

Response to the Office of the State  
Coroner of New South Wales

**Report into Boating Incident  
Georges River  
8 May 2004**

<b>Coroner</b>	<b>Senior Deputy State Coroner, J. Milledge</b>
<b>Date of findings</b>	<b>13 May 2005</b>
<b>Inquest location</b>	<b>Glebe</b>
<b>Recommendation(s)</b>	The incident was examined and reported on by the Office of the Coroner. <b>One recommendation</b> was made to NSW Maritime in relation to Young Adult Licence holders.
<b>Status of recommendations</b>	<b>Closed.</b>

**Background**

Although there were no direct witnesses to this incident, it appears that a young adult licence holder, who was travelling on the Georges River in a 3.3 metre aluminium runabout on the early evening of 8 May 2004, collided with a vessel on a swing mooring. It seems the person suffered a head injury and was thrown into the water.

**GEORGES RIVER, 8 MAY 2004**

No.	Coroner's recommendation	NSW Maritime's response <sup>1</sup>
1.	<p>Consideration be given to limiting the engine capacity for young adult licence (sic) holders to a maximum of 10 horsepower unless, accompanied by a general adult licence (sic) holder."</p>	<p>The engine capacity for young adult licence holders has not been restricted. Incidents involving young adult licence holders and large capacity engines do not feature highly in the incident statistics.</p> <p>However, a number of practical restrictions do apply to young adult licence holders. Young adult licence holders must not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) drive a vessel at a speed greater than 20 knots</li> <li>(b) drive a vessel in any race, display, regatta, exhibition or similar operation</li> <li>(c) drive a vessel at a speed of 10 knots or more: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) in the case of a personal watercraft, without the holder of a personal watercraft driving licence being present on the personal watercraft, or</li> <li>(ii) in any other case, without a general boat driving licence holder present in the vessel, or</li> <li>(iii) between sunset and sunrise, or</li> <li>(iv) while the vessel is towing any person.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**This recommendation is considered closed.**

<sup>1</sup> The response should be considered in conjunction with the published regulations, policies and safety initiatives outlined on the NSW Maritime website and in published materials.