CODE OF PRACTICE

FOR PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS
IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

2022

FOREWORD

Scope

South Australian pool operators work within a diverse web of standards, state legislation and industry guidelines to ensure adequate safeguards are in place to minimise the risk of injury to both patrons and employees. The Code of Practice for Public Swimming Pools in SA 2022 was developed to incorporate all appropriate guidelines and regulations required to operate a public swimming pool to the highest possible standard within the South Australian Aquatic Industry.

The Code of Practice is designed to complement Royal Life Saving Australia's Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations (GSPO) and assists pool operators to identify gaps and assign standards for best industry practice. It is strongly encouraged that pools remain subscribed to the GSPO to ensure they are aware of any further industry updates or changes.

The Code of Practice will also be regularly updated to ensure both publications remain relevant and aligned. If there is a serious incident such as a near drowning or drowning at your facility, the GSPO is the standard that will be referred to in a Coronial inquest.

The Code of Practice benefits all Aquatic Industry operators, employees and patrons by providing a framework for planning and assessing aquatic environments, creating, and maintaining safer venues and minimising risks and hazards.

Acknowledgements

The development of the SA Swimming Pools Code of Practice was originally funded by the Office for Recreation, Sport, and Racing (ORSR) in 2015/16 and has since been reviewed and updated by the SA Aquatics Committee (SAAC) in 2022 under Life Saving SA.

The Code of Pratice has been developed for industry by industry to complement the GSPO as an Executive Summary of industry best practice. The 2022 SAAC acknowledges the original development of the Code of Practice by Recreation South Australia and the previous Aquatics Committee.

Government of South Australia

Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
AQUATICS COMMITTEE

The South Australian Aquatics Committee (SAAC) is an industry led committee, that has been established by industry, for industry.

Life Saving SA acts as the secretariat (ex officio) of this group with the committee providing vital support and guidance to Government on industry wide advocacy items, challenges and opportunities.

The committee consists of the following key industry stakeholders including: Surf Life Saving SA, Royal Life Saving SA, AUSTSWIM SA, Swimming SA, Swim Coaches & Teachers Australia and Swim Australia.

And industry representatives including: Local Government, Belgravia Leisure, YMCA, Blue Fit, SA Aquatic & Leisure Centre (YMCA Vic), State Swim and independent swim schools.

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INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background

Pool operators work within a diverse web of standards, state legislation and industry best practice to ensure adequate safeguards are in place to minimise the risk of injury to both patrons and employees.

The Royal Life Saving Society - Australia publish the RLSS Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation (GSPO) - a venue-based risk management tool provided as a voluntary guide to assist operators in satisfying their legislative duties and providing a high standard of care. It is recommended that every pool operator applies the GSPO to their swimming pool to ensure a safe aquatic environment for patrons and staff.

The South Australian Aquatics Committee (SAAC) believe this industry driven approach is the best way to ensure employees are appropriately trained and operating in safe environments and patrons are subject to consistent water safety messages to prevent major incidents.

The Code of Practice (the Code) will benefit all employees and patrons in the aquatic industry by providing a framework for planning and assessing aquatic environments, creating and maintaining safer venues and minimising risks and hazards.

1.2   Purpose

This Code has been prepared to recommend a minimum set of standards to the operation and management of public swimming pools. These pools have been defined in Table 1. Classification of Public Swimming Pools. This Code is aimed primarily at local government authorities, management and operators of swimming pools used by the public. This does not preclude management from adopting higher standards if these are necessary or appropriate to the characteristics of their pool. Aimed to support an appropriately developed supervision plan, the Code is not a comprehensive, stand-alone document. It should be used in conjunction with other relevant resources on pool operation, many of which are referenced in this Code.

1.3   Ongoing Review

The South Australian Aquatics Committee (SAAC) will assume responsibility to review comments and undertake formal evaluations of the Code annually or as deemed necessary. In addition, new standards may be developed and implemented following the protocol for the development of the Code.

Operators are encouraged to provide written comments on the Code for evaluation by the SAAC.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSES

2.1 Regulations

Mandatory

- South Australian Public Health Act 2011
- South Australian Public Health (General) Regulations 2013
- Work Health and Safety Act 2012
- Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012
- Dangerous Substances Regulation 2017
- Planning, Development, and Infrastructure Act 2016
- Australian Standards Handbook HB
- Training.gov.au - National register for training in Australia
- Australian Government Department of Education, Skills, and Employment
- Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017
- Standard for the Operation of Swimming Pools and Spa Pools in South Australia 2013

Recommended

- Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations
- Code of Practice for Public Swimming Pools in SA 2022
- Australian Resuscitation Council Guidelines
- Safe Environment Policy (Local Government Association SA)
- Child safe environment policy 2021
- SA health website - COVID 19 Health Information

The Code of Practice was developed to be used in conjunction with relevant legislation, standards and guidelines. The following are the key known regulatory documents relevant to South Australia.

Water Quality

- South Australian Public Health Act 2011
- South Australian Public Health (General) Regulations 2013

- Standard for the Operation of Swimming Pools and Spa Pools in South Australia (developed to assist local councils in the administration of the legislation)
- Guideline for the Inspection and Maintenance of Swimming Pools and Spa Pools in South Australia

Pool Operation

- RLSS Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation
- Code of Practice for Public Swimming Pools in SA 2022

Health and Safety

- Work Health and Safety Act 2012
- Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012
- Australian Resuscitation Council Guidelines
- Dangerous Substances Regulation 2017
- Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017
- SafeWork SA
- SA Health website (including COVID-19)

Facility Design

- Planning, Development, and Infrastructure Act 2016
- Australian Standards Handbook HB

Training

- Training.gov.au - National register for training in Australia
- Australian Government Department of Education, Skills, and Employment

2.2 Classification of Public Swimming Pools

For the purpose of this Code, public swimming pools shall be classified in accordance with Table 1.

This classification is a guide only. Some facilities may not easily fit into these categories. In such cases, management should determine their own categories based on factors listed in Table 1, together with an assessment of their risk.

Once a group for a swimming pool has been determined, management should then determine and document the standards that apply to each classification in terms of staff in attendance. Keeping a record of the process determining this will assist with formal risk management review processes.

Management may discover its swimming pool falls under different classifications throughout a weekly cycle of programming, in which case the staff in attendance will differ also.

