c) helicopters and gyroplanes engaged on such flights as are specified in sub-paragraphs (b)(i) and (iii); and
  - (d) gliders (other than gliders being flown under arrangements made by a flying club and carrying no person other than a member of the club) which are flying for the purpose of the public transport of passengers or for the purpose of instruction in flying.
- (3) Nothing in paragraph (1) shall apply to or in relation to an aircraft flying under and in accordance with the terms of a police air operator's certificate.
- (4)
- (a) Subject to sub-paragraph (c), the person in charge of any area in the United Kingdom intended to be used for the taking off or landing of helicopters at night other than such a place as is specified in paragraph (1) shall cause to be in operation, whenever a helicopter flying for the purpose of the public transport of passengers is taking off or landing at that area by night, such lighting as will enable the pilot of the helicopter:
    - (i) in the case of landing, to identify the landing area in flight, to determine the landing direction and to make a safe approach and landing; and
    - (ii) in the case of taking off, to make a safe take-off.
  - (b) Subject to sub-paragraph (c), a helicopter flying for the purpose of the public transport of passengers at night shall not take off or land at a place to which sub-paragraph (a) applies unless there is in operation such lighting.
  - (c) Nothing in this paragraph shall apply to or in relation to an aircraft flying under and in accordance with the terms of a police air operator's certificate.

# Notes to the Windermere (Prevention of Pollution) Byelaws 1977

The following notes do not form part of the foregoing byelaws but are reproduced here for purposes of information.

## **Penalties**

Section 5, Sub-Section 7, of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act 1951, now enforced by The Environment Agency, provides that any person contravening byelaws made under this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1,000.

## **Sea Toilets**

Owners of vessels with unsealed 'sea toilets' should contact The Environment Agency at the address shown on page 2 of this publication. They will help you comply with the byelaw by giving advice or arranging for the toilet to be sealed.

## **Deposition of Litter**

An existing law under the Water Resources Act 1991, provides that no person shall put into any stream (which expression includes Windermere) any rubbish, refuse or litter.



# Useful Telephone Numbers

**Reporting Byelaw Offences** 0844 225 2922

**Lake Wardens** Windermere 015394 42753

**Boat Registration** Kendal 01539 724555

**Moorings, Boat Storage** Bowness Bay 015394 42753

**Public Slipway &  
Pump-out Facilities** Bowness Bay 015394 42753

**Weatherline** Keswick 0844 846 2444

(+winter fell top conditions)

## Information Centres

Bowness Bay 015394 42895

Windermere 015394 46499

**Police** 084533 00247

**Doctor** Windermere 015394 42496

015394 45159

015394 88484

Ambleside 015394 32693

**Vet** Windermere 015394 88555

Ambleside 015394 32631

**RSPCA** National Number 08705 555999

**In All Emergencies Dial 999 and ask for the Coastguard**

This section does not form part of the byelaws but provides further information on:

## **Windermere Navigation (Amendment) (No. 2) Byelaws 1992**

Byelaw 3 amending byelaw 11.3 contains an incorrect conversion of 10 nautical miles per hour to 16.093 kilometres per hour.

This arithmetic error will be corrected the next time the byelaws are amended. The Correct conversion of 10 nautical miles per hour is 18.52 kilometres per hour.



# The Lake District National Park

We want a National Park for future generations.

A prosperous economy, world class visitor experiences and vibrant communities - and all sustaining the spectacular landscape.

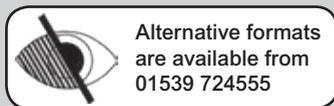
We will work hard to make sure they have it.

Our role is to work with people to:

- respect the past
- care for the present and
- plan for the future

**Lake District National Park Authority**  
Murley Moss, Oxenholme Road  
Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 7RL  
Tel: 01539 724555 Fax 01539 740822  
Minicom: 01539 792690  
Email: [hq@lakedistrict.gov.uk](mailto:hq@lakedistrict.gov.uk)  
[www.lakedistrict.gov.uk](http://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk)

Publication Number 03/10/SP/2000  
Every effort has been made to ensure that the contents  
of this publication are correct at the time of printing.



*In support of our conservation principles, the paper used in this publication is from a sustainable forest.*