



Ref: 1455-2024-BAE

20 February 2024

Mr Mark McDonald
Geelong Waterski Club

Dear Mark,

Re: Application for Event Boating Activity Exemptions

I refer to the application received by the Corangamite CMA for Geelong Waterski Club to hold the Victorian Waterski Championships on the Barwon River.

I am pleased to inform you the exemption as stated in your application has been granted by Maritime Safety Victoria.

As part of the application there is a requirement for Geelong Waterski Club to publish the public notice, as supplied as attachment 1 on your internet site and circulate the notice to all persons affected by the declaration.

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

Yours sincerely,

Amber Clarke
CEO

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1800 002 262

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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 Waterski Club, persons and vessels involved in the 2024 Victorian Waterski Championships 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(b) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of a fixed or floating structure

Marine Safety Regulations 2023

4. Regulation 66(3) – Persons on vessels must wear a lifejacket of type specified at all times when underway on inland waters
5. Regulation 69 – A person being towed must wear a lifejacket.
6. 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 event official and rescue vessels are only exempt from item 1 to 3 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.
- Masters of competing vessels are only exempt from items 1-3 for the duration of the event.
- 'Trick' skiers being towed are only exempt from items 4 & 5 provided they wear a bright coloured top.
- Masters of towing vessels are only exempt from items 6 when towing water skiers who are participating in trick events, and when retrieving waterskiers who are participating in trick events and exempt from wearing a lifejacket.
- All persons on vessels and skiers associated with the event must wear a lifejacket (unless exempt from item 5 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 23 – 25 February 2024 within the event area – from downstream edge of Goat Island to approximately 900m downstream of the Geelong Waterski Club.
- The exemptions apply provided the stated safety controls and undertakings detailed in the application form and associated documentation are adhered to.

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BY ORDER OF CORANGAMITE CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
Dated: 20/02/2024

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