Table 1. Classification of Public Swimming Pools

	Group	Description	Patron Access	Activity	Staff in Attendance	Levels	Configuration	Other
1	Super Facility	• Multi-purpose aquatic (and recreation) facilities • Additional amenities including creche, Gymnasium, cafeteria, sauna, spa, steam room, multiple change facilities	• Typically available to the general public for payment of an entry fee • Public access with limited restrictions • Children 10 and under need to be accompanied by a person over 16.	• Multiple activities occurring at the same time • Eg. Structured and non-structured • Multiple user groups at the same time • Eg. Free-play, lap swimming, learn to swim, scuba diving	• Lifeguards directly supervising water at all times • Technical Operator on site at all times • Provide First Aid qualified personnel on site at all times HLTAID003	• High	• More than one body of water • Pools of various shapes and depths • May contain dive towers, waterslides, areas for waterplay,etc	• Watch Around Water Accreditation • Appropriate Signage
2	Large Facility	• Operate aquatic centre as a business	• Typically available to the general public for payment of an entry fee • Public access with limited restrictions • Children 10 and under need to be accompanied by a person over 16.	• Multiple activities occurring at the same time • Eg. structured and non-structured • Multiple user groups at the same time • Eg. free-play, lap swimming, learn to swim, scuba diving	• Lifeguards directly supervising water at all times • Technical Operator on site at all times • Provide First Aid qualified personnel on site at all times HLTAID003	• High-medium	• More than one body of water • Generally of standard rectangular shape	• Watch Around Water Accreditation • Appropriate Signage
3	Medium Facility	• Local community swimming pool • Eg. School pools, Learn to Swim pools, community pools	• Typically conducts programs • Restricted availability to general public for payment of an entry fee • Children 10 and under need to be accompanied by a person over 16.	• Either structured activities OR non-structured activities occurring at a given time • Eg. club training/ learn to swim/ aqua classes or recreational swimming	• Program participants and user groups directly supervised at all times • Lifeguard supervision • Provide First Aid qualified personnel on site at all times HLTAID003 • Technical Operator on call at all times	• Medium-Low	• Generally one body of water of standard rectangular shape • May be additional toddlers pool	• Watch Around Water Accreditation • Appropriate Signage
4	Small Facility	• Supplementary provision to core business. Hydrotherapy pools • Eg. caravan parks, hotels,schools, health clubs, retirement villages, resorts	• Restricted to discrete users and user groups • Eg. owners, occupiers and their guests, members, students • Children 10 and under need to be accompanied by a person over 16.	• Non-structured	• Lifeguard or duty/park manager supervision • Technical operator on call at all times • Provide First Aid qualified personnel on site at all times HLTAID003	• Very Low	• One small swimming pool (less than 25m in length)	• Watch Around Water Accreditation • Appropriate Signage

3. STAFFING REQUIREMENTS OF SWIMMING POOLS

This section defines requirements of staff for qualifications, training and standards using the aquatic facility classification defined in Table 1. Requirements are listed for personnel in aquatic technical operations, pool lifeguard (supervision), emergency care and swimming and water safety teaching.

It is management's responsibility to ensure the personnel have the skills and qualifications necessary to adequately address the risks associated with their pool. This Code recommends the minimum standards but does not preclude management adopting higher standards appropriate to the characteristics of their public swimming pool, as per the respective facilities supervision plan. In circumstances where a facility is operated and supervised by one person, that person will need to comply with all the qualification requirements that apply to that facility. In circumstances where a facility is operated and supervised by a team of personnel, the qualification requirements may be satisfied by the collective qualifications held by individual team members.

Mandatory steps should be taken to ensure that any person participating in an aquatic activity is supervised by a qualified person (e.g. pool lifeguard or qualified duty manager) or that the responsible person providing supervision has the appropriate qualifications for that specific activity.

Personnel must update their qualifications and certificates through participation in re-accreditation or professional development programs in accordance with industry requirements and recommendations. We recommend that registered training organisation's (RTO's) deliver these qualifications and hold current ASQA compliance.

The recommended minimum standards for public swimming pools are based on nationally accredited vocational competencies for the sport, fitness and recreation sectors. All Units of Competency listed in this section are sourced from the current Sport, Fitness and Recreation Training package. Please note this is updated regularly. These Units can be delivered by an organisation listed on the www.training.gov.au website that has the required units on their scope.

A qualified Swimming & Water Safety Teacher must deliver swimming lessons within all swimming pools; however they are not required to be on site when lessons are not being conducted. To perform the duties of a Pool Lifeguard at an Aquatic Facility an individual should hold a current Statement of Attainment with the SISSS00111 - Pool Lifeguard skill set endorsed as part of the Sport, Fitness and Recreation Training Package as delivered by a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). As per the GSPO, drugs & alcohol are prohibited for any aquatic industry personnel

Qualification Requirements of Public Swimming Pools

For all current qualification requirements, please refer to the Skills IQ website - see Appendix 7.2 for instructions on how to access.

Note:

The SIS Sport and Recreation qualifications are currently under review and the updated units and skill sets will be available for public consultation in June 2022. Skills IQ anticipate lodging this for endorsement in September and are hopeful it may be published by the end of 2022.

To check the status and replacement units for any superseded units simply visit https://training.gov.au/Search

3.1 Qualifications

Group	Aquatic Technical Operator	Pool Lifeguard	Provide First Aid	Swimming & Water Safety Teacher
1	On Site	On Site	On Site	On Site
2	On Site	On Site	On Site	On Site
3	On Direct Standby	On Site	On Site	On Site
4	On Direct Standby	On Site	On Site	On Site

A team of personnel may satisfy the qualification requirements by the collective qualifications held by individual team members. The operator of a Group 1 and Group 2 facility shall ensure that whenever the facility is open or available for use by the public, sufficient staff members are on the premises that hold the required qualifications.

The number of trained personnel that need to be on duty to adequately deal with emergencies will depend on the circumstances of each swimming pool. Lifeguards must be able to provide supervision at all times, and not be allocated duties that could interfere with their ability to respond immediately to an emergency.

Group 3 and Group 4 facilities where direct lifeguard supervision is not possible are required to implement other measures to reduce the risk to bathers. For example: Watch Around Water. However, we strongly encourage facilities to have one active lifeguard on duty at all times whenever the pool is open to the public.

Management should carefully consider the benefits of having more than one person on duty, particularly during an emergency such as a rescue or when first aid is needed.

Where management has assessed that it is appropriate to have only one person on duty, they must ensure procedures are in place to reduce the risk to bathers and deal with emergencies. Examples of such measures may include a quick and direct means of communication to staff on standby or emergency services.

3.1.1 Supervision Requirements

In accordance with guideline SV9 2019 GSPO – Maintain active supervision of aquatic users, activites and the aquatic environment for any further risks or emergencies:

- Pool Lifeguards shall be located to maintain supervision of the water.

- Lifeguards shall not be assigned duties that would unduly distract them from supervising patrons or program participants at all times, or unduly inhibit their ability to provide immediate assistance to patrons or program participants in distress.

ARE YOU IN RATIO?
NEW POOL SUPERVISION RATIOS

MAXIMUM RATIO: CHILDREN UNDER 5
1 ADULT TO 2 CHILDREN AGED 0-4 YEARS

Children 0-4 years of age MUST be accompanied in the water at all times by a parent/caregiver.

MAXIMUM RATIO: CHILDREN UNDER 10 (5-9)
1 ADULT TO 4 CHILDREN AGED 5-9 YEARS

Children 5-9 years of age MUST be ACTIVELY SUPERVISED all times by a parent/caregiver.

MAXIMUM COMBINATION RATIO:
1 ADULT TO 1 CHILD AGED 0-4 YEARS AND 3 CHILDREN AGED 5-9 YEARS

If an adult has one child 0-4 years of age, they can only have a maximum of three children aged 5-9 years old.

UNLEY SWIMMING CENTRE | THE CITY of Unley | WATCH AROUND WATER | YOUR CHILD YOUR FOCUS

Pool supervision ratio artwork courtesy of Unley Swimming Centre.

