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NOTICE TO MARINERS.

FIRTH OF FORTH.

PUBLIC TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

By Order of

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, THE NORE.

To come into force at (time m.) on the (date).

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DEFINITIONS

of terms used in these Regulations.

The Firth of Forth.—All the waters bounded on the east by a straight line joining Elie Ness on the North and Fidra Lighthouse on the South, and extending westward as far as the tide flows—(see Chart at end).

The Forth.—All the waters bounded on the east by :—

(a) A straight line joining Kinghorn Ness and South Point (Inchkeith);

(b) A straight line joining the south point of the Briggs (Inchkeith) and Anthony Beacon;

and extending westward as far as the tide flows—(see Chart at end).

The Port.—The limits of the Dockyard Port of Rosyth are :—

On the East, a line drawn South (true) through the south point of Carron Harbour in the County of Fife to the south shore of the Forth.

On the West, a line drawn North (true) through Carriden House to the north shore of the Forth.

The Dockyard.—H.M. Dockyard, Rosyth.

Merchant Vessels.—All vessels which are not owned, chartered or hired by the Admiralty, trading to ports outside the Firth of Forth.

Small Craft.—All fishing craft, yachts, barges, steamers, ferry boats, and *small* private craft of any kind, which are not owned, chartered or hired by the Admiralty and trading inside the limits of the Firth of Forth.

King's Harbour Master.—The King's Harbour Master, Rosyth, who will be on board the "Columbine" at South Queensferry.

Night. Daylight.—See Section XVII.

Time.—Greenwich mean time as shown by the Post Office clock, Leith.

Thick or Foggy Weather.—Any weather conditions which prevent objects 500 yards off being clearly visible, such as fog, mist, falling snow or heavy rain storms.

SECTION I.—PREAMBLE.

Commencing at m. on, and until further notice, the following regulations are to be observed by all merchant vessels (including small craft, *vide* "Definitions") approaching or moving within the Firth of Forth (*i.e.*, westward of a line joining Elie Ness on the North and Fidra Lighthouse on the South).

2. All orders and instructions given by the King's Harbour Master or his representatives are to be implicitly obeyed, otherwise vessels will be liable to be fired upon.

SECTION II.—ADVICE TO SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS, MASTERS, &c.

3. Shipowners, Agents, Masters of ships and all other persons concerned are advised that, in their own interests and the interests of those whom they represent, they should assist in every possible way to conform to these Regulations.

4. Vessels inward bound should time their arrival off the Firth so that they can "save daylight" at the port to which they are bound.

5. Shipowners and Agents will facilitate the entry of their vessels by giving *previous notice to* :—The King's Harbour Master, "Columbine," South Queensferry (Telegraphic address: "Tidal, South Queensferry"; Telephone No.), of the following particulars with regard to such vessels, so that they may be readily identified :—

- (a) Name of the vessel;
- (b) When due;
- (c) Particulars of appearance, stating any special funnel marks or other distinguishing sign;
- (d) Port in the Firth of Forth to which bound;
- (e) Nature of cargo; and
- (f) Number of passengers.

6. **Ships outward bound** should time their departure so that they will be clear of the Firth of Forth before the commencement of official night.

7. Ships' names, fishing boats' numbers, &c., should be kept distinctly painted and clearly displayed.

8.—(a) It is recommended that each vessel should have as a member of the crew a man who can signal in the Morse Code with a flashing lamp, and can semaphore; and that he should keep a diligent watch whilst the ship is in the Firth of Forth (particularly if anchored in the Examination Anchorage).

(b) The side ladder and a boat should be kept ready for use.

(c) The Wireless Room is to be locked, and no wireless messages are to be taken in or despatched whilst the ship is in the Firth of Forth.

(d) No lights are to be shown, other than the navigation lights, and scuttles are to be effectively screened or cabin lights put out.

(e) The "not under control" and anchor lights should be lit and kept ready to display.

(f) Navigation lights are to be kept well trimmed and burning brightly.

