



Ref: 1584-2024-BAE

19 November 2024

Geelong Water Ski Club  
Mark Macdonald  
493 Wilsons Rd  
St Albans Park, VIC, 3219

Dear Mark

**Re: Application for Event Boating Activity Exemptions**

I refer to the application received from the Geelong Water Ski Club (GWSC) for the Victorian Interclub Challenge to be held on the Barwon River between 6AM and 8PM on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of November 2024.

I am pleased to inform you that the exemptions as stated in your application and Attachment 1 have been granted by Safe Transport Victoria.

As part of the application there is a requirement for GWSC to:

- publish the Declaration (Attachment 1) on the GWSC website/social media platforms and distribute the Declaration to participants.
- place signage of the Declaration on boards at access points/boat ramps at the event location.
- report an incident in relation to the exemptions should it occur, by way of notifying CCMA and Safe Transport Victoria (ST Vic) as soon as possible by email and completing an incident report sent to CCMA and ST Vic within seven (7) days.

If you have any further queries, please feel free to contact our offices on 1800 002 262.

Yours sincerely,

Denis Lovric  
Manager  
Water Infrastructure

*healthy and productive lands and waters  
cared for by thriving communities*



**1800 002 262**

info@ccma.vic.gov.au  
ccma.vic.gov.au

PO Box 159  
64 Dennis Street  
Colac, Victoria 3250

ABN: 60 355 974 029

## Attachment 1

### PUBLIC NOTICE DECLARATION OF BOATING ACTIVITY EXEMPTION

Corangamite Catchment Management Authority as the declared waterway manager for the Barwon River between the Lower Breakwater and Orana Road, makes the following declaration under section 203(3) of the *Marine Safety Act 2010* (Vic).

For the purposes of boating activity conducted by Geelong Water Ski Club, persons and vessels involved in the 2024 Victorian Interclub Challenge 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 3(b) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of a fixed or floating structure

#### ***Marine Safety Regulations 2023***

3. Regulation 66(3) – person must wear a lifejacket (of type specified) at all times when vessel is underway on inland waters
4. Regulation 69 – a person being towed must wear a lifejacket
5. Regulation 70 – the 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 event official and rescue vessels are only exempt from items 1 to 2 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.
- Masters of towing vessels are only exempt from items 1 to 2 for the duration of the event and item 5 when towing water skiers who are participating in trick events, and when retrieving waters skiers who are participating in trick events and exempt from wearing a lifejacket.
- 'Trick' skiers being towed are only exempt from items 3 & 4 provided they wear a bright coloured top.
- All persons on vessels and skiers associated with the event must wear a lifejacket (unless vessel over 4.8m or exempt from items 3 or 4 in accordance with these conditions), and vessels must have all prescribed safety equipment, including rescue vessels.
- Should vessels approach wishing to transit the event area they will be subject to the directions of the chief judge on the day and will do so to ensure that the safety of all waterway users is maintained.
- The exemptions apply from 6:00am to 8:00pm on Saturday 23 November 2024 and Sunday 24 November 2024 to persons and vessels involved in the 2024 Victorian Interclub Challenge within the event area – from downstream edge of Goat Island to approximately 900 metres downstream of the Geelong Water Ski Club.
- The exemptions apply provided the stated safety controls and undertakings detailed in the application form and associated documentation are adhered to.

#### **CORANGAMITE CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

Dated: 19/11/2024.