



Records Management Number: 0340-50

North Peace Leisure Pool Bather Admission Policy

Committee Policy No. 23/ 23

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the of the North Peace Leisure Pool for all bathers to adhere to the Bather Admission Policy for recreational swimming and instructional programs.

Definitions

Bather: a person while intent is to use the swimming facility.

Direct supervision: maintaining continual eye contact on deck and in water.

Swim test: a measure of swimming competence determined and supervised by staff member.

Responsible Person: a person of 16 years of age or older that accountable for the direct supervision of others.

Within arm's reach: is able to render immediate assistance and make immediate physical contact.

Admission Standard

It is the policy of the North Peace Leisure Pool to admit children eight (8) and older to public swimming sessions without adult supervision. Children seven (7) years of age and younger must be accompanied by a parent or guardian sixteen (16) years of age or older.

| Child Age | Ratio | Criteria |
|-----------|-------|--|
| 7 & Under | 3:1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be accompanied by a parent/guardian (16 yrs. +)• Parent/guardian is responsible for direct supervision and must remain within arm's reach at all times.• Floatation devices do not eliminate the need for direct supervision. |

Resolution Number 23/23 NPLP
Supersedes Policy No. 23/10

Effective: February 6, 2023



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| 8 + | N/A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May swim without adult accompaniment. • Swimming with a buddy is strongly recommended. |
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Wristband

To ensure that children have a safe and enjoyable swimming experience, all participants 8 years of age and older are required to wear a wristband to access the swimming pools. Those 7 years and under are not required to wear a wristband, in which lifeguards are trained to watch bathers without wrist bands.

Swim Test

All swimmers 8 years of age and over who are non-swimmers will be urged to either wear a lifejacket, complete a swim test, remain in shallow water or be directly supervised by a responsible person 16 years of age or older.

A swim test is one (1) length of the swimming pool (25m) or two (2) widths, across six (6) lanes independently, demonstrating comfort in the water without stopping, touching the bottom of the pool or reaching for assistance.

A swim test is not required to ride the slide however, the bather must meet the manufacturer's height requirements.

Medical Admission Standard

Users of the North Peace Leisure Pool must ensure they are fit to participate in physical activities. Those with a condition affecting their ability to participate must take appropriate safety precautions for their own safety. Any person with a high risk or serious medical condition or illness (e.g. frequent seizures, fainting conditions, etc.) and/or those who are unable to control behaviour or impulses should be accompanied by an adult knowledgeable of their condition and responsible for their direct supervision.

Bathers that participate in fitness programs are required to complete a questionnaire that is a pre-screening tool to empower individuals to be responsible for their own health and well-being. The intent is to assist the participant to make an informed decision whether to seek further advice from a health care provider before becoming more physically active to easily screen the majority of people to safely participate in physical activity and exercise.



Special Needs (Any Age) Swimmers with a serious medical condition should be accompanied by an individual knowledgeable of their condition and responsible for their supervision.

High risk participants ratio of Parent/Guardian to Children is 1:1 and must have direct supervision.

| Age | Ratio | Criteria |
|---------|-------|--|
| Any age | 1:1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">High risk participants and/or serious medical conditions require direct supervision. |

Participants requiring support/supervision in the change rooms or the pool, or who need assistance getting into or out of the pool must bring a responsible person with them for this purpose. There is no charge for attendants who are required for in-water support.

Hyperventilation and Extended Breath-Holding Standard

The North Peace Leisure Pool prohibits the practice of hyperventilation and extended breath holding activities. The practice of hyperventilation or extended breath-holding is only permitted under the direct supervision of a qualified instructor or coach who is following recognized safety protocols for aquatic sports.

Hyperventilation is a series of deep breaths followed by forced exhalation prior to breath-holding in an attempt to remain underwater for a longer period of time. This decreases the level of CO₂ in the blood which is responsible for triggering the need to breathe.

Hypoxic blackout: (previously known as 'shallow water blackout') a loss of consciousness due to lack of oxygen from breath holding or purposeful hyperventilation before submersion.

Action

Administration staff shall update the policies in accordance to the BC Pool Regulations and Lifesaving Society BC & Yukon.



Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the North Peace Leisure Pool staff, Aquatic Supervisor and Aquatic Manager to ensure the Bather Admission Policy and Pool Rules is publicized and enforced.