9. Care is to be taken that all flags displayed are showing clearly. If the weather is calm, any flag signal which the vessel is ordered by an Examination Steamer to hoist should be shaken out so as to render it readily distinguishable.

As little smoke as possible is to be allowed to escape from the funnels, and care is to be taken that neither lights nor flags are obscured by it.

10.—(a) **Vessels which are drawing more than 15 feet of water are recommended to proceed to the Northern Examining Station** (see para. 13, and Chart at end).

(b) During thick or foggy weather all mercantile traffic is to cease.

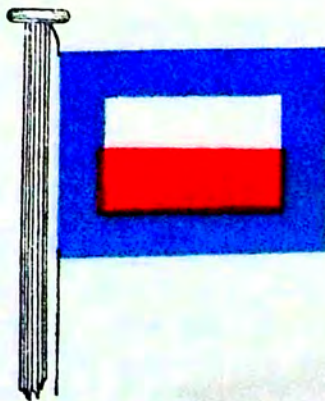
(c) No communication by wireless is to be carried out during the time any ship is in the Firth of Forth, and the wireless rooms are to be kept locked.

SECTION III.—DISTINGUISHING SIGNALS OF EXAMINATION STEAMERS.

11. **Armed Examination Steamers** will be found at the Examining Stations (see Chart at end), and also at the Examination Anchorage near Inchkeith, and will be distinguished by the following means:—

(a) **Each Examination Steamer will be distinguished as follows:—**

By Day.—A blue ensign at the ensign staff, and at the foremast head the special pilot flag (white and red horizontal surrounded by a blue border).
When the Forth is closed three red balls vertical will be hoisted in addition.



(b) **By Night.**—Three lights vertically, 6 feet apart, conspicuously displayed at the end of a yard so as to show an unbroken light round the horizon. **When the Forth is closed** these lights will be red, when it is open they will be white. The above lights are to be carried in addition to the ordinary navigation lights, and must be displayed in such a manner as not to be confused with the masthead light.

NOTE.—"Forth closed" signifies that no merchant vessels are allowed to proceed inwards of the Examination Anchorage.

SECTION IX.—PILOTS AND PILOTAGE.

20. Pilotage will not be compulsory for "Small Craft" (see "Definitions").

With this exception it will be compulsory for all merchant vessels (other than those specially exempted, in writing, by the King's Harbour Master) to have a licensed local Pilot on board when navigating the Forth.

All vessels are to send for and fetch their Pilots if required to do so.

21. Merchant Vessels bound outwards from ports to the westward of the Oxcars are to proceed to the Examination Anchorage in use and discharge their Pilot to the Examination Steamer at anchor there, using their own boats for the purpose.

Merchant Vessels inward bound will be supplied with a Pilot by one of the Examination Steamers.

SECTION X.—MOVEMENTS WITHIN THE PORT OF ROSYTH.

22. The movements of all merchant vessels, and small craft (*vide* "Definitions") are subject to the direction of the King's Harbour Master, or his representatives, whose orders are to be immediately obeyed.

NOTE.—The limits of the Dockyard Port of Rosyth are shown under "Definitions" (see also Chart at end).

Disobedience of such orders will render vessels liable to be fired upon.

23. During the hours of official night (see Section XVII.), and during thick or foggy weather no merchant vessel (including small craft) will be allowed to be under way in the waters within the limits of the Dockyard Port, without the written permission of the King's Harbour Master.

24. No merchant vessels (including small craft) will be allowed alongside any Government ship, vessel, or lighter, or other Government craft, or any Government dockyard or establishment, without the written permission of the King's Harbour Master.

All merchant vessels and small craft passing the Dockyard are to keep to the south side of Beamer Rock and St. Margaret's Hope Anchorage, and pass under the North Arch of the Forth Bridge.

Subject to the above, merchant shipping may move as usual within the Port of Rosyth, taking care to keep clear of any of His Majesty's Ships, whether the latter are under way or at anchor.

SECTION XI.—CAUTION AS TO ANCHORING.

