Aquatic Event Advice

No:XX - 11

Event Name & Type	**PoMC Big Boat Race**
Start Time, Date & Location	09:30 Hours on 26th January 2011, Station Pier - Outer West
Finish Time, Date & Location	16:30 Hours on 26th January, Breakwater Pier – Tide Gauge
Organisation & Event Organiser	PoMC - Buoys & Gulls Club
Number and type of vessels involved	25 Yachts between 25 ft & 50 ft.
Emergency contact (including VHF Ch)	VHF Ch 74 – Tom Buoy 0419 XXX XXX
Other relevant information, (i.e. courses, routes, special requirements)	09:30 – 10:00 Hours – Australia Day welcome including National Anthem **Course Schedule** Expect White & Green Starting flares at Station Pier – Westerly Start Pass Beacon 78 to Port Pass Beacon 77 to Starboard Pass Beacon 71 to Starboard Pass Buoy T28 to Starboard Breakwater Pier Tide Gauge – Race ends
Organisation: Postal & Email Address, Contact numbers	Port of Melbourne Corporation L4 530 Collins Street, VIC 3000. Navservices@portofmelbourne.com 03 9683 1462

PoMC Comments (office use only)	
Marine & Navigation Serv.	☐
PPSP	☐
Parks Victoria	☐
Exempt Masters	☐
VRCA / TGP	☐
	☐

Aquatic Events Advice is issued pursuant to:

- **Part 3A of the Marine Act (1988), Functions of the Harbour Master**
- **Harbour Master's Direction**

- Event organisers are advised to see important information contained within pages 2 to 5 of this advice form.
- Event instructions must include the requirement for participants to keep clear of commercial shipping and dredgers and avoid impeding the safe passage of shipping using the shipping channels.
- Vessels should not cross commercial shipping channels where such crossing would interfere with the passage of commercial shipping or be so close as to cause concern for commercial shipping.
- **Event Organisers shall call "MELBOURNE VTS" on VHF channel 12, at least one hour prior to the scheduled start and advise the VTS Officer of the:**
  1. **Aquatic Event Advice reference number,**
  2. **Expected time of start and finish of event**
- Event Organisers shall **monitor Channel 12** and pass on to race participants any updated information from **MELBOURNE VTS**.
- **Event commencement shall, if necessary, be adjusted as advised by the VTSO so as to prevent interference with commercial shipping movements**.

Event organisers should seek permission from Parks Victoria for waters outside the Port Waters of Melbourne

Date 03rd March 2011

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PoMC issues this Advice on behalf of the event organiser and does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information supplied.

Mario D'Souza
Navigation Services Officer
Tel: (03) 9683 1462; Fax: (03) 9683 1570;
navservices@portofmelbourne.com

Aquatic Events Advice - Instructions

Notification for aquatic events taking place within the Port Waters of Melbourne must be submitted to the Harbour Master, under Part 1 of the Harbour Master's Directions pursuant, to section 26C, Part 3A of the Marine Act 1988.

Event organisers must ensure that the participants have a copy of the participating aquatic event and are aware of their responsibility to keep clear of commercial shipping at all times.

The PoMC *Aquatic Events Advice* form must be lodged not less than five (5) working days prior to the event taking place

Events conducted outside the Port Waters of Melbourne may require a permit from Parks Victoria. Parks Victoria can be contacted on telephone number 131 963 or www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

To submit an Aquatic Events Advice

(1) Download the Aquatic Events Advice form: www.portofmelbourne.com/boating/aquaticevent.asp
(2) Fill in the sections of the Advice on page 1 and include in the section titled "Other relevant information" the general area in which the event is to take place, routes, turning marks and any other relevant information.
(3) Ensure that the emergency contact details section is completed.
(4) Return advice to the Navigation Services Officer via email to: navservices@portofmelbourne.com
(5) The Aquatic Events Advice form will be reviewed and promulgated by the PoMC. The Navigation Services Officer will;
    (i) add the appropriate comments in the "PoMC comments section",
    (ii) allocate a number to the permit, and return via email.
    (iii) distribute the permit to Melbourne VTS, Lonsdale VTS, Port Phillip Sea Pilots, exempt masters on coastal ships, Government agencies, shipping agencies, port service providers and other port stakeholders.

The PoMC can issue an Aquatic Events Advice which covers regular events for the whole of the season, For example a single Advice can be issued for "Saturdays racing" when the events take place in the same general area, at approximately the same time. Please contact the Navigation Services Officer for assistance with these permits.

Procedure for approval and communications.

The Approval and Communications Procedures identify the critical areas of interaction between commercial shipping and recreational boating and re-define the event organisers' responsibilities in relation to the Harbour Master Directions.

Hence, when an aquatic event is planned that takes place within, or in close proximity to, or intersects any of the main shipping channels or fairways, event organisers are required to:

1. Lodge the Aquatic Events Advice form as required by ***section 2.15, Part 1 Of the Harbour Master's Direction (Oct 2010)***, not less than five (5) working days before the event.
2. For Melbourne and Northern Port Phillip (north of 38^0 05'S) contact **Melbourne VTS** on VHF Channel 12 prior to the start of the event. Confirm with the duty VTS Officer, the PoMC event number, event director's or event organiser's name and contact number, confirm with the VTS Officer any special arrangements as reflected in the approved permit, obtain the latest scheduled shipping movements for the area and advise event participants of those movements.

