

PUBLIC NOTICE

DECLARATION OF BOATING ACTIVITY EXEMPTION
Marine Safety Act 2010 (Vic)

Safe Transport Victoria makes the following declaration under section 203(3) of the Marine Safety Act 2010 (Vic).

For the purposes of boating activity conducted by Life Saving Victoria on coastal waters, persons and vessels involved in the 2025-2026 LSV Summer Lifesaving Carnivals are exempt from the following requirements:

State Rules made under the *Marine Act 1988*

1. Clause 2(a) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of a person in the water
2. Clause 2(c) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of another vessel
3. Clause 4(a) – must not exceed 5 knots within 200 metres of the water's edge
4. Clause 19(a) – an observer must be used when towing a person.

Waterway Rules made under the *Marine Safety Act 2010 / Marine Act 1988*

5. *Clause 11.1 of Schedule 11 Torquay – 5 knot speed restriction - Horseshoe Bend Rd to Rocky Point within 200m
6. *Clause 11.2(a) of Schedule 11 – Area prohibited to vessels - Fishermans Beach
7. *Clause 11.2(b) of Schedule 11 – Area prohibited to vessels - Cosy Corner Beach
8. *Clause 11.3 of Schedule 11 – Exclusive Use & Special Purpose Area for sail only - Fishermans Beach
9. ^Clause 148.1 of Schedule 148 Warrnambool – area prohibited to vessels with engines - Lady Bay, 1 Nov to 30 Apr

Marine Safety Regulations 2023

- 10.Regulation 60 – Master must not engage in towing unless an observer is on board.
- 11.Regulation 61(2) – Master requirement to carry lifejacket on vessel on coastal waters for each person onboard (or being towed)
- 12.Regulation 66(1) – Person must wear a lifejacket of type specified at all times when underway on coastal waters
- 13.Regulation 69 – Person being towed must wear a lifejacket
- 14.Regulation 70(1) & (3) – Master must ensure all occupants wear a lifejacket

Subject to the conditions detailed below:

- Masters of rescue vessels (incl. PWC support vessels) are only exempt from items 1 to 3 & 5 when undertaking a rescue operation to retrieve persons in distress, provide for their initial medical or other needs and deliver them to a place of safety on shore, and items *6 to 9 for the duration of events at that location.
- Masters of competing vessels are exempt from items 1 to 3 for all events and items *5 to 8 for the duration of events at that location.
- Masters of IRB support vessels are only exempt from items 11, 12 & 14 when retrieving or rescuing a person without a lifejacket from the water.
- Masters of PWC support vessels are only exempt from items 4 & 10 to 14 for the duration of the events when retrieving or rescuing a person without a lifejacket from the water.
- Masters of IRB rescue and PWC support vessels involved with the event must wear a personal floatation device at all times during the event.
- Surf boat competitors are only exempt from 9 to 11 above for the duration of each event, provided the Surf Hazard Rating (SHR) is of a value no greater than 12. If the SHR is 13 or higher, the exemptions will apply subject to the following conditions:

- (i) Competitors must wear helmets;
 - (ii) There must be two IRBs operating to follow the surf boats the entire length of the course;
 - (iii) Each IRB must be equipped with rescue tubes;
 - (iv) There must be officials on the shore to monitor the event and communicate with the IRBs via radio; and
 - (v) LSV must carry out a SHR assessment for each event.
- Operators and occupants of vessels propelled by paddle or oar are exempt from lifejacket wearing requirements and the carriage of specified safety equipment whilst within visual range of a staffed lifesaving facility or flagged area, as per the Exemptions for Life Saving Victoria vessels in Exemption Notice 1.
 - Masters of mechanically powered LSV vessels up to and including 4.8 metres in length (other than personal watercraft) are exempt from the carriage of specified safety equipment whilst within visual range of a staffed lifesaving facility or flagged area, as per the Exemptions for Life Saving Victoria vessels in Exemption Notice 1.
 - Should vessels or persons not involved in the event enter the exclusion zone, the exemptions will be automatically suspended until the vessel or person has moved outside of the area.
 - The above exemptions apply between 6:30am to 5:00pm on the dates and locations as specified in Table 1 below.
 - The exemptions apply provided the stated safety controls and undertakings detailed in the application form and associated documentation are adhered to.

Table 1: 2025-2026 LSV Summer Lifesaving Carnivals				
Date	Day	Location	Back up Location(s)	Event
15-Nov	Saturday	Jan Juc	*Fishermans Beach	Youth/Senior Carnival
6-Dec	Saturday	Ocean Grove	*Fishermans Beach	Junior Carnival
7-Dec	Sunday	Ocean Grove	*Fishermans Beach	Youth Senior Carnival
8-Jan	Thursday	*Fishermans Beach		Junior Carnival
10-Jan	Saturday	Breamlea / Bancoora	*Fishermans Beach	VSRL Surfboat Carnival
11-Jan	Sunday	Anglesea	*Fishermans Beach	Youth/Senior Carnival
17-Jan	Saturday	Anglesea	*Fishermans Beach	VSRL Surfboat Carnival
18-Jan	Sunday	Anglesea	*Fishermans Beach	VSRL Surfboat Carnival
24-Jan	Saturday	Jan Juc	*Fishermans Beach	Youth/Senior Carnival
1-Feb	Sunday	Jan Juc	*Fishermans Beach	VSRL Surfboat Carnival
15-Feb	Sunday	Ocean Grove	*Cosy Corner	Junior Carnival
17-Feb	Tuesday	*Fishermans Beach		School Surf League
20 - 22 Feb	Friday-Sunday	Lorne	*Fishermans Beach	Victorian Youth / Senior Lifesaving Champs inc Surfboats
6-8 Mar	Friday-Sunday	^Warrnambool	^Lady Bay, Warrnambool	Victorian Junior Lifesaving Champs

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 Delegate of Safe Transport Victoria
 Date: 28/07/2025