25. Port of Rosyth.—No merchant vessels (including small craft) will be allowed to anchor within the limits of the Port (see "Definitions") below the Forth Bridge except close in to the shore in Aberdour and Inverkeithing Bays, nor above the Forth Bridge except to the westward of St. Margaret's Hope Anchorage, unless :—

- (a) To avoid, or after, an accident ;
- (b) Her further progress is prevented by some unforeseen circumstances ;
- (c) During thick or foggy weather.

When anchoring, care must always be taken to be well clear of the fairway.

26. In the Forth.—Mercantile craft will only be allowed to anchor off their ports of arrival or departure (except as stated at (a), (b), and (c) above), and are warned that when it is necessary to anchor in such a position, they should do so as close as possible to the port concerned, but clear of the main channel in the Forth.

If a vessel has to anchor for any of the reasons shown at (a), (b), or (c) above, she is to hoist "not under control" signals and keep them flying so long as she remains at anchor.

SECTION XII.—PATROL OF INTERNAL WATERWAYS AND APPROACHES OF THE PORT.

27. The internal waterways of the Port, as well as the approaches thereto, will be patrolled by Naval Patrol Boats, or other Government vessels.

Masters of merchant vessels and persons in charge of small craft are hereby warned to observe any orders which may be given by the Naval Patrols.

Merchant vessels and small craft will be subject to inspection and search, and will be liable to be fired upon in the event of disobedience to the orders given them by the Patrols.

SECTION XIII.—MERCHANT VESSELS TO FLY THEIR COLOURS, &c.

28. All merchant vessels which are within the limits of the Firth (*see* Chart at end) must :—

- (a) Keep their colours flying day and night.
- (b) Keep their commercial code “ numbers ” flying from sunrise to sunset.
- (c) Show the regulation navigation lights by night.

Small craft while within the limits of the Firth (*see* Chart at end) must comply with (a) and (c).

SECTION XIV.—VESSELS LEAVING THE FIRTH.

29. Merchant vessels (including those engaged in the coasting trade) must on no account leave the Firth without obtaining a “ port clearance ” from the Collector of Customs at the port of departure.

By day, vessels proceeding down the Firth of Forth from ports above Rosyth may pass through the limits of the Port without any formality, although all vessels are liable to inspection and search by the Naval Patrols, should it be considered advisable.

30. No Merchant Vessels (including small craft) are permitted to leave the Firth of Forth :—

- (a) During the hours of official night (*see* Section XVII.) ; or
- (b) If sufficient daylight is not left to enable them to be to the eastward of the Oxcars before dark ; or
- (c) During thick or foggy weather ;

without the written permission of the King’s Harbour Master.

SECTION XV.—PERMITS.

31. All special permission required by merchant vessels (*see* pars. 19, 20, 23, 24, and 29) should be applied for in person by masters of ships, or, if this is not possible, by an officer from such ships.

The Office of the King’s Harbour Master is on board H.M.S. “ Columbine ” at South Queensferry.

SECTION XVI.—ORDINARY NAVIGATION RULES TO BE ADHERED TO.

32. The ordinary regulations of the Firth of Forth, except in so far as they are affected by these Regulations, are to be adhered to.

Nothing in these Regulations will exonerate the Owner, Master, or Agent of any ship from any neglect of the ordinary rules for the navigation and safe conduct of ships.

SECTION XVII.—TIMES OF OFFICIAL NIGHT.

(See overleaf.)

KING'S HARBOUR MASTER, ROSYTH.

