

# **AQUATICS ABSOLUTE RULES**

- Running on the pool deck
- Glass on the pool deck
- Smoking
- Shoulder flips
- "Gutter grabbers" in water over the patrons head
- Swinging on the ladders
- Unsupervised children
- Diving in shallow water
- Diving sideways off the diving boards
- Double bouncing
- Sitting on divider ropes
- Dirty bodies
- Infectious wounds
- Flips off the edge
- Swinging back on the rope
- Making out
- Perversion
- Use of drugs
- Jumping off roped walls
- Swimming under bulkheads
- No swinging back on the rope swing

# AQUATICS CONDITIONAL RULES

- **Food in the pool area**
  - only in viewing area
- **"Horseplay"**
  - this needs to be supervised and if it gets out of hand it needs to be stopped
- **Back flips**
  - only off the diving board
- **Not showering**
  - this is an absolute rule when people are leaving the change room, but if some one is at the top of the waterslide and didn't shower don't make them go all the way back to the change room, just tell them to shower next time.
- **Street shoes on the pool deck**
  - not a problem during swim meets
- **Children in the sauna or hot tub**
  - as long as the child is accompanied by an adult and not wearing a PFD
- **Swimming under diving boards**
  - as long as the boards are closed
- **Hanging under diving boards**
  - as long as the boards are closed
- **More than one person on the diving board**
  - this is fine if the second person is there to help the first person
- **Splashing**
  - This is fine within reason.

- **Wrestling**
  - This needs to be supervised and if it gets out of hand it needs to be stopped.
- **Diving to the bottom for objects**
  - as long as the patron isn't staying under water for too long.
- **Prolonged breath holding**
  - Supervise this activity and ensure that the patron isn't doing it for very long. Inform the patron of the dangers of this activity.
- **Cannon balls**
  - this activity is fine as long as it isn't disturbing others.
- **Swimming lengths during public swim**
  - if there is room this activity is fine.
- **Balls in the Leisure Pool**
  - if the pool is not very busy and if the people playing with the ball are using it responsibly and not interfering with other pool users.
- **Mats in the Lazy river**
  - if the river is not very busy this activity is fine.
- **Water slides**
  - One at a time
  - 7 or over

### **Exceptions**

- Adult and child
- Aid and special needs person
- Under 7 if the child is fine with going down by him/herself and parent waits at the bottom

## Pool Rules

This is a difficult topic to tackle and most rules are not black and white. Some rules need to be enforced all the time (running on the pool deck), but we can be more flexible with other rules (mats in the lazy river). Communication with the public is key when trying to enforce any rule. If the pool is quiet and someone has a mat in the river just approach the patron and say "it's fine if you have a mat in the river now because it is quiet, but if it gets busier you will have to take the mat out". Opening up the lanes of communication is the key and the patrons will more readily accept you enforcing the rules if you have already explained the potential problems that might occur.

The patrons that swim at our pools in the daytime are very different then the patrons the are here in the night time and the situations are often different as well and the need to be treated differently.

### Ways to enforce the rules

- 1 Re-direct the patron  
Try to give him or her a different activity to do. For example if a patron dives in the shallow end instead of telling this person "don't dive in the shallow end" say "try diving in the deep end". The best type of re-direction is taking what that patron is doing and changing it a bit to make it safer. Most people don't respond very well to being told "Don't do that".
- 2 Relate other situations  
People respond well when they hear stories of similar situation when people have been hurt.
- 3 Explain why  
When patrons know why they shouldn't do a certain activity they will more likely not to do that activity again.

Once again, talking to our patrons is the key and they will more readily accept you enforcing the rules if you have already explained the potential problems that might occur.