

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### **DECLARATION OF BOATING ACTIVITY EXEMPTION *Marine Safety Act 2010 (Vic)***

I, Kate Maheras, Director, Maritime Safety, and delegate of Safe Transport Victoria, make the following declaration under section 203(3) of the *Marine Safety Act 2010 (Vic)*.

For the purposes of boating activity conducted by Surfing Victoria on Coastal Waters, persons and vessels involved in the Surfing Victoria 2023-24 Season as 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 4(a) – must not exceed 5 knots within 200 metres of the water's edge
4. Clause 19(a) – an observer must be used when towing a person

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

5. \*Clause 11.1 of Schedule 11 Torquay – 5 knot speed restriction – Horseshoe Bend Rd to Rocky Point within 200 metres
6. \*Clause 15.2 of Schedule 15 Urquharts Bluff - 5 knot speed restriction areas
7. \*Clause 15.3 of Schedule 15 Urquharts Bluff – area prohibited to vessels
8. \*Clause 15.4(a) of Schedule 15 Urquharts Bluff – vessels only area adjacent public convenience building extending 200 metres

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

9. Regulation 60(a) – vessel master must not engage in towing unless an observer is on board
10. Regulation 61(2) – vessel master must not operate unless vessel equipped with items specified (lifejackets for persons onboard & being towed)
11. Regulation 66(1) – person must wear a lifejacket of type specified at all times when underway on coastal waters
12. Regulation 69 – person must wear a lifejacket when being towed by a vessel
13. Regulation 70(1) – vessel master must not operate the vessel unless persons on board when underway or being towed wear a lifejacket
14. Regulation 70(3) – vessel master must not allow vessel to tow person unless wearing lifejacket

Subject to the conditions detailed below:

- Masters of personal watercraft (PWC) rescue vessels are only exempt from items 1 to 4 and 9 for all events and items 5, 6 and 7 for events at that location. Exemptions for items 1 & 2 only apply when within 50 metres of a competing person or other PWC rescue vessel. They must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of a person in the water or other vessels not associated with the event should they enter the event area.
- Masters of PWC rescue vessels are only exempt from items 10, 13 to 14 for the duration of the events when retrieving or rescuing a person without a lifejacket from the water.
- Competitors are only exempt from items 11 and 12 for the duration of the events and item 8 for events at that location.
- All PWC operators must wear a lifejacket at all times when operating.
- The exemptions apply from 6:30am to 6:00pm on the dates and locations as specified in table 1 below.

- The exemptions apply provided the stated safety controls and undertakings detailed in the application form and associated documentation are adhered to.

**Table 1: Surfing Victoria 2023-24 Season**

Date	Day	Event	Location	Back up Location(s)
27 August – 2 September 2023	Sunday - Saturday	World Longboard Titles	Bells Beach, Winky Pop	Torquay
16-18 September 2023	Saturday - Monday	Rip Curl GromSearch Victoria	Jan Juc	Torquay
20-24 September 2023	Wednesday - Sunday	Phillip Island Junior Pro	Woolamai Surf Beach, Phillip Island	Surfies Point Smiths Beach Summerlands Shelley Beach Flynn's Beach
12 November 2023	Sunday	Australian Boardriders Battle	Woolamai Surf Beach, Phillip Island	Surfies Point Smiths Beach Summerlands Shelley Beach Flynn's Beach
7-8 October 2023	Saturday - Sunday	West Coast Festival of Surfing	Bells Beach, Winky Pop	Jan Juc
14-15 October 2023	Saturday – Sunday	Woolworths Surf Groms	Torquay Surf Beach	Jan Juc
25 November – 3 December 2023	Saturday - Sunday	Australian Junior Surfing Titles	Woolamai Surf Beach, Phillip Island	Surfies Point Smiths Beach Summerlands Shelley Beach Flynn's Beach
10-11 February 2024	Saturday – Sunday	Woorangalook Victoria Koori Surf Titles	Urquharts Bluff	
17-18 February 2024	Saturday – Sunday	Vic Open Round 2	Woolamai Surf Beach, Phillip Island	Surfies Point Smiths Beach Summerlands Shelley Beach Flynn's Beach
24-25 February 2024	Saturday – Sunday	Victorian Longboard Titles Round 1	Woolamai Surf Beach, Phillip Island	Surfies Point Smiths Beach Summerlands Shelley Beach Flynn's Beach
2-3 March 2024	Saturday – Sunday	Woolworths Victorian Junior Surfing Series Round 2	Bells Beach, Winky Pop	Jan Juc
16-17 March 2024	Saturday – Sunday	Vic Open Round 3 and Teams Titles	Gunnamatta	Rye Back Beach West Head (Gunnery) Shoreham
25 March – 7 April 2024	Monday – Sunday	Rip Curl Pro	Bells Beach, Winky Pop	
29-30 April 2024	Monday - Tuesday	Longboard Titles Round 2	Point Impossible	13 <sup>th</sup> Beach, Barwon Heads
2 May 2024	Thursday	School Sport Victoria Teams Titles	Jan Juc	Torquay
3 May 2024	Friday	Independent Schools Teams Titles	Jan Juc	Torquay
4-5 May 2024	Saturday - Sunday	Woolworths Victorian Junior Surfing Series Round 1	Woolamai Surf Beach, Phillip Island	Surfies Point Smiths Beach Summerlands Shelley Beach Flynn's Beach
18 May 2024	Saturday	Victorian SUP Surfing Titles	Point Impossible	13 <sup>th</sup> Beach, Barwon Heads
19 May 2024	Sunday	Victorian Masters Titles	Jan Juc	Torquay
24-26 May 2024	Friday - Sunday	Australian Indigenous Surfing Titles	Bells Beach, Winky Pop	
6 June – 31 July 2024	Thursday - Wednesday	50 Year Storm Big Wave Event	Bells Beach, Winky Pop	

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**KATE MAHERAS**  
Director, Maritime Safety  
Delegate of Safe Transport Victoria  
9/08/2023