SECTION

FIRTH OF FORTH

Table showing in Greenwich Mean Time the times at which

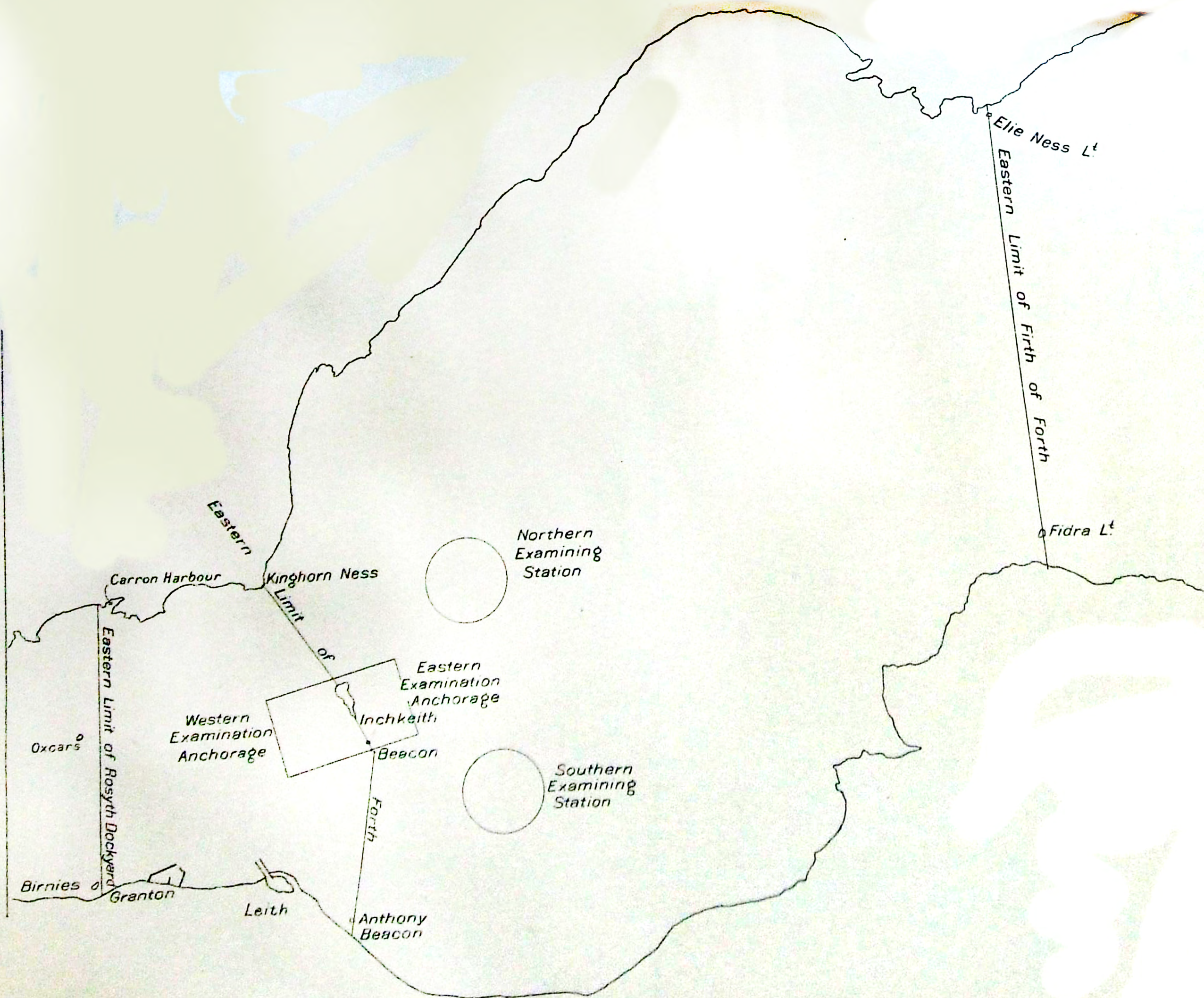
Day of Month.	JANUARY.		FEBRUARY.		MARCH.		APRIL.		MAY.		JUNE.	
	Ends.	Begins.	Ends.	Begins.	Ends.	Begins.	Ends.	Begins.	Ends.	Begins.	Ends.	Begins.
1	AM. 8 39	PM. 3 57	AM. 8 3	PM. 4 53	AM. 6 56	PM. 5 59	AM. 5 26	PM. 7 9	AM. 4 2	PM. 8 20	AM. 2 58	PM. 9 27
2	8 39	3 58	8 1	4 55	6 53	6 1	5 23	7 12	3 59	8 23	2 57	9 29
3	8 38	3 59	7 58	4 57	6 19	6 1	5 20	7 11	3 56	8 25	2 55	9 31
4	8 38	4 0	7 56	5 0	6 16	6 6	5 16	7 17	3 53	8 28	2 53	9 32
5	8 37	4 1	7 54	5 2	6 14	6 8	5 13	7 19	3 50	8 30	2 52	9 33
6	8 36	4 3	7 52	5 1	6 12	6 10	5 9	7 22	3 47	8 33	2 50	9 34
7	8 36	4 4	7 50	5 6	6 39	6 12	5 7	7 25	3 45	8 36	2 49	9 35
8	8 35	4 6	7 47	5 9	6 36	6 14	5 4	7 27	3 43	8 38	2 48	9 36
9	8 35	4 8	7 45	5 12	6 33	6 16	5 1	7 29	3 41	8 40	2 47	9 37
10	8 34	4 10	7 43	5 14	6 30	6 18	4 59	7 31	3 39	8 42	2 47	9 38
11	8 33	4 11	7 40	5 16	6 28	6 20	4 57	7 34	3 37	8 44	2 47	9 39
12	8 32	4 13	7 38	5 19	6 25	6 23	4 54	7 36	3 35	8 45	2 47	9 40
13	8 31	4 15	7 36	5 21	6 22	6 26	4 51	7 38	3 33	8 47	2 47	9 41