3.1.2   Qualifications of Coaching and Instructional Staff

Management must ensure that personnel providing instruction in specific aquatic activities hold an appropriate and approved qualification, as detailed in Table 3. This recommendation should apply to venues coordinating the following activities or for groups hiring the facility to undertake the identified activities.

In accordance with Guideline GO 4.1- Hire of Facilities - 2010 of the GSPO's a letter of agreement shall outline the responsibility of management and the hirer and be countersigned by the hirer to indicate the terms and conditions have been accepted.

A letter of agreement template is provided at Appendix 7.1.

AP3.2.2 Instructor definition – An appropriately qualified person specifically employed or contracted to instruct a person in a skill set of skills or an appropriately qualified person specifically employed to supervise or lead an activity, even when supervision or leadership does not involve instruction of specific skills.

AP3.4.1 To perform the duties of an Aquatic program Instructor or Pool Lifeguard, an individual should hold the following:

a. Current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certificate issued by a Registered Training Organisation and a;

b. DHS/DCSI Working With Children Check (https://screening.sa.gov.au/types-of-check/working-with-children-check)

c. A recognised minimum qualification for instruction of the programmed activity as defined in the table below

d. Child Safe Environments for duty managers/team leaders/supervisors

e. South Australian Police Clearance

3.1.3   Evidence of Qualifications

Management and pool operators should ensure that copies of all current staff qualifications are readily available on site.

Table 3. Qualifications of Coaching and Instructional Staff in Specific Aquatic Activities

Aquatic Activity	Approved Industry Standard or Approved Equivalent
Competitive Swimming Coaching	Australian Swimming Coaching qualification, or the equivalent industry qualification Swimming Australia Ltd Bronze Coach Licenses or Equivalent Qualification (as recognised under the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme)
Platform and Springboard Diving	Australian Diving Association qualification, or the equivalent industry qualification Australian Coaching Council / National Coaching Accreditation Scheme Level 1 or Equivalent Qualification
SCUBA Diving	Dive instructor qualification from a recreational scuba training organisation or the equivalent industry association
Aqua-Exercise	That the aqua skill set (6 units) as set by the AQTF be accompanied by the inclusion of Accreditation with a Registration or Licensing Body where applicable + Provide First Aid
Hydrotherapy	Registered Physiotherapist Hydrotherapy Aquatic Safety Certificate, or the equivalent industry association
Still water lifesaving instruction Lifesaving (RLSSA Bronze Star, Medallion, Cross)	Royal Life Saving Society Australia Bronze Examiner Accreditation, or the equivalent industry qualification Current Royal Life Saving Society Australia Teacher of Lifesaving or Bronze Medallion Examiner accreditation
Water polo	Australian Water polo Association Coaching Qualification, or the equivalent industry qualification
Other	Any other aquatic activity where a relevant coaching qualification is recommended by the industry peak body
Pool Lifesaving Sport	Royal Life Saving Society Australia Level 1 Coach Licenses or Equivalent Qualification
Helicopter Underwater Escape Training	PMAOHS214B Undertake helicopter safety and escape and a current TAE40116 - Certificate IV in Training and Assessment

3.2 Training

In accordance with a risk management approach, public swimming pools should be committed to the ongoing training of water safety for all personnel using the aquatic environment to ensure that qualifications remain current. Management should also ensure that personnel are provided with frequent opportunities to practice emergency management, physical fitness, and other skills. This includes the coaching and instructional staff utilising the aquatic environment to keep their water safety competency current.

We recommend that staff maintain currency through workshops/conferences and maintain registration with a registering body if applicable.

SV9.6.2 Lifeguards working in a seasonal pool should participate in a facility specific in-service training session at the aquatic facility they are employed at just prior to the start of the season and one at least every three months thereafter until the close of the season.

SV9.6.3 All other lifeguards should participate in a minimum of four organised in-service training sessions per year to ensure currency and ongoing development of necessary skills and competencies.

3.3 Uniforms

In accordance with GSPO guideline SV13 2018-19, Pool lifeguards should be in primarily red & yellow coloured lifeguard uniforms. In accordance with the GSPO guideline SV8 2018-19, management of lifeguards, a lifeguard onsite must be at least 16 years of age however the Manager or any Lifeguard on site working alone must be a minimum age of 18.
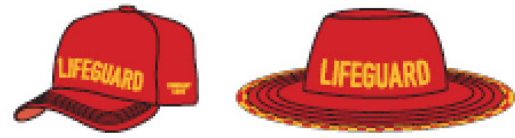
Hats

Long sleeved shirt

Short

Short sleeved shirt

4. POOL SAFETY PROGRAMS

WATCH AROUND WATER

Watch Around Water is an education and public awareness program that addresses the supervision of young children at public swimming pools. The program assists aquatic staff to promote safe supervision practices and provides a safe venue for the community to participate in aquatic sport and recreation. The program was developed by the aquatics industry and is based on the premise that it is unrealistic to expect lifeguards to provide the constant and close supervision required for each young child at the pool at all times. Although lifeguards should always be present, the responsibility of supervision of children is shared between lifeguards and parents or responsible carers. It is recommended the Watch Around Water Safety Program be utilised in all aquatic facilities in South Australia allowing public access.

Program Objectives

- Prevent drowning deaths and drowning related injuries at public swimming pools

- Promote active parental supervision

- Assist aquatic staff to promote safe supervision practices

- Provide a safe aquatic venue for the community

Key Principles

- Children under 5 years must be constantly supervised and remain within arms reach

- Children under 10 years must be accompanied into the facility and constantly supervised by a parent/ guardian

- Unsupervised children (of any age) will be removed from the water if the lifeguard is concerned for their safety.

Expanding the reach of the Watch Around Water message to such swimming areas would:

- Inform users of the importance of active supervision around the water to keep children safe

- Remind users active supervision should be practiced around all bodies of water

- Support aquatic staff at Accredited Watch Around Water Centre's in adhering to a consistent message

To accredit your facility as a Watch Around Water site please contact Life Saving SA.

https://www.lifesavingsa.com.au/watch-around-water

WE SWIM

Given our national lifestyle, swimming is a vital life skill. Not being able to swim diminishes enjoyment of life and puts lives at risk, now and in the future. When children learn to swim, it opens up a world of possibility. They get the opportunity to enjoy water activities and be involved in water-based sports, school camps, beach holidays, riverside camping and playing with friends and family at the pool, just to name a few. Through swimming lessons, they learn to recognise and understand risk factors as they enter their teens and adulthood to be able to make better decisions in and around the water to keep themselves and those around them safe.

The We Swim campaign is a national initiative of Royal Life Saving that seeks to increase swimming and water safety skills of Australian children in order to prevent drowning and increase participation in safe aquatic activity. The campaign provides parents across Australia with a call to action to ensure their children enjoy all the benefits of swimming, from the fun stuff like splashes, dives and races to the many health and safety benefits of being in, on and around the water.

The campaign aim is to ensure all children stay in lessons long enough to achieve and exceed the national benchmark for swimming and water safety; to swim continuously for 50 metres and float for 2 minutes in deep water by 12 years of age.

