

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**DECLARATION OF BOATING ACTIVITY EXEMPTION**

Parks Victoria as the declared waterway manager for the Yarra River upstream of the port waters of the Port of Melbourne, 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, persons and vessels involved in the 2026 PV Marathon Yarra Bender Race 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 3(a) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of the water's edge
4. 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***

5. Clause 3.1 of Schedule 3 – 5 knot speed restriction on the Yarra River

***Marine Safety Regulations 2023***

6. Regulation 61(5) – requirement to carry listed safety equipment (a bailer) on human powered vessel on inland waters

Subject to the conditions detailed below:

- Masters of rescue vessels are only exempt from items 1 to 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
- Competitors are only exempt from items 2 to 5 when competing in the events, and item 2 applies only when within 50 metres of another competitor or competing vessel
- Masters of competing vessels are exempt from item 6 for the duration of the event
- All participants involved with the event must wear a lifejacket at all times during the event and vessels must have all prescribed safety equipment
- The exemptions apply from 7am to 2:00pm on Sunday 17 May 2026 on the Yarra River, between the Fairfield Boathouse and Bellbird Picnic Area, Yarra Bend Park
- 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.](#)