

1965 No. 1113

## MERCHANT SHIPPING

## SAFETY

## The Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules 1965

<i>Made</i> - - - - -	11th May 1965
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	19th May 1965
<i>Coming into Operation</i>	26th May 1965

The Board of Trade in exercise of their powers under Section 427 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1894(a) as substituted by Section 2 of the Merchant Shipping (Safety Convention) Act 1949(b) and as having effect by virtue of the Transfer of Functions (Shipping and Construction of Ships) Order 1965(c) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf hereby make the following Rules:—

*Interpretation and Repeal*

1.—(1) These Rules shall come into operation on the 26th May 1965 and may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules 1965.

(2) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires, the expression “muster” includes a boat-drill and a fire-drill.

(3) These Rules apply to—

(a) British ships, except ships registered in a Dominion within the meaning of the Statute of Westminster 1931 or in India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Ghana, Malaysia, the Republic of Cyprus, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Kenya, Malawi, Malta, Zambia, The Gambia, the Republic of Ireland, or in any territory administered by Her Majesty's Government in any such Dominion;

(b) other ships while they are within any port in the United Kingdom.

Provided that these Rules shall not apply to a ship by reason of her being within a port in the United Kingdom if she would not have been in any such port but for stress of weather or any other circumstance that neither the master nor the owner nor the charterer (if any) of the ship could have prevented or forestalled.

(4) The Interpretation Act 1889(d), shall apply to the interpretation of these Rules as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament and as if these Rules and the Rules hereby revoked were Acts of Parliament.

(5) The Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules 1952(e) are hereby revoked.

*Classification of Ships*

2. For the purposes of these Rules the ships to which these Rules apply shall be arranged in the same classes in which ships are arranged for the purposes of the Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances) Rules 1965(f), and any reference in these Rules to a ship of any class shall be construed accordingly.

(a) 57 & 58 Vict. c. 60.

(c) S.I. 1965/145 (1965 I, p. 438).

(e) S.I. 1952/1951 (1952 II, p. 1927).

(b) 12, 13 & 14 Geo. 6. c. 43.

(d) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

(f) S.I. 1965/1105 (1965 II, p. 2940).

*Muster List*

3.—(1) The Master of every ship of Classes I, II, II(A), III, VII, VII(A) and VIII shall prepare a muster list showing in respect of each member of the crew the special duties which are allotted to him and the station or stations to which he shall go in the event of an emergency (hereinafter referred to as “emergency station” or “emergency stations”).

(2) The muster list shall specify definite signals, to be made on the whistle or siren, for calling all the crew to their emergency stations and in passenger ships one of such signals shall be the signal required by Rule 4(2) of these Rules. In ships of Class I and in ships of 150 feet in length or over of Classes VII, VII(A) and VIII, such signals shall be supplemented by other means of warning which shall be electrically operated and which shall be capable of being operated from the bridge. The muster list shall also specify the means of indicating when the ship is to be abandoned.

(3) The muster list shall show the duties assigned to the different members of the crew in connection with—

- (a) The closing of the watertight doors, fire doors, sidescuttles, valves and closing mechanism of scuppers, ash-shoots, or other similar openings in the ship's side ;
- (b) The equipping of the boats and other life-saving appliances ;
- (c) The launching of the boats and liferafts attached to davits or to other launching appliances ;
- (d) General preparations of any other boats and other life-saving appliances ;
- (e) The muster of the passengers (if any) ; and
- (f) The extinction of fire.

(4) The duty of seeing that the boats and other life-saving appliances are at all times ready for use shall be specified in the muster list as the duty of one or more officers.

(5) The muster list shall show the several duties assigned to the members of the stewards' department in relation to the passengers at a time of emergency.

These duties shall include—

- (a) Warning the passengers ;
- (b) Seeing that they are suitably clad and have put on their lifejackets in a proper manner ;
- (c) Assembling the passengers at muster stations ;
- (d) Keeping order in the passages and on the stairways and generally controlling the movements of the passengers ; and
- (e) Seeing that a supply of blankets is taken to the lifeboats.

(6) The muster list shall be prepared, or, if a new list is not necessary, revised after the agreement with the crew has been signed and before the ship proceeds to sea, and shall be dated and signed by the Master.

(7) If after the muster list has been prepared, any change takes place in the crew which necessitates an alteration in the muster list, the Master shall either revise the list or prepare a new list.

(8) Copies of the muster list shall be posted in several parts of the ship, and in particular in the crew's quarters, before the ship proceeds to sea and shall be kept so posted while the ship is at sea.

### *Emergency Signal for Passengers*

4.—(1) Muster stations for all passengers shall be appointed for the event of an emergency and the position of those stations and the meaning of all signals affecting passengers, with precise instructions as to what they are to do, shall be clearly stated in English and such other languages as are appropriate on cards posted in their cabins and in conspicuous places in other passenger quarters.

(2) The emergency signal for summoning passengers to the muster stations shall be a succession of seven or more short blasts followed by one long blast on the whistle or siren. In ships of Class I this signal shall be supplemented by other means of warning audible throughout the ship which shall be electrically operated and capable of being operated from the bridge.

### *Training*

5.—(1) In ships of Class I a muster of the crew shall be held before the ship leaves her final port of departure in the United Kingdom and a muster of the passengers, embarked at any port, shall be held within twenty-four hours after leaving such port.

(2) In ships of Classes I, II, II(A) and III, musters of the crew shall take place at intervals of not more than seven days, when practicable, to ensure that the crew understand and are drilled in the duties assigned to them for the event of an emergency.

(3) In ships of Classes VII, VII(A), VIII VIII(A), IX and in ships of Class X of 70 feet in length or over and in ships of Class XI which proceed beyond Home Trade limits, musters of the crew shall take place at intervals of not more than fourteen days, and if more than 25 per cent of the crew have been replaced at any port, one of such musters shall take place within 24 hours of leaving that port. In all other ships of Classes X and XI the Master shall take steps to ensure that the crew understand the uses of the life-saving equipment and fire appliances on board and know where they are kept.

(4) Different groups of boats shall be used in turn at successive boat drills so that every lifeboat shall be swung out at least once a month and, if practicable and reasonable, lowered at least once every four months. The musters and inspections shall be so arranged that the crew thoroughly understand and are practised in the duties they have to perform, and that all life-saving appliances and fire appliances with the gear appertaining to them are always ready for immediate use.

(5) The Master shall take steps to ensure that the crew are properly instructed in the handling and operation of the liferafts on board.

11th May 1965.

*Roy Mason,*  
Minister of State,  
Board of Trade.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Rules.)*

These Rules supersede the Merchant Shipping (Musters) Rules 1952.

Ships are arranged into classes for the purposes of the Rules, the classification being uniform with that in the Merchant Shipping (Life-Saving Appliances) Rules 1965. The Rules provide for the assignment of the duties to be performed by members of the crew in case of emergency, for training in those duties and for the emergency signal for passengers. The Rules include such provisions as appear to the Board of Trade to implement the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1960 relating to musters.