

# Paddle Victoria Marathon Rules and Regulations

**M01** Races conducted by the Paddle Victoria Marathon Committee and affiliated clubs and organisations are open to all canoeists and are conducted under the rules set down by the International Canoe Federation and Paddle Australia Marathon committees. These rules are to be followed at all times. Any paddler infringing on these rules may be disqualified.

Competitors not members of Paddle Australia and Paddle Victoria affiliated clubs must on entry pay an Event License Fee.

**M02** Competitors must agree to abide by the rules and the decisions made by the race committee.

**M03** To be eligible to compete in the Victorian or Australian Championships paddlers must be “full” adult or junior members of a Paddle Victoria affiliated club or a club affiliated to Paddle Australia or the International Canoe Federation, not “recreational” members.

**M04** A race jury shall be appointed for all major races or as required.

**M05** All paddlers under the age of 18 years must have permission from their parent or guardian to compete.

**M06** Age Classifications:

For junior competitors, ages are taken from 1st January in the year of competition.

Sub junior under 12 years

Junior 14 under 14 years

Junior 16 under 16 years

Junior 18 under 18 years

For Open Competitors, over 18 years

For veteran competitors, the first year a veteran competitor may compete in the relevant age group is the year of his/her birthday matching the youngest age for the category falls. (e.g. A competitor turning 35 in the year of competition may compete in the V35 category.)

Veteran 35 35 years and over

Veteran 40 40 years and over

Veteran 45 45 years and over

Veteran 50 50 years and over

Veteran 55 55 years and over

Veteran 60 60 years and over

Veteran 65 65 years and over

**M07** All paddlers may if they wish submit to the first aid officer a completed and confidential medical form prior to entering each race. Due to privacy reasons this information will be destroyed after each race.

This confidential medical form will only be available to the Marathon Committee Chairperson, the Secretary, the chief official and the Marathon First Aid Officer. The information supplied will not be used in any way to prevent a paddler from competing but is designed as part of Paddle Victoria Marathon Committee’s risk management policy.

**M08** All winter series entries are to be made online prior to race day.

All paddlers must register in person on the day, and doubles paddlers must register together.

**M09** All boat numbers will be issued at registration.

**M10** Starting orders will be determined at each race by the race organisers and announced at the pre-race briefing which all paddlers must attend.

**M11** The 1st race will start as soon as possible after the briefing but not prior to the advertised time.

**M12** Any paddler who withdraws from a race must notify the finish line officials on withdrawal.

**M13** Life Jackets - Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs):

Regardless of the paddler's swimming ability or the river or water conditions, all paddlers must bring to the race, a PFD that is of a suitable size for them, in good order, and complies with Australian Standards and Victorian laws. All paddlers **MUST** wear an approved PFD in accordance with Victorian Laws. Exemptions may be granted by the appropriate regulatory authorities for events such as National Championships .

**M14** Portaging:

Competitors may only portage at points designated and as set out by the race organisers. Portages are required for all racing boats (international classes - K1, K2, C1, C2) in Division 5 or higher or for Under 16, Under 18, Under 23, Open and Veterans international classes up to and including Vet 55. Competitors in Division 5 or higher or U16 and Veterans classes who are unable to portage must discuss this with the race committee prior to the race briefing. A time penalty may be applied. Portaging is compulsory for U18, U23 and Open international racing classes. Assistance with portaging may be provided consistent with ICF Marathon competition rules.

**M15 State Marathon Team Selection Races** As part of the race calendar each year the Paddle Victoria Marathon Committee is to select and nominate which races will be used as part of the selection criteria for those paddlers wishing to nominate for selection in the Victorian Team.



Thankyou to our hardworking officials and volunteers. L-R Ruth Graeves, John Young, Joe Alia. Taken at the Nagambie race and pictured in the background is visitor Chloe, a C1 paddler in the English Sprint Team. Photo: Arabella Eyre