

PUBLIC NOTICE
DECLARATION OF BOATING ACTIVITY EXEMPTION

Gippsland Port Committee of Management as the declared waterway manager for Local Port of Gippsland Lakes, makes the following declaration under section 203(3) of the *Marine Safety Act 2010* (Vic).

For the purposes of boating activity conducted by Gippsland Grammar, persons and vessels involved in the 2026 Sale Small Boats Head Race Regatta 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(a) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of the water's edge
4. Clause 3(b) – must not exceed 5 knots within 50 metres of a fixed or floating structure

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

5. Clause 104.2 (b) of Schedule 104 – 5 knot speed restriction area of Flooding Creek and the Sale Canal

Subject to the conditions detailed below:

- Masters of event official and rescue vessels are exempt from 1 to 5 above 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 2 to 5 above when competing in the events
- Occupants of mechanically powered vessels involved with the event must always wear a lifejacket during the event and vessels must have all prescribed safety equipment, including rescue vessels
- The event is operating under the auspices of Rowing Victoria, including the Rowing Victoria Safety Management Plan, which meets the criteria of Clause 3 of Exemption Notice 1 made under the Marine Regulations 1999 in respect of the exemption for rowing vessels to not carry or wear a lifejacket
- The exemptions apply from 7:00am to 6:00pm on Saturday 17 October 2026 within the event waters between the Sale Canal and the Thompson River Swing Bridge
- The exemptions apply provided the stated safety controls and undertakings detailed in the application form and associated documentation are adhered to

David Talko-Nicholas

On behalf of

Gippsland Ports Committee of Management

Dated: 21/08/2026