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PUBLIC NOTICE DECLARATION OF BOATING ACTIVITY EXEMPTION

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

For the purposes of boating activity conducted by Rowing Victoria (RV) at the NWSC, persons and vessels involved in the Rowing Victoria NWSC Regattas outlined in Table 1 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

Subject to the conditions detailed below:

- Masters of rescue vessels are only exempt from items 1 to 4 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, and must adhere to speed and distance rules at all other times.
- Masters of competing vessels are only exempt from items 2 to 4 when competing in the events.
- Masters of competing vessels are only exempt from item 3 provided they do not exceed 5 knots within 10 metres of the water's edge.
- Occupants of powered vessels involved with the event must wear a lifejacket at all times during the events and vessels must have all prescribed safety equipment, including rescue vessels.
- The events are operating under the auspices of Rowing Victoria, including the Rowing Victoria Safety Management Plan, which meets the criteria of Clause 3 of the Exemption Notice made under the Marine Regulations 1999 in respect of the exemption for rowing vessels to not carry or wear a lifejacket.
- The exemptions apply for the dates, times and events specified in Table 1 below within the competition area of the National Water Sports Centre (NWSC).
- The exemptions apply provided the stated safety controls and undertakings detailed in the application form and associated documentation are adhered to.

Table 1 – Rowing Victoria NWSC Regattas

Date	Time	Event
21 September 2024	6:00am – 10:00am	NTT #1
19 October 2024	6:00am – 10:00am	NTT #2
9 November 2024	6:00am – 10:00am	NTT #3
30 November 2024	8:00am – 6:30pm	2024 RV Junior School boys Regatta
7 December 2024	6:00am – 8:00am	NTT #4
7 December 2024	8:00am – 6:30pm	Carrum Regatta
1 March 2025	8:00am- 6:30pm	2024 RV Schools- St Kevins Regatta

Parks Victoria
Dated: 7/08/2024

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