To find out more please contact Royal Life Saving SA or visit the We Swim website:

https://www.weswim.com.au/

5. POOL SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

5.1 Recording Incidents

The SA Aquatics Committee have identified the collation of statistics will provide a more accurate shape of the industry. Measuring rescues and first aid given to patrons helps build a stronger position for advocacy at all levels as well as provide strategic direction and ability to seek funding.

This Code encourages public swimming pool management to record incidents at their centre. Incidents are to be classified using the Incident Classification in Table 4 and made available to Life Saving SA in one of the following ways:

1. Pools keep records of incidents at their facilities
2. Pools follow company protocols in relation to incident reporting and record keeping
3. Pools supply copies of current incident report forms to Life Saving SA, Royal Life Saving SA or the SAAC as necessary
4. A Life Saving SA or Royal Life Saving SA representative visits pool to conduct a pool safety assessment and inspects records to analyse data.

Table 4. Incident Classification

Major	If emergency services were called or if CPR, defibrillation, or spine board/ collar were used
Moderate	If a water rescue was performed or if patron was advised to seek medical attention
Minor	All other injuries

Contact Life Saving SA for a copy of the excel spreadsheet to record incidents or request a representative to visit the pool and enter data onsite.

See Appendix 7.3 for a copy of the Incident Reporting Form.

5.2 Inspections and Assessments

Inspections and Assessments	Groups 1,2,3,4
Mandatory	LGASA & Safe Work SA - Public Health Act 2011
Recommended	RLSSA-GSPO

5.2.1 Local Government Association SA

In accordance with the South Australian Public Health Act 2011 (the Act), the Environmental Health Officer of the local Council or Safe Work SA conducts annual or biannual inspections of public swimming pools. Inspections are typically unannounced, where management and staff are required to assist officers by producing logbooks, records, information and providing access to plant rooms and pool decks. Environmental Health Officers will typically test the pool water to ensure it complies with the Act, as well as review the logbook and check lists to ask Management or staff questions about the operation of the pool. Environmental Health or Safe Work SA Officers also inspect food businesses, so canteen or kiosks located on site will also be inspected by the officer.

5.2.2 Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation Assessments

Both Life Saving SA and Royal Life Saving SA can conduct independent aquatic facility safety assessments of public swimming pools to assess their compliance against the National criteria of the RLSS Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations (GSPO) and the Code of Practice for Public Swimming Pools in SA 2022. These safety assessments are arranged and paid for by Councils and/or swimming pool management where full access is provided. Consultants independently evaluate and provide a pool safety report and score in accordance with the GSPO and recommendations for improvement.

We recommend that aquatic facilities conduct safety assessments via suitably qualified persons or organisations against regulatory documents. Guideline for safe pool operations NP12 2018-19.

The following criteria areas are inspected in pool safety assessments:

- Work Health & Safety
- Emergency Planning
- Qualifications and Training
- Aquatic & Swimming Programs
- Supervision
- First Aid
- Plant room and chemical storage
- Chlorine Gas (if applicable)
- Changing Facilities
- Lap & Lane Pools
- Leisure Pools
- Spa, Hydrotherapy, Wave, River pools (if applicable)
- Diving Boards
- Inflatable equipment
- Slides & Flumes
- Interactive Play Features
- Movable Floors
- Safe work SA – Psychosocial risks
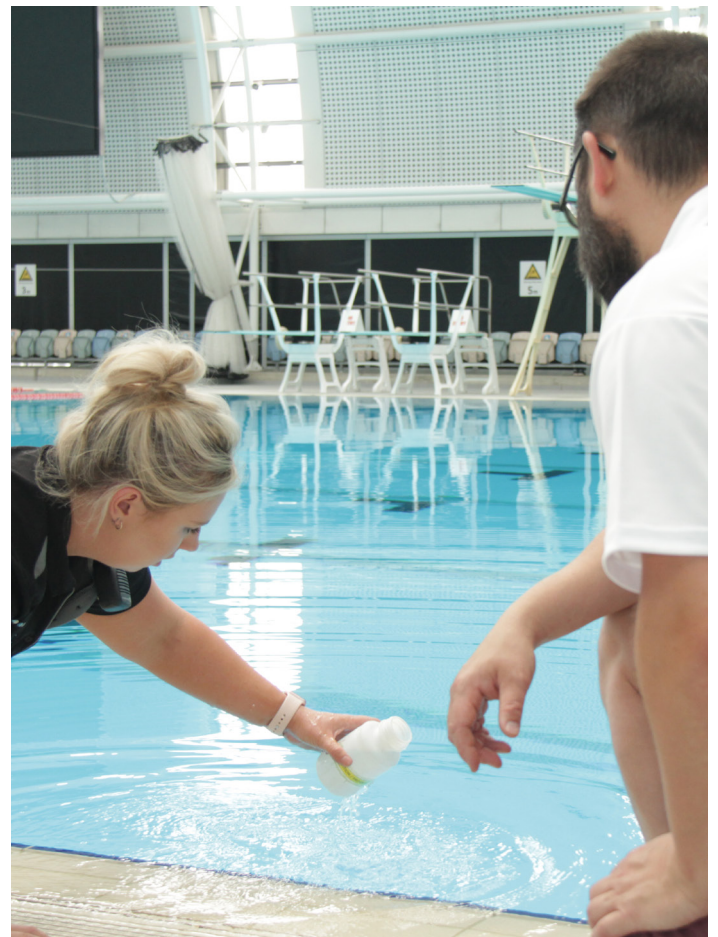
6. RECOMMENDED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

6.1 Photographs & videos

Whilst the great majority of images or videos taken at a public swimming pool are appropriate and are taken in good faith, it is a fact that images or videos can be misused and children, vulnerable persons and other patrons can be put at risk if common sense procedures are not observed.

A Photography & Videography Policy will provide a clear position to your patrons. Management may wish to engage staff in conflict resolution and/or communication training to assist their understanding on the subject.

Further information:

- SAPOL photography and videography suspicious people training
- Department for Education (https://www.education.sa.gov.au/doc/consent-form-permission-use-image-video-voice-and-creative-work-students-and-children)

See Appendix 7.4 for an example of a Photography & Videography Policy.

6.2 Overcrowding

In accordance with the GSPO, Aquatic Supervision SU1-28, the recommended minimum ratio of lifeguards to people in the water is 1 lifeguard for up to 100 people (SV5 – 5.3.13 Lifeguard ratios), or 1 lifeguard for up to 40 people in a wave pool. A risk assessment should be completed by facility operators prior to establishing lifeguard ratios. This number should be reduced in high risk circumstances (if possible and financially viable a 1:50 ratio could be implemented). Measures may be required during peak periods to control numbers in the Centre. Avoid having too many swimmers in the water at any time and ensure a safe environment is provided to patrons.

See Appendix 7.5 for an example of an Overcrowding Procedure.

6.3 Missing Children

Any report of a missing person within a public swimming pool facility should elicit an immediate emergency procedure. If the report is made to an active pool lifeguard, they must ensure their area of responsibility remains supervised.

See Appendix 7.6 for an example of a Missing Child Procedure.

