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 Life Saving Victoria on coastal waters, persons and vessels involved in the 2026-2027 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

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

4. *Clause 11.1 of Schedule 11 Torquay – 5 knot speed restriction - Horseshoe Bend Rd to Rocky Point within 200m
5. *Clause 11.2(a) of Schedule 11 – Area prohibited to vessels - Fisherman's Beach
6. *Clause 11.2(b) of Schedule 11 – Area prohibited to vessels - Cosy Corner Beach
7. *Clause 11.3 of Schedule 11 – Exclusive Use & Special Purpose Area for sail only - Fisherman's Beach
8. ^Clause 148.1 of Schedule 148 Warrnambool – area prohibited to vessels with engines - Lady Bay, 1 Nov to 30 Apr
9. Clause 136.1 of Schedule 136 – Area prohibited to PWCs between Point Roadknight Headland and 300m north of the boat ramp in Roadknight Bay

Marine Safety Regulations 2023

10. Regulation 61(2) – Master requirement to carry lifejacket on vessel on coastal waters for each person onboard
11. Regulation 66(1) – Person must wear a lifejacket of type specified at all times when underway on coastal waters
12. Regulation 70(1) & (3) – Master must ensure all occupants wear a lifejacket

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 rescue and support vessels (incl. PWC support vessels) are exempt from items nos. 5 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 nos. 4 to 8 for the duration of events at that location
- Masters of IRB / PWC support vessels are only exempt from items 10 to 12 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 always wear a personal floatation device during the event
- Surf boat competitors are only exempt from items 10 to 12 for the duration of each event, provided the Surf Risk Rating (SRR) is of a value no greater than 15. If the SRR is 16 or higher, the exemptions will apply subject to the following conditions:
    - Competitors must wear helmets;

    - There must be two IRBs operating to follow the surf boats the entire length of the course;
    - Each IRB must be equipped with rescue tubes;
    - There must be officials on the shore to monitor the event and communicate with the IRBs via radio; and
    - 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: 2026-2027 LSV Summer Lifesaving Carnivals

Date	Day	Location	Back up Location(s)	Event
7-Nov	Saturday	Ocean Grove	RAAFs beach OG / Fisherman's Beach	Battle of the Waves Youth/Senior Carnival
22-Nov	Sunday	Jan Juc	Anglesea beach	Battle of the Waves Youth/Senior Carnival
5 Dec	Saturday	Ocean Grove	RAAFs beach / Fisherman's Beach	Junior Carnival
6 Dec	Sunday	Ocean Grove	RAAFs beach / Fisherman's Beach	Youth/Senior Carnival In conjunction with the Beach Stormers and R&R
19-Dec	Saturday	13th Beach	Ocean Grove / Fisherman's Beach	Surf Boat Carnival
6-Jan	Wednesday	Fisherman's Beach	Further along Fisherman's beach	Junior Carnival
10-Jan	Sunday	Anglesea	Pt. Roadknight / Fisherman's Beach	Youth/Senior / Surf Boat Carnival
16-Jan	Saturday	Lorne	Fisherman's Beach	Surf Boat Carnival
26-Jan	Tuesday	Torquay	Fisherman's Beach	Wieland Shield Competition
6-7Feb	Saturday / Sunday	Lorne	Fisherman's Beach	Masters / Surf Boat Carnival
20-Feb	Saturday	Lorne	Fisherman's Beach	Junior Carnival
21 Feb	Sunday	Lorne	Fisherman's Beach	Youth/Senior Carnival
19-21-Mar	Friday-Sunday	Warrnambool	Lady Bay beach	Youth / Senior State Champs / Surf Boat Carnival

Ref: 1902-2026-BAE



JOHN FORD
A/ Senior Safety Assurance Officer
Delegate of Safe Transport Victoria
Date: 31/10/2026