SAFE TRANSPORT VICTORIA

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 Paddle Victoria on the waters of Lake Nagambie, persons and vessels involved in the 2026 Canoe Sprint Trials are exempt from the following requirements:

State Rules made under the Marine Act 1988
1. Clause 2(c) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of another vessel
2. Clause 3(b) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of a fixed or floating structure

Waterway Rules made under the Marine Safety Act 2010 / Marine Act 1988
3. Clause 91.14 of Schedule 91 – exclusive use and special purpose area for un-powered vessels (Rowing Course Area)

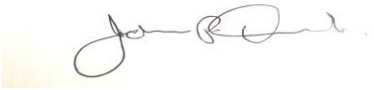
Marine Safety Regulations 2023
4. Regulation 61(5) – requirement to carry listed safety equipment (a bailer) on human powered vessel on inland waters
5. Regulation 61(6) – requirement to carry a lifejacket for each person onboard on inland waters
6. Regulation 66(3) – person must wear a lifejacket (of type specified) at all times when vessel is underway on inland waters (i.e., vessel 4.8 metres or less in length)

Subject to the conditions detailed below:

- Masters of vessels providing rescue services must ensure they comply with the gazetted waterway rules and *Marine Safety Act 2010* in respect to minimum speed and distance requirements, unless otherwise 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
- Masters of event official & support vessels and rescue vessels are exempt from item 3 for the duration of the event
- Masters of competing vessels are only exempt from items 1 to 2 & 4 for the duration of the event
- Masters and occupants of vessels competing at State level, and at the discretion of the event Chief Official, are exempt from items 5 & 6 for the duration of the event
- Occupants of all mechanically powered vessels involved with the event (support, rescue and official) must always wear a lifejacket during the event and vessels must carry all prescribed safety equipment
- The exemptions apply from 7:00am to 5:00pm on Sunday 22 November 2026 within the waters of Lake Nagambie - Rowing Course Area, extending to the 1000-metre mark.
- Any incident which occurs in relation to the exemptions must be reported to Safe Transport Victoria (ST Vic) as soon as possible by email and completing an incident report sent to waterways@safetransport.vic.gov.au within seven (7) days

- The exemptions apply provided the stated safety controls and undertakings detailed in the application form and associated documentation are adhered to

Ref: 1882-2026-BAE



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30/09/2026