6.4 Recreational use of Starting Blocks

Starting blocks located where the water depth is between 1.2m and 2.0m should be removed or isolated for recreational swimming. Isolation should be a physical barrier designed to prevent climbing or misuse of the starting block.

6.5 Signage

Safety Signage plays a vital role in risk and safety management of aquatic environments. If signage is developed, installed and maintained appropriately, it should achieve three key objectives:

1. Providing users with information on safety issues, potential hazards and rules.

2. Providing a constant, consistent, and clear set of understandable warnings and instructions.

3. Offering some protection to facility owners/ operators as a part of their duty of care towards users.

More information on signage is available in the Facility Design section in the GSPO's AS1.2.1 - this the Australian Standard. The owner or operator of an aquatic facility should ensure that signage within an aquatic facility is appropriate to the hazards, risks and information needs of potential and actual patrons at the facility.

6.6 Sun protection awareness for outdoor swimming pool employees and patrons

Overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun can cause sunburn, skin damage, eye damage and skin cancer. Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world, with two in three Australians developing some form of skin cancer before the age of 70.

Swimming is a popular sport and leisure activity within Australia. When a swimming pool is located outdoors, patrons'

risk of overexposure to harmful UV radiation increases as:

- outdoor pools are commonly used in summer, when annual UV levels are at their highest pool users typically wear minimal clothing
- patrons tend to spend significant time outdoors
- there is often little shade available
- there are high levels of indirect and reflected UV

Guidelines:

There are four key areas which operators of public outdoor swimming pools should consider ensuring patrons are protected from overexposure to UV radiation including:

- raising awareness of UV radiation exposure
- encouraging sun protection behaviour
- scheduling planned activities to minimise UV exposure
- creating an environment that reduces UV exposure.

See Appendix 7.7 for more information on sun protection guidelines.

Other policies to consider but are not limited to include the following.

- Operations manual & daily lifeguard checklist developed by facility
- Employee conduct
- Contractor policy
- Emergency Management Plan as well as an Emergency Planning Commitee (EPC) being established
- Formal record management of qualifications
- Lifeguard deployment plan
- Equipment maintenance (First Aid)
- Lifesaving equipment such as throw and reach equipment
- Annual health assessments of lifeguards
- Regular in-service training and professional development of all Aquatic staff.

Please refer to the full GSPO for further information.

https://www.royallifesaving.com.au/Aquatic-Risk-and-Guidelines/guidelines/GSPO

7. APPENDICES

7.1 Letter of Agreement template

General conditions of facility

- The hire permit holder, where appropriate, shall ensure that it is licensed or registered to carry out the activity authorised by the issuing of the hire permit.

- The hire permit holder shall comply with and give all notices required by any Act of Parliament, Ordinance, and Regulation or by-law relating to the activity.

- The Centre is a smoke and alcohol-free environment.

- The Centre is a community-orientated centre. No discriminating, insulting, offensive or vulgar behaviour will be tolerated. Persons not complying will be asked to leave at the discretion of Pool staff.

- Failure to comply with Pool procedures and RLSS Guidelines may result in the hiring organisations or any participants being removed from the Centre.

- The Centre reserves the right not to accept any event.

- The hire permit holder agrees to indemnify and to keep indemnified the (Swimming Pool Employer), it's servants and agents and each of them from and against all actions, costs claims, charges and expenses whatsoever which may be brought or made or claimed against them or any of them, arising out of any hire permit holder negligent act or omission in relation to the issuing of the permit.

- The Centre agrees to indemnify and to keep indemnified the permit holder, it's servants and agents and each of them, from and against all actions, costs, charges and expenses whatsoever which may be bought or made or claimed against them or any of them, arising out of any council negligent act or omission that council has reasonable control in relation to event activity.

Conditions Of Entry

- All persons entering (Swimming Pool Name) are required to abide by the Centre Conditions of Entry. These conditions can normally be found (location) at the entrance of the pool or on the pool walls.

Watch Around Water/ Parental Supervision Policy

- The Centre is a 'Watch Around Water' registered location; these rules must be adhered to:

  - Children Under 10 must be constantly supervised by a responsible person with an unobstructed view at all times.
  - Children Under 5 must be within arm's reach and constantly supervised by a responsible person at all times. The parent/guardian must be in the water with the child.

Supervision of children

- All hirers need to ensure the effective supervision of persons entering the centre.

- School and OSHC groups need to make reference to the 'DECO Camps and Excursion RLSS Guidelines 'to obtain the relevant information for swimming activity excursions. These RLSS Guidelines inform the following:

  - Leadership team-to-student ratios required at a pool:
  - Minimum 2 leaders required in all categories
  - Reception - Year 2   1:10
  - Year 3 - Year 7   1:12
  - Year 8 - Year 12   1:12

- Childcare regulations, based on nationally agreed standards set a ratio for swimming activities of:

  - Children under 3yrs   1:1
  - Children over 3yrs - 6yrs   1:2

- The national standard for out of school hours care is:

  - Children aged 6yrs- 12yrs   1:5

- Supervisors are required to actively supervise children at all times while at the centre - specifically the swimming pool, dry areas,and change room.

- Supervisors are to ensure that all children entering the water are confident and capable swimmers with adequate supervision according to the 'Watch Around Water' policy.

- Swimmers are to remain in pool areas that are suited to their ability and must not be allowed to enter into greater depths. This must be considered when planning various events for school carnivals.
- Hirers need to ensure the safety of their charges at all times whilst in the centre.

Dismissal

- Students are to remain under the care of the hirer while at the centre. Students are not to be dismissed from within the centre at the conclusion of the day due to the supervision requirements.

Medical Conditions

- Please ensure that all persons have brought any medications they require to the Centre including epipens and asthma medication. Please inform all users that bees may be present around the Centre. Centre staff are qualified first aiders; however, it is recommended that the hirer nominate a First Aid Officer.

Emergency Action Plan

- In the event of an emergency, centre staff will signal an alert (enter alert here) to centre users. On hearing an alert signal, pool users should return to their belongings and await further direction. If evacuation of the centre is required, centre staff will direct pool users to emergency exit locations to vacate pool grounds to an assembly point. In a medical emergency pool users should vacate pools and return to belongings until further directed.

Housekeeping

- The hire permit holder shall ensure that it leaves the area in a clean, tidy and unaltered condition at the end of completion of their hire time. Failure to do so will result in a surcharge covering cleaning/ repairs, etc.

Insurance

- Public Liability Insurance: groups utilising the centre are required to provide evidence of their current Certificate of Currency for the period of use (school groups exempt). This is to be sent to the centre prior to activities being conducted.

Hire Space

- Hire space will be allocated by centre staff. No other areas can be used or altered without the approval of authorised staff.

Cancellation Of Booking

- The centre will not be held financially liable for any decision to cancel bookings due to unforeseen circumstances where the safety of patrons may come into question. This includes circumstances such as unforeseen plant and equipment failure, water chemistry problems, natural disasters or power outages.

- As the centre is an outdoor facility, weather conditions have been considered for the cancellation of events. Events may be cancelled without incurring a cancellation fee only in extreme weather events. These are extreme storm conditions, lightning conditions and when temperatures exceed 38 degrees.