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3. For events starting at Port Phillip Entrance channel and Southern Port Phillip (South of 38^0 05'S), event organisers must check with **Lonsdale VTS** on VHF Channel 12 at least one hour prior to the scheduled start to obtain latest shipping information, and adjust start times so as not to interfere with commercial shipping movements. *In the interests of safety the "Final schedule" should be broadcast on VHF Channel 12.*
4. For Port Phillip Heads and South Channel, contact **Lonsdale VTS** on VHF Channel 12 when *approaching Port Phillip Heads or prior to entering the South Channel*. Advise the VTS Officer of the progress and obtain the latest scheduled shipping movements through Port Phillip Heads, advice event participants of those shipping movements.
5. Instruct the participants to keep clear of shipping in all Port Waters, in accordance with Section 2.15, Part 1 of the ***Harbour Master's Directions*** *"Small Vessels"*.
6. Keep listening watch on ***VHF*** *channel* ***12***.
7. Notify other ***relevant authorities*** (i.e. Water Police, Parks Victoria).
8. Advise **Melbourne VTS** or **Lonsdale VTS** (as applicable) when the ***last boat is clear*** of Port Phillip Heads and/or the shipping channels specified in the advice.

Extract from - Part 1 of **Harbour Master's Directions**

2.15 Small vessels

The master of a small vessel must:

- ensure that the vessel keeps out of the way of:
  - vessels 50 metres or more in length (if in doubt, the master should assume that the other vessel's length is more than 50 metres)
  - a tug or lines boat assisting the movement, berthing or unberthing of another vessel.
- comply with waterside restricted zones declared under the Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Act (MTOSFA) (Cwlth), and ensure the following minimum clear distance is maintained when approaching a ship berthed at:
  - Station Pier, 50 metres
  - Holden Dock, 50 metres
  - Gellibrand Pier, 50 metres
  - Maribyrnong No. 1 berth, 30 metres.
- not anchor in a fairway or channel and is strictly prohibited from anchoring or dragging anchor within 0.17 nautical miles (300 metres) of the underwater gas pipeline between Mordialloc and Altona, as delineated on chart AUS 143 and AUS 155
- when engaged in towing, obtain permission from Melbourne VTS to enter the Port Melbourne Channel, Eastern By-Pass Channel, Williamstown Channel or River Yarra
- not navigate port waters while taking part in any regatta, contest or race or other event unless the Harbour Master has been advised of the event taking place
- if under MSV survey (or another State's jurisdictional equivalent, or AMSA) and carrying passengers:
  - monitor VHF Channel 12 and
  - report the number of persons on board and the duration of passage in port waters, to Melbourne VTS on VHF Channel 74, when entering the port waters upstream of the River Yarra Entrance at the following transit points:
    - River Yarra Entrance
    - Bolte Bridge

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- Upstream of No. 1 Maribyrnong Berth.

Passenger carrying vessels are recommended to register designated mobile telephone numbers to Melbourne VTS and Water Police, for emergency contact.

Applications for regattas, boat races etc. must be made on the PoMC Aquatic Events Advice Form and lodged with the Harbour Master not less than five working days before the event. The notice must contain:

- name, telephone contact and facsimile number of organisation or person organising the event
- the course and waypoints for the event
- the proposed start and finish dates and times
- the approximate number of boats expected to take part
- the size and type of boats expected to take part
- details of any waivers sought, in relation to the provisions of this publication, for vessels participating in the event.

Event organisers must be aware that the Harbour Master is empowered to direct navigation in port safety.

Extract from Part 1 - **Harbour Master's Directions**

2.18 Incident reporting

The master, owner, agent, or person having the conduct of the navigation, of a vessel in port waters must report an incident:

- as soon as reasonably practical to Melbourne VTS or Lonsdale VTS
- as soon as reasonably practical thereafter, provide the Harbour Master with full details in writing
- in the case of an obstruction, unless otherwise directed by the Harbour Master, take the necessary steps for its removal.

Incidents which must be reported include those when a vessel:

- has been involved in a collision with another vessel, a floating object, a fixed object, a submerged object or property
- by reason of fire, explosion, capsizing, flooding, sinking, loss or presumed loss of vessel, loss of stability, structural failure, or any other defect or otherwise in such a condition as to affect its safe navigation or give rise to danger or damage to other vessel's property
- is at a quay which is on fire
- has been involved in any incident or occurrence which causes or threatens contamination or pollution of the environment by any means or observes such an incident happening
- has been involved in a grounding in any part of the port waters
- has been involved in a close quarters situation
- has experienced a failure of hull, machinery or navigational equipment
- has been involved in the death of, or serious injury to, any person on board a vessel, or caused by a vessel
- has had a person overboard

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- has caused or observed a vessel or any other object to strand, collide, sink, or cause damage to any vessel, wharf or property within port waters, or in any way obstruct the use of port waters
- observes any other situation that has the potential to cause a near miss, accident, damage to property, personnel or equipment.

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