
From: RMYC Port Hacking - Sailing
Sent: Tuesday, 29 June 2021 4:51 PM
To: john.barter1@bigpond.com
Subject: Current Covid Restrictions for Boating

RMYC Port Hacking - Sailing

Current Covid Restrictions for Boating

To All Skippers and Sailors of the Sailing Division;

NSW Maritime has issued a boating update from the 26th June 2021 which is in accordance with Public Health Orders from the NSW Health (see the attached email from Australian Sailing).



The Key points which are stated in the attached email are;

- The Delta strain is far more contagious than the strains we faced last year.
- We will get through this faster if we all reduce our interactions with people outside our home as much as possible.
- In the Greater Sydney area including the Central Coast, Wollongong, Shellharbour and the Blue Mountains – no community sport can take place – no training or competition – this includes school holiday programs – they are not considered vacation care or child care.

For the RMYC-PH Sailing Division there will be No organised racing or cruising to be held until further notice from NSW Health.

We all trust that you stay safe and observe the rules for social distancing and look forward to competing in our race and cruising program post the lockdown.

Regards

Alistair Rowe
Sailing Captain
RMYC Port Hacking Sailing

Hello Club Officials,

Today I attended a meeting with the Minister for Sport Nicole Ward MLC and Dr Richard Broome from the NSW Dept of Health and representatives of all sports.

The keys messages from the meeting were:-

- The Delta strain is far more contagious than the strains we faced last year.
- We will get through this faster if we all reduce our interactions with people outside our home as much as possible.
- In the Greater Sydney area including the Central Coast, Wollongong, Shellharbour and the Blue Mountains – no community sport can take place – no training or competition – this includes school holiday programs – they are not considered vacation care or child care.

The following update has been published by NSW Maritime (source - <https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/maritime/covid-19-update.html>)

NSW Maritime - COVID-19 Boating Update

From 26 June 2021, NSW Government Public Health Orders have been updated requiring people in Greater Sydney (including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong and Shellharbour) to stay at home until 11.59pm on Friday, 9 July 2021 unless they have a 'reasonable excuse'. View the [latest rules](#).

Unless you have an essential need to be out - stay home.

A 'reasonable excuse' to leave your home to use your vessel could be to:

- limited recreation (e.g. kayaking/sailing/paddling/fishing etc);
- get to and from work, where the work cannot reasonably be performed from home;
- get groceries; and
- provide assistance, care or support to an immediate member of the family.

Socialising or cruising on the water is not a 'reasonable excuse' to leave your home.

Remember, physical distancing and gathering rules apply at all times – including at the boat ramp and on your boat. For details on gathering and distance requirements, check the [NSW Government website](#).

Skippers must also remember their other safety responsibilities regarding safety equipment, alcohol consumption, keeping a proper lookout and proceeding at a safe speed.

For the latest information on coronavirus and current restrictions, members of the community are encouraged to check the [NSW Government website](#) for regular updates.

Permitted water-based activities under the current Public Health Orders

The table shows the permitted water-based activities under the current Public Health Orders.

Physical distancing and gathering rules are to be observed at all times during any of the below activities. When on a commercial vessel that has less than two sides open to the weather, those on board must wear masks if they are on the vessel with another person. Commercial vessels (excluding vessels providing tours or hosting functions) are exempted from restrictions on gathering.

When on a private boat, the skipper is to ensure there is 4 square metres of space for each person on board. If there is not 4 square metres of space per person, the skipper will not be complying with the Public Health Order.

Boating in Greater Sydney is permitted as outdoor recreation, provided the vessel remains in Greater Sydney. Vessels outside Greater Sydney are not permitted to enter Greater Sydney for recreational purposes.

The latest information on physical distancing and gathering rules is available on the [NSW Government](#) website.

If you are satisfied you meet all the criteria, please still only travel and boat locally.

Activity	Permitted?	Notes
PWC/jet ski for transportation or fishing	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical distancing and gathering rules apply • Considered as exercise or transportation
Fishing	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical distancing and gathering rules apply • Anchoring permitted while fishing only • Considered as exercise
Tow sports (water-skiing, wake sports etc.)	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical distancing and gathering rules apply • Must have a skipper and observer in addition to the person being towed • Considered as exercise
Sailing	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical distancing and gathering rules apply • Considered as exercise
General boating for recreational purposes	No	Not considered a reasonable excuse

Kayaking or paddle sports	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical distancing and social gathering rules apply • Considered as exercise
Stay overnight on a boat or hire a boat/houseboat?	No	Not considered a reasonable excuse

Purchasing, maintaining and servicing your vessel

The following activities are considered reasonable excuses to leave your home as they fall under the category of obtaining goods and services or undertaking a legal obligation:

- Travel to a dealership or retail store to pick up boating equipment
- Access a vessel at a marina or on a mooring to maintain, service or check on systems and make sure it is safe and compliant (per legal obligations to do so)
- Take a vessel to a marina or boat shed for repairs or servicing
- Pick up vessel from a marina or boat shed after servicing
- Pick up a vessel that you have purchased from a dealer, broker or person and tow it home
- Take a vessel to a marina or broker to prepare a vessel for sale
- Move a vessel between marinas or moorings for relocation purposes

Physical distancing and gathering rules are to be observed at all times during any of the above activities. The latest information on Physical distancing and gathering rules are available on the [NSW Government](#) website.

We will continually update our COVID-19 Information page - <https://www.sailingresources.org.au/covid-19/nsw/>

Please also see the official pages for the most up to date information –

- <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/rules>
- <https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/covid-19-information>
- <https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/maritime/covid-19-update.html>

Kind regards,

Emma

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