Equipment/ Structures

- Any equipment/ structures brought onsite by the hirer that have the potential to cause injury or damage is done so at hirers own risk. Persons assisting with setting up equipment do so at their own risk.

- Nothing is to be affixed to the walls, floors, fences or fixtures of the Pool without the approval of centre staff.

- The use of electrical equipment must be approved by centre staff prior to the booking. No electrical equipment is permitted within 3 metres of the pool edge, wet or pedestrian areas (battery operated equipment is preferred).

Lost Property

- It is the Hirer's responsibility to check all grounds and change facilities for lost property. All property left behind will be donated to charity after being held for a maximum of two weeks.

Carnival Booking Expectations

- Free play is limited to 100 students at any one time

ACCEPTANCE OF THIS BOOKING MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN SEVEN DAYS PRIOR TO EVENT BY (SWIMMING POOL NAME) MANAGEMENT.

I have read and agree to abide by the conditions of hire as set by the (Swimming Pool Employer Name).

We will meet all requirements to ensure an enjoyable and safe visit.

Name:……………………………….   Date: ………………………………….

7.2 Qualification requirements search on Skills IQ

For all current qualification requirements please go to the Skills IQ website:

https://www.skillsiq.com.au/

- Search: Aquatics > SISCAQU
- Search: Fitness > SIS
- Search: Sport and recreation
- Search: First Aid & CPR
- Search: Emergency Care

Other qualification requirements may include but are not limited to.

- Current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certificate issues by a Registered Training Organisations
- DHS/DCSI Working With Children Check (https://screening.sa.gov.au/types-of-check/working-with-children-check)
- A recognised minimum qualification for instruction of the programmed activity
- Child Safe Environments for duty managers/team leaders/supervisors
- South Australian Police Clearance

Note:

The SIS Sport and Recreation qualifications are currently under review and the updated units and skill sets will be available for public consultation in June 2022.

Skills IQ anticipate lodging this for endorsement in September and are hopeful it may be published by the end of 2022.

To check the status and replacement units for any superseded units simply visit:

https://training.gov.au/Search

Enter the Skills IQ unit codes in the search bar for training components area.
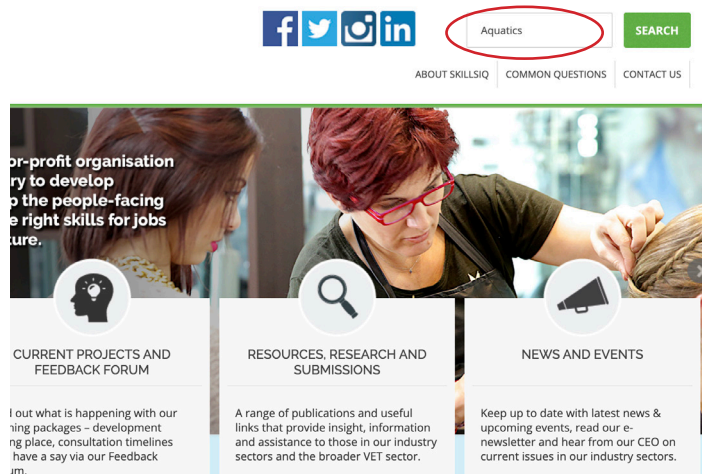
1. Open the website *https://www.skillsiq.com.au/*
2. Type in the name of the qualification topic or code in the search bar.
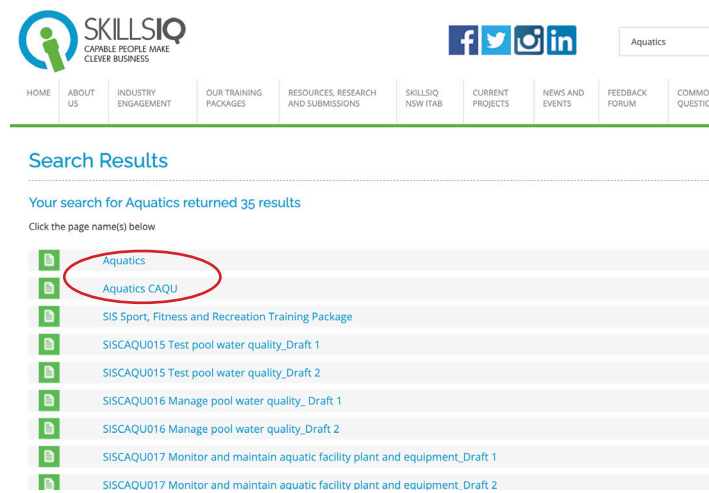
3. All search results related to that topic or code will display.
4. Select training package to view qualification requirements.
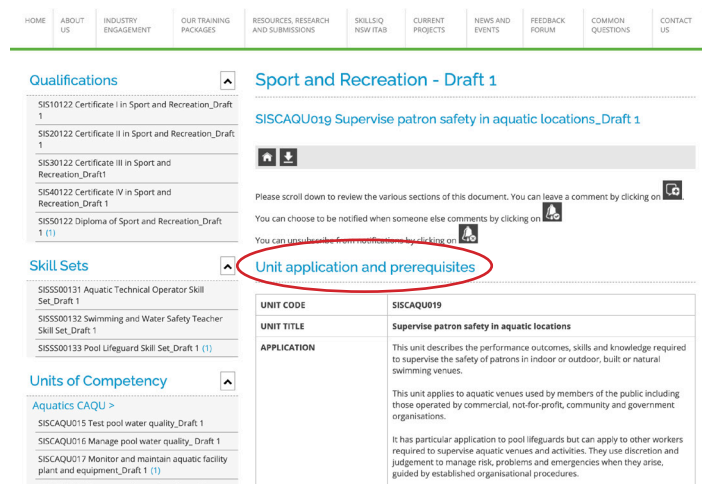
7.3 Incident reporting form example

1. Date of Incident	
dd/mm/yy	
2. Time of incident	
24 hr time	
3. Who was the victim?	
Patron	Not recorded
Other - please specify	
4. Gender of victim	
Male	Unclear/ Not recorded
Female	
5. Age of victim	
Age in years or year of birth	Unknown/ Not recorded
6. Who first recognised the incident?	
Lifeguard	LTS teacher
Self-report	Other staff member
Member of public Lifeguard	Other - please specify
Another patron	Unknown/not recorded
7. Type of incident or accident (choose all that apply)	
Act of aggression by another person	Fall, low - same level, lessthan 1 m
Cold conditions (natural origin)	Hot conditions (natural origin), sunlight
Contact with animals/vermin/insects	Lifting/pushing/pulling/stretching/over-reaching
Cutting, piercing object	Other - please specify
Drowning, submersion	Other threat to breathing (ex-drowning)
Exacerbation of pre-existing injury or condition (inc asthma, cardiac etc)	Poisoning (inc drug or medicine)
Exhaustion/Exertion	Prevention of possible injury/Enforcement of safety guidelines
Exposure to allergen	Struck by object
Exposure to chemicals/dust/gas	Swimmer in trouble
Exposure to fire/flame or hot fluid/ gas/solid	Unintentional collision with person or object
Exposure to noise/ pressure/ vibration	Unknown/Not recorded
Fainting	
Fall, high - diff level, more than 1m	
8. Other contributing factors (choose all that apply)	
Backstroke	Playing
Competing in race	Poor swimming ability
Design/construction played a role	Pushed
Diving	Running
Entering/exiting water	Skateboarding
Faulty equipment/surrounds	Trip/slip
Inappropriate victim behaviour	Under influence of drugs/alcohol
Jumping	Victim unaware of behaviour standards
Lack of supervision	Other - please specify
Not following instructions/safety guidelines	Not recorded
Patron with disability	

