

Merricks Yacht Club – Boat Launching



Merricks Yacht Club was formed in 1964 by an enthusiastic group of Merricks sailors with the express purpose of providing a sailing club that served the village of the time and a venue for locals to gather and socialise.

Under our lease with the DSE, Merricks Yacht Club is required to conduct power boat activities in a way which is sympathetic to the environment. Meaning, boat operators are to be considerate of the use of engines close to shore where disturbance to sand and sea vegetation is minimised.

Member's power boat usage is acknowledged but is not encouraged by the DSE.

Under our lease, numbers and size of powered craft launched through Merricks Yacht Club will be monitored by the Merricks Beach Foreshore Reserve Committee of Management (MBFRCM), where if excessive numbers, oversized or continual seabed disturbance is regularly observed; this will be raised with the Yacht Club committee and future lease renewal opportunities may be put at risk. Further, PWC & Jet skis are not able to be launched through MYC or used at Merricks Beach.

As a member of Merricks Yacht Club you are offered the opportunity to be a participant in and enjoy a unique part of Australia, and its boating heritage.

When considering the use of Merricks Yacht Club for boat launching facilities, the following conditions apply:

1. The maximum size power boat that MYC will launch is to be no more than 6 meters in length, with a gross weight of not more than 2400 kg with tandem axle. The exception is trailable yachts and self launching rigid inflatable craft, with a maximum length 7 meters, with weight of not more than 2000kg.
2. When launching and recovering your boat, clarify with members, who will be assisting with the following, given that the tasks need to be done simultaneously to effect a safe recovery:
 - A. driving the boat
 - B. controlling boat-trailer alignment
 - C. driving the tractor and/or
 - D. operating the winch
3. Owners of larger boats should not be misled into thinking that recovering their boat at Merricks is straightforward, let alone a given. It requires a coordinated team of experienced personnel, favorable sea and sand conditions, a suitable & reliable trailer, beach mats etc.
4. Launching and retrieval of member's boats can only be undertaken by use of the tractor and/or winches.
5. Use of personal vehicles to launch your boat is not permitted.
6. **Merricks Yacht Club is not a general purpose boat ramp, only 'club members' may launch their power boats.**
7. Please discuss any queries or concerns with a committee member if clarification of these conditions is required.