

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Safe Transport Victoria makes the following declaration under section 203(3) of the *Marine Safety Act 2010 (Vic)*.

For the purposes of boating activity conducted by Paddle Victoria Ocean Paddling on the coastal waters between Fishermans Beach, Torquay and Barwon Heads Bridge (back-up location 100 metres upstream of Barwon Heads Bridge, upstream the Barwon River to 200 metres before Lake Connewarre entrance), persons and vessels involved in the Impossible Ocean Paddle event are exempt from the following requirements:

State Rules made under the *Marine Act 1988*

1. Clause 2(c) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of another vessel
2. Clause 3(a) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of the water's edge
3. Clause 3(b) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of a fixed or floating structure
4. Clause 4(a) – must not exceed 5 knots within 200 metres of the water's edge
5. Clause 4(b) – must not exceed 5 knots within 200 metres of a wharf, jetty, slipway, diving platform or boat ramp

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

6. Clause 10.1 of Schedule 10 – 5 knot speed limit – Local Port of Barwon Heads
7. Clause 11.3 of Schedule 11 – Exclusive use and Special Purpose Area for sail powered vessels only – Fishermans Beach
8. Clause 131.1 of Schedule 131 – 5 knot speed limit – Barwon River from the Lower Breakwater downstream to the Port of Barwon Heads

Subject to the conditions detailed below:

- Masters of rescue vessels are only exempt from items 1 to 8 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 to 8 when competing in events.
- All participants involved with the event must wear a lifejacket at all times during the event and vessels must have all prescribed safety equipment.
- The exemptions apply from 9:20am to 2:00pm on Saturday 22 November 2025 (back-up date Sunday 23 November 2025) to the persons and vessels participating in the Impossible Ocean Paddle event on coastal waters – between Fishermans Beach, Torquay and Barwon Heads Bridge (back-up location 100 metres upstream of Barwon Heads Bridge, upstream the Barwon River to 200 metres before Lake Connewarre entrance).
- The exemptions apply provided the stated safety controls and undertakings detailed in the application form and associated documentation are adhered to.

Ref: 1677-2025-BAE



BROCK ANDERSON

A/Manager Safety Assurance
Delegate of Safe Transport Victoria
15/08/2025