7.3   Incident reporting form example continued

9. Nature of injury or health issue - confirmed or suspected (choose all that apply)	
Amputation	Injury to eye
Asphyxia or other threat to breathing (inc asthma, ex drowning)	Injury to spinal cord (suspected or confirmed, ex concussion)
Blood nose	Insect bite, Effect of venom
Blow to head (no signs of concussion)	intracranial injury (inc concussion)
Burn - chemical, electrical, fire etc.	Loss of consciousness
Dental injury	Open wound
Dislocation, sprain or strain, injury to muscle or tendon	Poisoning or toxic effect (ex-venom bite)
Drowning or immersion	Superficial wound (includes bruises, rash)
Felt faint/lightheaded/dizzy	Suspected cardiac event
Felt unwell after swallowing water (not inhaled)	Suspected fit/seizure
Foreign body in natural orifice	Suspected stroke
Foreign body in soft tissue	Other - please specify
Fracture (suspected or confirmed, ex teeth)	No apparent injury
	Unknown/Not recorded

10a. Location in Centre where incident occurred - Indoor or Outdoor?	
Indoor	Unknown/Not recorded
Outdoor	

10b. Location in Centre where incident occurred - Aquatic or non-aquatic?	
Aquatic	Unknown/Not recorded
Non-aquatic	

10c. Location in Centre where incident occurred - Specific location (choose best one)	
Cafe	Play equipment (wet)
Change room/bathroom/toilet	Playground (dry)
Chemical storage room	Pool (not specified
Concourse (not specified)	Pool concourse
Creche	Rapid river
Dive/Deep pool	Room/Office
Entryway/reception area	Sauna/steam room
External surrounds e.g. car park	Slide (dry)
Flow rider	Spa
Grandstand	Spray Park/Splash pad
Grass area	Toddlers pool
Hydrotherapy/program pool	Water polo pool
Inflatable	Water slide
Lap pool	Wave pool
Lazy river	Whirlpool
Leisure pool	Off site
Plant room	Other - please specify
	Unclear/Not recorded

7.3   Incident reporting form example continued

11. Object or Structure involved	
Ball	Mat
Bar/rail	Nail/Screw/Pin
Board	Play equipment
Bulkhead/blocks	Pole/Post/Bollard
Wire/cable tie	Pool toy
Chair/Seat/Bench	Pram/Stroller
Dive board/platform	Ramp
Door/furnstyle/Glass barrier	Slide
Feature	Spa
Floor	Stairs/Steps
Grating/Gutter/Drain	Tile
Inflatable	Wall/edge
Ladder	Wheelchair/Hoist
Lane rope	Other - please specify

12. Did the incident occur during a structured event or program?	
Yes	Unknown/Not recorded
No	

13. If yes, was the event/program run by Centre?	
Yes	Unknown/Not recorded
No	

14. Was first aid required?	
Yes	Not sure
No	Unknown/ Not recorded
Yes, but declined	

15. What aid was administered? (Choose all that apply)	
Advise seek immediate medical treatment	Follow-up advice given (e.g., seek medical attention if condition worsens)
Bandage	Monitoring/Observation
Basic first aid (includes band aid, cleaning, eyedrops, ice etc.)	Other - please specify
Call emergency services	Other immobilization
Check for symptoms of concussion	Oxygen
Check for signs of spinal injury	Patron indicated would seek further medical attention
CPR	Perform a rescue
Defibrillation	Spine board/collar
Facilitate medication e.g., epi-pen, Ventolin	Unclear/Not recorded

16. Who initially administered first aid?	
Aquatics Staff member	Member of public
Other Staff member	Medical professional
Other - please specify Unknown/Not recorded	

17. What were the probable causes of the incident? (Free text answer)	
Consider level of supervision, swimming ability, victim behaviour, environmental factors, communication and understanding of safety protocols etc.	

18. How could the risk of a similar incident happening again be reduced? (Free text answer)	
Consider Personal Protection, Administrative, Engineering, Substitution, Elimination	

7.4 Photography & Videography Policy

Protecting Children and Vulnerable People

Photographic & Videographic Devices

In line with our Child Safe Environment Policy and commitment to creating a safe and enjoyable environment for children, vulnerable people and other patrons, all patrons must adhere to these Conditions of Entry regarding the use of photographic or videographic devices whilst visiting the (Swimming Pool Name).

Conditions Of Entry

- Photographic or videographic devices include cameras, video cameras, mobile phones with cameras, tablets and/ or any other device with the ability of capturing a still or moving image.

- All patrons are to be respectful to one another, which includes respecting the views of other parties.

- You must seek management's approval before taking any photos or video recordings.

- Please be aware when using photographic devices some patrons (in the background of images) may take offence to having their image caught on camera.

- When using photographic devices, the activities caught should be localised to only willing participants who have allowed for their image to be captured.

- Management reserves the right to view any images taken. Refusal may result in the Police being called to view these images and the Police will then take appropriate action to address our concerns.

- Management may hold onto a photographic device until the Police arrive if they suspect indecent filming at the Centre has occurred on that photographic device.

- If you are undertaking in what is deemed suspicious behaviour, management may contact the Police without warning.

- Use of photograph devices in the change rooms can never be justified.

- Some events, activities and programs at this Centre may allow only one approved photographer. At such events no one else will be allowed to use a photographic device.

- Failure to follow these conditions of entry may result in:

  - you being removed or banned from the Centre; and/ or
  - the Police being contacted; and/ or

  - any CCTV footage captured by our security system being made available to Police.

- Taking photos or recordings of someone without their consent may be considered failing to abide by these conditions of entry and could result in a breach of Section 26D of the Summary Offences Act 1953 for indecent filming. This attracts a maximum fine of $20,000- or 4-years imprisonment.

- This includes posting without permission, knowledge or consent on social medias platforms.

7.5 Overcrowding Procedure

A lock out is a decision made by the Supervisor and Team Leader, in conjunction with advice from the (Swimming Pool Name) manager. A lockout means that we will not allow any more people into the aquatic area as we are at maximum capacity- we cannot accommodate any more people due to WH&S reasons and so we can ensure we are GSPO compliant.

- The lockout will involve signage being placed out the front of the venue directing all members and all casual users to wait.

- People are welcome to wait on lawned area outside the Centre.

- There is no set time; people will be allowed access when people start leaving the aquatic area, on a 1 in/ 1 out basis.

- Patrons wishing to utilise the Health Club and Aqua Ed Classes will be allowed to do so immediately by presenting their membership card at the event entry.

- During a lockout period, we enforce a strict No Pass-Out policy.

- The turnstiles at the event entry should be turned off at their isolator switch located under the event entry desk, to allow egress through them both ways.

