

## SWIMMING

It is the responsibility of non scout hirers of the pool to ensure that they conform to the rules and regulations of their own organisation. However when their own organisation's rules are less strict than those detailed in this publication, these safety rules will apply, they must not be compromised

In all cases the Camp staff or person in control of the activity will take into account the ability of the participants (Young persons, weak swimmers, disabled) and these rules will be amended accordingly in line with those abilities, the rules will however not be relaxed, but extra precautions will be taken to ensure the safety of the users. The pool will only be booked to one unit at time

## Lifeguards minimum qualifications

- Lifeguards must be able to swim and be capable of carrying out resuscitation [CPR] for the age of persons using the pool
- The lifeguard will not enter the water (except for rescue) but will sit or stand close to the pool. They should have an uninterrupted view of the full pool and be suitably dressed.
- The lifeguard should be physically fit have good vision and hearing, be mentally alert and self disciplined
- They should be aware of the Normal Pool operating procedures
- The maximum length on duty at any one time will be 45 minutes
- Lifeguards will be aware of position of first aid equipment.
- The lifeguard will oversee the activity and the case of an emergency then the lifeguard will be responsible for rescue and resuscitation

## Number of Lifeguards/Adult Helpers on Duty

- There will always be one lifeguard on duty. In this case then there will be a method of calling for assistance this will be by radio or air operated horn. The duty camp wardens will be aware of the significance of such an alarm. A second lifeguard will be delegated to assist if the number of swimmers exceeds seven. These arrangements will be in force before swimming commences.
- When the pool is being used by persons with disabilities then the number of lifeguards and adult helpers will be assessed by the Camp Warden before the session commences
- In addition to the nominated lifeguard children under the age of 8 will be accompanied into the water by an adult or responsible person aged at least 16 in the following ratio
  - Under 4 years ~ one to one
  - Four to seven ~ two to one
  - Seven to eight ~three to one

## POOL SAFETY OPERATING PROCEDURES

## Normal Operating Procedures

- The pool will be booked through the normal campsite booking procedures
- Before use the pool and surround will be checked to ensure there are no trip/slip hazards, that the emergency equipment is available, safety signs displayed and the pool water is clear.
- All users will shower before using the facilities
- The nearest telephone is in the duty warden's office.
- The lifeguard is in complete control of the activity, his decision is final
- Any accident or near miss must be reported to the Camp Warden who will ensure that these details are passed to the Camp Management Committee for investigation.
- Should the pool shows signs of cloudiness, i.e. the bottom of the pool at it's shallowest part is not clearly visible then the pool will be immediately vacated and remain closed until the pool has regained it's clarity
- A long handled hook will be available at all times in case of an accident.
- The maximum number in the pool and enclosure at any time will be 20 persons, excluding lifeguards
- Diving and bombing and jumping in are forbidden.
- On leaving the pool area the area is checked for any persons remaining inside and the door locked
- The person acting in the position of 'lifeguard' will be in complete charge at all times
- The lifeguard will carry a whistle, swimmers will be informed before entering the pool that the whistle

- is an emergency signal and they must be quiet and listen for the lifeguards verbal instructions
- No persons will be allowed in the pool during cleaning or vacuuming.
- No electrical equipment, with the exception of battery operated equipment will be used in the pool enclosure. [ the exception being maintenance when the pool will be withdrawn from use and suitable safety procedures put in place e.g. RCD or low voltage equipment]
- The pool will be checked regularly for pH and chlorine. Should the pool not meet the criteria then it will be closed until the parameters are met.
- No lone swimmers are allowed.
- Horseplay will not be allowed
- In the unlikely event a person having to be lifted from the pool then they will be positioned with their back to the pool side.
- Signage displaying the following will be prominently displayed
  - Depth
  - Forbidding diving and jumping in
- If the lifeguard has to leave the area for a short period then he/she will ensure that the designated second responsible person will be informed and will take over the lifeguard's duties. It is not expected that this arrangement will last for longer than 5 minutes; if the period is going to be longer then the swimming session will end. If there is only one lifeguard on duty the pool will be cleared and swimmers told to wait on the side until the lifeguard returns
- Swimmers will be advised to use the pool in pairs as a safety precaution and to inform the lifeguard if anyone is in trouble.
- Swimmers should be told before commencement the following rules (copies of which will be displayed)
  - Beware of younger children in the pool as they can be vulnerable.
  - No diving ~ No horseplay ~ No ducking ~ No unruly behaviour ~ No running ~ No jumping ~ No eating or drinking ~ No pushing ~ No glass allowed
- If you suffer from athletes foot, veruccas or any other medical condition, this must be reported to the lifeguard and the necessary protective procedures will be taken

