

PUBLIC NOTICE
DECLARATION OF BOATING ACTIVITY EXEMPTION

Parks Victoria as the declared waterway manager for Port Campbell Bay and Waters of Western Port Bay, 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 LSV VSRL Surf Boat Carnivals #1 and #8 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
4. Clause 4(b) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of a wharf, jetty, slipway, diving platform or boat ramp

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

5. Clause 152.2 of Schedule 152 - Port Campbell Bay subject to provisions of Clause 2 (speed limits & safety distances)
6. Clause 152.4 of Schedule 152 - Port Campbell Bay subject to provisions of Clause 4 (speed limits & safety distances)
7. Clause 5.3(a)(i) of Schedule 5 – five (5) knot speed restriction area - West Head to Somers
8. Clause 5.4(c) of Schedule 5 – areas prohibited to vessels - Point Leo Surf Life Saving Club

Marine Safety Regulations 2023

9. Regulation 61(2) – vessel master must not operate on coastal waters unless vessel equipped with lifejacket for each person onboard
10. Regulation 66(1) – person must wear a lifejacket (of type specified) at all times when vessel is underway on coastal waters
11. Regulation 70(1) – master must ensure all occupants of vessel are wearing a lifejacket (of type specified)

Subject to the conditions detailed below:

- Masters of rescue vessels (including PWC support vessels) are only exempt from items 1 to 7 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, and must adhere to speed and distance rules at all other times, and item 8 for the duration of the event at that location.
- Masters of competing vessels are only exempt from items 1 to 8 for the duration of the event.
- Masters of rescue vessels and PWC support vessels are only exempt from items 9 & 11 for the duration of the event when retrieving or rescuing a person without a lifejacket from the water.
- Crew of rescue vessels involved with the event must wear a lifejacket at all times during the event.
- Surf boat competitors are only exempt from items 9 to 11 for the duration of each event, provided the Surf Hazard Rating (SHR) is of a value no greater than 12. If the SHR is 13 or higher, the exemptions will apply subject to the following conditions:
 - (i) Competitors must wear helmets
 - (ii) There must be two IRBs operating to follow the surf boats the entire length of the course
 - (iii) Each IRB must be equipped with rescue tubes
 - (iv) There must be officials on the shore to monitor the event and communicate with the IRBs via radio
 - (v) 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 event will be automatically suspended until the vessel or person has moved outside of the area.
- The exemption items 1 to 6 & 9 to 11 apply from 2:00pm to 6:00pm on Saturday 16 November 2024 to persons and vessels involved in the LSV VSRL Surf Boat Carnivals #1 within the exclusion zone waters - Waters of Port Campbell Bay – adjacent to the Life Saving Club clearly marked by flags on shore, and in the water by buoys extending up to approximately 250 metres from shore.
- The exemption items 1 to 4 & 7 to 11 apply from 9:00am to 2:00pm on Saturday 22 March 2025 to persons and vessels involved in the LSV VSRL Surf Boat Carnivals #8 within the Set Aside waters – Waters of Western Port Bay – adjacent to the Life Saving Club clearly marked by flags on shore, and in the water by buoys extending up to approximately 400 metres from shore.
- 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: 8/11/2024