Team Leader Role

- Liaise with Aquatic Supervisor and establish what ratios are with all staff on deck.

- If ratios are becoming very borderline and no more staff are available, or if it does not look like we could fit any more people safely in the aquatic area, a lock out should be called until these numbers begin to fall.

- Once the decision has been made, the Supervisor must liaise with Customer Service and inform them that we are

about to go into a lock out, so that they can take one of the tills to the event entry.

- Signage needs to be put up directing all customers to wait.

- The Team Leader or Supervisor or security must be present at the reception areas, for crowd control and ensuring people line up in a manner that will still allow the rest of the facility to operate normally. If the Team Leader or Supervisor is required to be somewhere else, someone should be appointed to take over until the Team Leader or Supervisor returns.

- The Team Leader or Supervisor is to continually monitor the ratio situation in conjunction with the Manager, to determine whether the lock out can be terminated.

- The Team Leader or Supervisor should tell Customer Service how many people to let in at each interval, this should be based on how many people have left the aquatic area, and other factors such as how busy/full the leisure pools are.

- The Supervisor needs to make sure that the Entry Internal Glass Double Doors are locked and secure.

Aquatic Supervisor Role

- Ensure compliance with GSPO at all times, i.e., Ratios are always being met

- Be aware of user demographic and movement between areas

- Inform the Team Leader/Manager when aquatic area is starting to get busy

- Enforce strictly any crowd control management the Team Leader/ Manager requests

- Ensure all lifeguards are aware of how many people are in each pool, and surrounding the pool area to account for how many people may suddenly get in the pool and affect ratios

- Liaise with Manager /Team Leader on how ratios are, how many staff are on, which staff are finishing, replacement staff, extra staff coming in etc., anything that may affect ratios

- Try and draw people towards the dive pool area. Ensure water polo goals, balls, noodles, tyres, etc. are present in the water polo area. Ensure diving boards are open.

Customer Service Role

- Assist Team Leader/ Manager with lockout

- Public Relations - ensure people are informed that we are at maximum capacity, and queue to get into the aquatic area.

- Liaise with the Supervisor in regards to how many patrons to let in at any one time.

Cafe Supervisor Role

- When the Supervisor informs the Cafe supervisor that a lockout is pending, the supervisor is to arrange for a staff member to assist with reception and place signs.

7.6 Missing Child Procedure

Staff Member To Receive Report Of Missing Child

- Gets a description of the child and liaise with other staff members.

- Radio the DM immediately and alert all other staff of the situation

- Get a description of the child, this should include

  - Name
  - Age
  - Hair Color
  - Clothing the child is wearing

Duty Manager Role

- Locks the front doors and alerts customer service staff to make sure no one enters or exits

Other Lifeguards' Role

- Evacuate all the pools and check the bottom

- Work through Area Checklist

- Male, female, disabled and family toilets and change rooms. These areas need to be checked thoroughly not just by going in and yelling out the name.

- Outside on the 25m pool side

- Outside on both 50m pool sides

- Up the waterslide

- In the spa and steam room area

- In the first aid room

- In the swim school room

- In the car park

- Cycle room

- Department for Education (DfE) room

Gym Staff Role

- The Gym

- Creche

- Group Fitness room

If the Gym Instructor is unavailable the Duty Manager is responsible for these areas.

Once all areas have been checked the Duty Manager will call the police to report the missing child.

Lifeguard / Daily Area Checklist

- Male Change rooms

- Female Change rooms

- Disabled Change rooms

- Family Change rooms

- Outside 25m pool side

- Outside 50m pool - both sides

- First aid room

- Swim school room

- Cycle room

- Spa and Steam room

- Car Park

- Waterslide

- Creche

- Gym

- Group Fitness

- Customer Service Area

7.7 Sun Protection Protocols

Guidelines

There are four key areas which operators of public outdoor swimming pools should consider ensuring patrons are protected from overexposure to UV radiation including:

- raising awareness of UV radiation exposure
- encouraging sun protection behaviour
- scheduling planned activities to minimise UV exposure
- creating an environment that reduces UV exposure.

Awareness

When the UV radiation level reaches 3 and above it is strong enough to damage unprotected skin.

In South Australia UV levels reach 3 and above, on average, from August through to May. It is important that patrons are reminded of the sun protection times to prompt sun protection behaviour.

Pool operators are encouraged to:

- Upload the SunSmart UV widget to their pool webpage, allowing online visitors to see local sun protection times - this widget is updated automatically every day
- Download and print the SunSmart UV chart to display around the facility. Update with daily sun protection times by accessing the Bureau of Meteorology website
- Include information about sun safety upon registration/ membership
- Broadcast sun protection messages over public address systems to remind patrons to take care
- Ensure operating staff such as lifeguards, swim instructors and pool attendants are aware of UV as a workplace hazard.

There are five sun protection behaviours that should be used in combination to provide the best level of UV protection. They are:

- slip on sun protective clothing that covers as much skin as possible
- slop on broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen that is SPF30 or higher. Reapply at least every 2 hours and after towel drying
- slap on a shady hat that covers the face, neck and ears
- seek shade
- slide on wraparound sunglasses.

Pool operators are encouraged to:

- implement a sun protection policy which outlines expectations of staff in regards to protecting their skin
- ensure staff are role modelling sun protection behaviour
- encourage patrons to adopt sun protection measures and protect their skin while at the pool
- consider utilising 'SunSmart' images on websites and media campaigns which normalise sun protection behaviour
- have sunscreen and other sun protection items readily available for staff and patrons or available for purchase.

Scheduling

It is important to protect the skin anytime UV is 3 and above, which can sometimes be from as early as 8:30am to as late as 5:30pm in the evening, depending on the location. Levels are however, strongest over the middle of the day.

If outdoor swimming pools are booked for scheduled programs or events, operators are encouraged to consider, where possible:

- scheduling activities to avoid peak UV times of the day
- setting up activities in shaded areas to minimise exposure to high UV levels
- encourage patrons to come prepared with sun protection measures and additional shade where appropriate.

Environment

It is important to consider the different types of areas within an outdoor swimming pool complex and how it is used including aquatic areas, spectator areas, refreshment areas, pedestrian links, and playground facilities.

A shaded environment can significantly reduce UV exposure for pool users; however, it is important to note that UV radiation also reaches our skin from the sun indirectly, scattered by the atmosphere and reflected off pool surroundings such as water, concrete, and lawn.

Pool operators are encouraged to:

- have shaded areas available, particularly focusing on areas used by infants, toddlers, and children

- have shade available for staff and spectators

- provide portable shade or notify patrons to bring their own temporary shade (e.g., tents or umbrellas) where there is insufficient natural or built shade available

- conduct a shade audit to assess areas commonly utilised by patrons and the quality of shade available.

Relevant Links

Cancer Council SA

www.cancersa.org.au/information/i-want-to-cut-my-cancer-risk/being-sunsmart

SunSmart webpage widget

www.cancersa.org.au/sunsmart-app

SunSmart resources

https://www.cancersa.org.au/prevention/sunsmart/sunsmart-resources/

Shade audit

www.sunsmart.com.au/shade-audit/