14	8 30	4 17	7 33	5 23	6 20	6 28	4 48	7 41	3 31	8 49	2 46	9 41
15	8 29	4 19	7 31	5 25	6 18	6 30	4 45	7 43	3 29	8 51	2 46	9 42
16	8 28	4 20	7 29	5 27	6 15	6 32	4 43	7 45	3 27	8 53	2 46	9 42
17	8 27	4 21	7 26	5 30	6 12	6 34	4 41	7 47	3 25	8 55	2 46	9 43
18	8 26	4 23	7 24	5 32	6 9	6 36	4 39	7 49	3 23	8 57	2 46	9 44
19	8 25	4 25	7 22	5 34	6 6	6 38	4 36	7 50	3 21	8 59	2 46	9 44
20	8 23	4 27	7 20	5 36	6 4	6 40	4 34	7 53	3 20	9 0	2 46	9 45
21	8 21	4 29	7 18	5 38	6 1	6 42	4 32	7 55	3 19	9 1	2 46	9 45
22	8 19	4 31	7 16	5 40	5 58	6 45	4 29	7 58	3 17	9 3	2 46	9 46
23	8 17	4 33	7 14	5 42	5 55	6 47	4 26	8 0	3 15	9 5	2 46	9 46
24	8 16	4 35	7 11	5 44	5 52	6 49	4 23	8 3	3 13	9 8	2 46	9 46
25	8 14	4 38	7 8	5 47	5 19	6 52	4 20	8 5	3 11	9 11	2 46	9 46
26	8 12	4 40	7 5	5 49	5 16	6 54	4 17	8 8	3 9	9 13	2 47	9 46
27	8 11	4 42	7 2	5 51	5 12	6 56	4 14	8 10	3 7	9 16	2 48	9 45
28	8 9	4 44	6 59	5 54	5 39	6 59	4 11	8 13	3 6	9 18	2 49	9 45
29	8 7	4 47	6 57	5 56	5 36	7 2	4 8	8 15	3 4	9 21	2 50	9 45
30	8 6	4 50	—	—	5 33	7 5	4 5	8 18	3 2	9 23	2 50	9 45
31	8 4	4 52	—	—	5 29	7 7	—	—	3 0	9 25	—	—

