Ref: 1859-2026-BAE

PO Box 1716,
Melbourne Vic 3001
T 1800 638 802

Stephanie Archer
Customer Permits & Agreements Officer
Parks Victoria
Level 1, 65 Church Street
MOREWELL VIC 3840

Dear Stephanie

PROPOSED DECLARATION TO EXEMPT BOATING ACTIVITY

I refer to the application received by Parks Victoria (PV) for an exemption under the *Marine Safety Act 2010* (Vic) (the Act), and the waterway rules, to boating activity conducted by Life Saving Victoria (LSV) on 24 October 2026.

I have considered the application, your proposed declaration and the proposed notice under the Act.

DIRECTION UNDER SECTION 204(2) OF THE MARINE SAFETY ACT

You are directed to amend the proposed draft declaration in the manner set out in the attached document. The draft declaration requires amendment to include Clause 1.2.12(b) of Schedule 1 with regard to irregular riding and also adjust wordings of the conditions in the declaration.

Please note that under section 204(4) of the Act, PV is required to comply with this direction.

PUBLISHING OF DECLARATION

I am hereby satisfied that PV has complied with section 203(6) of the Act, provided that PV:

- Publishes the Declaration on their Internet site
- Ensures LSV publishes the Declaration on their website/social media platforms and circulates to all participants
- Ensures LSV displays Declaration at boat ramps/vessel launching locations
- Ensures LSV places signage of declaration on boards at access points in event location
- Ensures LSV reports an incident in relation to the exemptions should it occur, by way of notifying PV and Safe Transport Victoria (ST Vic) as soon as possible by email and completing an incident report sent to PV and ST Vic at waterways@safetransport.vic.gov.au within seven (7) days
- In the event of any injuries which result in hospitalisation, a fatality or an incident involving a person or vessel not involved in the event, these must be immediately reported to Victoria Police and incident report provided to ST Vic via email

I note from the documentation that a set aside has been established for this event under the Port Management Act. Please ensure that there are adequate on-water resources over and above rescue craft to adequately monitor the set aside area and to, if necessary, enforce the set aside area.

If you have any questions in relation to this matter, please contact Soona Nair on 0419705854 or soona.nair@safetransport.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

NICK ANTONOPOULOS
Senior Safety Assurance Officer
Safe Transport Victoria
11/09/2026

PUBLIC NOTICE
DECLARATION OF BOATING ACTIVITY EXEMPTION

Parks Victoria as the declared waterway manager for The Local Port of Port Phillip, 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, persons and vessels involved in the 2026 Victorian Lifesaving Endurance Championships 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 1.2.7 of Schedule 1 – 5 knot speed restriction within 200 meters of water's edge – East Port Phillip
5. Claude 1.2.9 (a) of schedule 1 – Area prohibited to vessels at Mentone Beach
6. Clause 1.2.12(b) of Schedule 1 – The master of a personal watercraft must not operate the personal watercraft: for any purpose other than transiting in the safest most direct course to, or from the shore and/or a boat ramp or berthing facility (including a jetty, pier or mooring), whilst operating within designated 5 knot speed restriction zones

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 competing vessels are only exempt from items 1 - 5 in the above list when competing in the event
- Masters of personal watercraft (PWCs) are exempt from item 6 for the duration of the event
- Occupants of rescue vessels (including PWCs) involved with the event must wear a lifejacket at all times during the event and vessels must have all prescribed safety equipment, including rescue vessels
- The exemptions apply from 8:00am to 5:00pm on Saturday 24 October 2026 within the Set Aside waters – Mentone Beach
- The exemptions apply provided the stated safety controls and undertakings detailed in the application form and associated documentation are adhered to

By order of Parks Victoria
Dated: Click or tap to enter a date.