

PUBLIC NOTICE
DECLARATION OF BOATING ACTIVITY EXEMPTION

Parks Victoria as the declared waterway manager for the Patterson River, upstream of the Nepean Highway Bridge to Eumemmering Creek (including the National Water Sports Centre), makes the following declaration under section 203(3) of the *Marine Safety Act 2010* (Vic).

For the purposes of boating activity conducted by Southern Waters Ski Show Team, persons and vessels involved in the NWSC 2025/2026 Community events 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
5. Clause 19(b) – master of a vessel must not tow more than 3 persons

Marine Safety Regulations 2023

6. Regulation 61(6) – Master requirement to carry lifejacket on vessel on inland waters for each person onboard (or being towed)
7. Regulation 66(3) – Persons on vessels must wear a lifejacket of type specified at all times when underway on inland waters
8. Regulation 69 – A person being towed must wear a lifejacket
9. Regulation 70 – Master of vessel must ensure occupants wear a lifejacket and must not allow the vessel to be operated unless persons onboard when underway or being towed wear a lifejacket

Subject to the conditions detailed below:

- Masters of rescue vessels are only exempt from items 1-4 when undertaking a rescue operation to retrieve persons in distress, provide for the initial medical or other needs and deliver them to a place of safety, provided they operate at a speed not exceeding 5 knots within 10 metres of the waters' edge.
- Masters of participating vessels are only exempt from items 3-4 for the duration of the events, and item 3 provided they operate at a speed not exceeding 5 knots within 10 metres of the waters' edge.
- Masters of participating vessels are only exempt from items 5, 6, 9 when towing water skiers who are participating in trick events and when retrieving water skiers who are participating in trick events and exempt from wearing a personal flotation device.
- Persons being towed are only exempt from items 7 & 8 when participating in the following trick skiing activities:
 - Three tier pyramid on the second or third tier;
 - Rope held by toe manoeuvres;
 - Swivel acts; and
 - Doubles couples acts.
- The exemptions apply to the times, dates and events as specified in Table 1 below, to the persons and vessels listed within the event application who are participating in the Southern Waters Ski Show Team events on the waters of the Patterson River – National Water Sports Centre.
- The exemptions apply provided the stated safety controls and undertakings detailed in the application form and associated documentation are adhered to.

Table 1 – 2025-26 Southern Waters Ski Show Team events

| Event | Day | Date | |
|----------------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Training & Community Shows | Sunday | 21 September 2025 | 9:00am – 5:00pm |
| | Friday | 17 October 2025 | 4:00pm – 8:00pm |
| | Sunday | 26 October 2025 | 9:00am – 5:00pm |
| | Friday | 7 November 2025 | 4:00pm – 8:00pm |
| | Sunday | 16 November 2025 | 9:00am – 5:00pm |
| | Friday | 5 December 2025 | 4:00pm – 8:00pm |
| | Sunday | 14 December 2025 | 9:00am – 5:00pm |
| | Friday | 16 January 2026 | 4:00pm – 8:00pm |
| | Sunday | 18 January 2026 | 9:00am – 5:00pm |
| | Friday | 6 February 2026 | 4:00pm – 8:00pm |
| | Sunday | 8 February 2026 | 9:00am – 5:00pm |

By Order of Parks Victoria

Dated: 17/09/2025