XVII.

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

Official Night ends and begins on each day of the year.

JULY.		AUGUST.		SEPTEMBER.		OCTOBER.		NOVEMBER.		DECEMBER.		Day of Month
Ends.	Begins.	Ends.	Begins.	Ends.	Begins.	Ends.	Begins.	Ends.	Begins.	Ends.	Begins.	
AM.	PM.	AM.	PM.	AM.	PM.	AM.	PM.	AM.	PM.	AM.	PM.	
2 51	9 41	3 39	9 0	4 46	7 39	5 56	6 9	7 9	4 46	8 14	3 54	1
2 52	9 44	3 42	8 57	4 48	7 36	5 59	6 5	7 12	4 43	8 16	3 53	2
2 53	9 44	3 44	8 55	4 51	7 33	6 1	6 2	7 15	4 40	8 17	3 52	3
2 54	9 43	3 47	8 52	4 54	7 30	6 4	5 59	7 17	4 38	8 19	3 51	4
2 55	9 43	3 49	8 50	4 56	7 27	6 6	5 56	7 20	4 35	8 20	3 50	5
2 56	9 42	3 51	8 47	4 59	7 24	6 9	5 52	7 22	4 32	8 21	3 49	6
2 57	9 41	3 53	8 44	5 2	7 21	6 12	5 50	7 25	4 30	8 22	3 48	7
2 58	9 40	3 56	8 42	5 5	7 18	6 15	5 48	7 27	4 28	8 23	3 48	8
2 59	9 39	3 58	8 40	5 8	7 15	6 17	5 45	7 29	4 26	8 25	3 47	9
3 0	9 38	4 0	8 37	5 10	7 12	6 20	5 42	7 31	4 24	8 27	3 47	10
3 1	9 37	4 2	8 35	5 12	7 9	6 22	5 39	7 34	4 22	8 28	3 46	11
3 2	9 36	4 4	8 33	5 14	7 7	6 24	5 37	7 36	4 20	8 29	3 46	12
3 3	9 35	4 6	8 31	5 16	7 4	6 26	5 35	7 38	4 19	8 30	3 46	13
3 4	9 34	4 7	8 29	5 18	7 2	6 28	5 32	7 40	4 17	8 30	3 46	14
3 5	9 33	4 9	8 27	5 20	6 59	6 30	5 29	7 42	4 15	8 31	3 46	15
3 6	9 32	4 11	8 25	5 22	6 56	6 32	5 26	7 44	4 13	8 32	3 46	16
3 7	9 31	4 13	8 23	5 24	6 53	6 34	5 23	7 46	4 11	8 33	3 46	17
3 9	9 30	4 15	8 21	5 26	6 50	6 37	5 20	7 48	4 10	8 34	3 46	18
3 10	9 29	4 17	8 19	5 28	6 48	6 40	5 18	7 50	4 9	8 35	3 46	19
3 11	9 28	4 19	8 16	5 30	6 45	6 42	5 16	7 52	4 7	8 36	3 46	20
3 13	9 27	4 21	8 13	5 32	6 42	6 44	5 14	7 54	4 6	8 36	3 47	21
3 15	9 25	4 23	8 9	5 34	6 38	6 46	5 12	7 56	4 4	8 37	3 47	22
3 17	9 23	4 25	8 6	5 36	6 35	6 48	5 10	7 58	4 3	8 37	3 48	23
3 19	9 21	4 27	8 4	5 38	6 32	6 50	5 7	8 0	4 2	8 37	3 48	24
3 21	9 18	4 29	8 1	5 40	6 28	6 52	5 4	8 2	4 1	8 38	3 49	25
3 23	9 16	4 31	7 57	5 42	6 25	6 54	5 1	8 4	4 0	8 38	3 50	26
3 26	9 13	4 33	7 54	5 45	6 22	6 56	4 58	8 6	3 58	8 38	3 51	27
3 29	9 11	4 36	7 51	5 48	6 18	6 59	4 56	8 8	3 57	8 38	3 52	28
3 31	9 8	4 38	7 48	5 50	6 15	7 1	4 53	8 10	3 56	8 38	3 53	29
3 34	9 6	4 41	7 45	5 53	6 12	7 4	4 51	8 12	3 55	8 38	3 54	30
3 37	9 3	4 44	7 42	—	—	7 7	4 48	—	—	8 38	3 56	31



Firth of Forth Traffic Regulations