#### Emergency Operating Procedures

- In the case of disorderly behaviour the pool will be cleared and the offenders asked to leave
- If there is any strong smell of chlorine then the pool will be evacuated
- When an emergency occurs the lifeguard will sound the whistle and order the pool to be cleared
- The second nominated person if in attendance will see to the evacuation whilst the lifeguard deals with the emergency
- The alarm will be raised by radio, air horn or by contacting the duty warden's office.
- The duty wardens will be trained to attend the scene if an alarm is raised in order to assist, and will if necessary radio base for emergency services or return to base to summon help.
- If evacuation is necessary then the evacuated swimmers will return to the changing room and wait there for further instructions

#### Safety features

- There are no sudden changes in depth. Changes are less than 1 in 15 and are clearly marked
- The maximum depth is 1.25 metres, minimum 0.85 metres
- The dimension of the pool are 13.7 m by 5.7m
- The pool edge is clearly visible.
- There are no sharp edges or projections.
- There are two suction outlets neither of which are capable of trapping by suction
- The area around the pool is slip resistant concrete flags. The pool bottom is non slip construction
- Pool chemicals are carefully stored in locked plant room. COSHH assessments have been completed on all chemicals
- Notices of depth are prominently displayed
- The area of the pool is less than 170 m<sup>3</sup> being only 78.09 m<sup>3</sup>
- The pool and enclosure are secure from unauthorised access
- Plant and chemicals are securely locked in the plant room

BRADLEY WOOD SCOUT CAMP HANDBOOK

SWIMMING ~ 14.9

RISK	PERSONS AT RISK			CONTROLS TAKEN TO MINIMISE RISKS	Probability	Consequence	Score	RISK
	Young persons	Visitors	Staff/leaders					
Drowning	✓		✓	Operating Procedures strictly enforced. Lifeguards on duty at all times. Life saving equipment provided and maintained	1	10	10	Low/Medium
Slip/Trip	✓	✓	✓	Supervision to stop horseplay. Pool surround and pool of concrete non slip construction. Area checked before use for trip hazards	4	6	24	Medium
Impact with bottom, causing concussion, spinal injury or muscoskeletal injuries	✓		✓	No diving/jumping rules strictly enforced by lifeguard and understood by users. Safety signs displayed	2	4	8	Low
Ingestion of dirty water	✓			Pool is checked daily when in use for pH and chlorine content. The pool is not used if the operating parameters are not met. Lifeguard will suspend the session if there are signs of the pool losing it's clarity	10	1	10	Low/Medium
Impact with side of pool or pool enclosure	✓			Strict no pushing rules in operation and enforced by lifeguard. Users must understand the pool rules before commencement of session	4	2	8	Low
Chemical Hazards	✓	✓	✓	Plant room locked at all times and there is no access to swimmers. All Chemicals are assessed under COSHH.	1	6	6	Low
Cuts from glass	✓	✓	✓	No glass objects allowed in enclosure and this must be understood by swimmers and enforced by lifeguard	1	4	4	Low
Trapping in suction vents	✓		✓	Large overspill type vents (2) do not pose hazard	0	10	0	Low
Infection (athletes foot veruccas etc)	✓		✓	These must be reported and suitable waterproof covering worn to prevent spreading	2	2	4	Low
Unauthorised Use	✓	✓	✓	Equipment removed from area and securely stored	2	4	8	Low Risk