Empire Marina Lake Macquarie

Updated DIY Works Policy

Date: 11rd March 2026

Empire Marina Lake Macquarie wishes to advise the boating community of an important update regarding Do-It-Yourself (DIY) maintenance and repair works conducted within the marina.

For many years, Empire Marinas has supported vessel owners who wished to undertake approved maintenance, and improvement works on their boats while on the hardstand. This approach has reflected the strong relationship we value with our boating community and our long-standing commitment to providing a flexible and supportive marina environment.

Following careful review, and due to increasing regulatory and compliance requirements affecting marina and boatyard operations, Empire Marinas has made the difficult decision to discontinue DIY works at Empire Marina Lake Macquarie.

This decision has not been made lightly. In recent years, the regulatory environment governing marina facilities has evolved significantly, including increased obligations relating to:

- Insurance compliance requirements
- Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) regulations
- Work Health and Safety (WHS) legislation
- Risk management and duty-of-care responsibilities

As a commercial marina and boatyard operator, Empire Marinas must ensure that all activities undertaken within the facility comply with current legislative, environmental, and insurance requirements. Unfortunately, the risks associated with privately managed works can no longer be reasonably accommodated within our operational and insurance frameworks.

All maintenance, repair, and vessel works undertaken within Empire Marina Lake Macquarie will need to be carried out by appropriately qualified, insured, and approved marine contractors who operate in accordance with marina policies and regulatory requirements.

Empire Marinas remains committed to supporting our customers through this transition. We will continue to work closely with vessel owners to provide guidance regarding approved contractor processes and the updated requirements.

For customers who already have confirmed DIY hardstand bookings prior to 1 July 2026, these bookings will be honoured under the conditions in place at the time they were approved.

We understand that this change may affect some boat owners who have traditionally undertaken their own work, and we sincerely appreciate the understanding and cooperation of our marina community as we implement this necessary adjustment.

Our priority remains the safety of our customers, contractors, and staff, as well as the protection of the Lake Macquarie marine environment.