



PORTS AND YACHTING DIRECTORATE

LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS NO 90 of 2017

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Malta-Gozo-Malta Open Water Swimming Competition 2017

The Ports and Yachting Directorate, Transport Malta notifies mariners that the Birkirkara St Joseph Sports Club will be organizing a Malta-Gozo-Malta Open Water Swimming Competition on Saturday 26th August 2017.

This event will start from Marfa Bay (Ir-Ramla tal-Bir), Malta point A at 0630 hours and will proceed across the east side of Comino, through points B and C, then towards a turn-around point at il-Blata tal-Halfa (near Ras il-Qala) in Gozo at point D and back towards Marfa Bay (Ir-Ramla tal-Bir), Malta point A, as shown on attached chart. A time limit of five (5) hours has been set by the Organising Board.

There will also be another Gozo-Malta Open Water Swimming Competition on the same day. The swimmers will depart from Hondoq ir-Rummien, Gozo point E, at 0815 hours proceed to points C, B and finish at Marfa Bay (Ir-Ramla tal-Bir), Malta point A as shown on attached chart. A time limit of three (3) hours and fifteen (15) minutes has been set by the Organising Board.

Any swimmers remaining in the water after 1130 hours will be asked to abandon the race.

Due to the above mentioned activity passage will be restricted in the North Comino Channel from 0815 hours until 0900 hours and in the South Comino Channel from 0815 hours until 1130 hours.

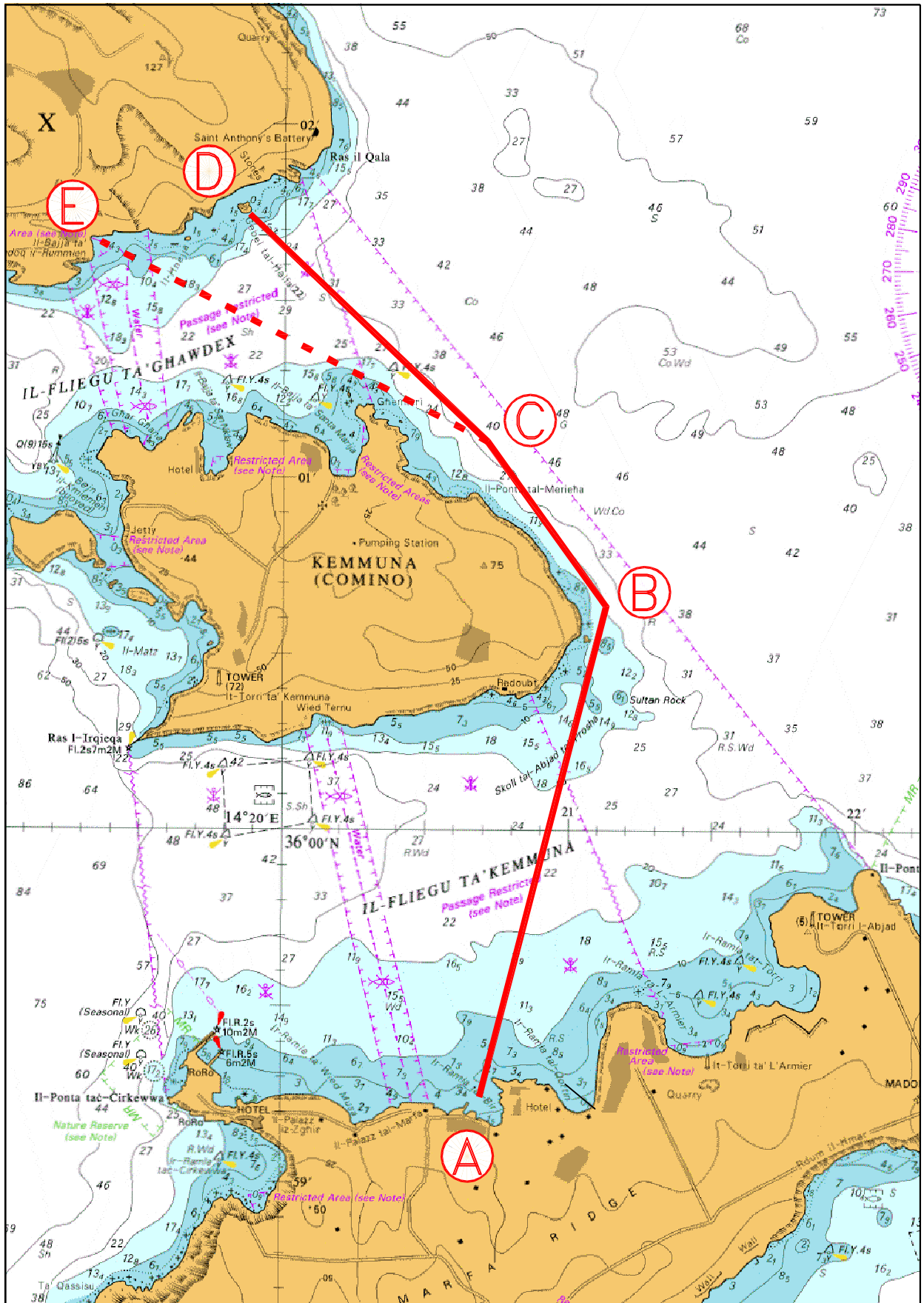
There will be a number of vessels flying a Garmin flag which will delineate the route the swimmers are taking. No vessel is allowed to be within a buffer zone of 150m on either side of the said route.

Any vessel departing or arriving from/to il-Bajja ta' San Niklaw and il-Bajja ta' Santa Marija are to navigate south of the speed restriction buoys.

All participating swimmers will be accompanied by a support vessel. Ambulance Teams will be in attendance both on land and sea.

There will be marine enforcement vessels in the area and mariners are advised to keep a sharp lookout, keep clear of the area during the stipulated time and obey any instructions given by the maritime enforcement personnel in the area.

Charts Affected: BA 211A, 2537 and 2538



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