



LAC LA BICHE COUNTY PROCEDURE

TITLE: POOL ADMISSION AND SUPERVISION

PROCEDURE NO: CM-71-019

SPECIAL NOTES/CROSS REFERENCE:
CM-71-019 Pool Admission and Supervision Policy

AMENDMENT DATE:

DEFINITIONS:

- a. **“Within Arms’ Reach”**: The Lifesaving Society defines “within arms’ reach” as being within sight and within two feet of young children when in or near water.
- b. **“Responsible person”**: is defined as someone 12 years of age or older.
- c. **“Child”**: is defined as 6 years of age or younger.
- d. **“Youth”**: is defined as 7 to 11 years of age.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. A responsible person at least 12 years of age may supervise up to a maximum of 3 children or youth at any given time within the aquatic facility.
2. All users are required to follow the posted facility rules and health regulations as defined by the Swimming Pool Regulations of the Alberta Public Health Act.
3. All swim assessments will be administered by a lifeguard and the result of the assessment will be at the discretion of the lifeguard.
4. Responsible Person(s), children, and youth who refuse to abide by this procedure will be asked to leave the facility.

SWIM ASSESSMENTS:

1. The following swim assessment is adapted from the Lifesaving Society’s Canadian Swim to Survive Standard:
 - a. Jump feet first into deep water and submerge completely;
 - b. Surface and swim 25 meters comfortably on stomach without stopping or resting;
 - c. Tread water comfortably for 1 minute, maintaining both mouth and nose above the water at all times.
2. Lifeguards are trained to administer and judge swim assessments. They have extensive training and experience in recognizing weak, tired, injured, non-swimmers, etc. The lifeguard’s judgment will be

final. Any further disputes regarding the outcome of the swim assessment may be settled with the most senior staff member or lifeguard available at that time.

3. Swim assessments will be carried out for all youth ages 7 to 11 who wish to swim without direct supervision by a responsible person at all times and in all areas of the pool facility, with or without a lifejacket.
4. Children ages 6 and under must be accompanied in the pool area at all times by a responsible person within arms' reach at all times and therefore are not eligible to attempt a swim assessment. Refer to Admission & Supervision Standards listed below for details.
5. Youth who complete the swim assessment to the satisfaction of the lifeguard administering the test will be issued a green wrist band and will be permitted to swim in all pools without direct supervision, including the swing rope, diving board, and blue slide in accordance with posted rules and under the direction of lifeguards.
6. Youth who do not complete the swim assessment to the satisfaction of the lifeguard administering the assessment will only be permitted limited access to the pool areas unless directly supervised by a responsible person. Limited access includes:
 - a. The shallow end of the main pool, at the discretion of the lifeguard;
 - b. The wading pool;
 - c. The whirlpool.
7. Youth who successfully complete the swim assessment on three separate visits to Portage Pool will be entitled to a card that allows them to automatically receive a green wrist band upon entry to the facility, and are exempt from performing the swim assessment upon each visit.
8. Swim assessments may only be attempted once per visit (day).
9. These standards are applicable to all youth patrons of Portage Pool.
10. Responsible Persons, children, and youth who refuse to abide by this procedure will be asked to leave the facility.

ADMISSION & SUPERVISION STANDARDS:

Children Ages 6 and Under

1. All children must be accompanied in the pool area at all times by a responsible person at least 12 years of age or older, within arms' reach and within the same pool as the child, even if the child is wearing a lifejacket.
2. Children who do not have a responsible person to provide this level of supervision will not be permitted to enter the pool area, even with a lifejacket.
3. Children will be issued a red wristband in order for the lifeguards to easily recognize children who require direct supervision.

4. Children are not permitted use of the swing rope, even with a lifejacket.
5. Children are permitted to use the large blue slide in the main pool under the direct supervision of a responsible person if they meet the minimum height requirement of 36 inches. They will not be permitted to ride the slide on the lap of a responsible person as a substitute for meeting these requirements.
6. Children are permitted to use the diving board under the direct supervision of a responsible person only if they meet the minimum height requirement of 36 inches *and* at the discretion of the lifeguard monitoring the deep end.

Youth Ages 7 to 11 Years

1. Youth will be issued a yellow wristband and must be accompanied in the pool area at all times by a responsible person at least 12 year of age or older, even if they are wearing a lifejacket.
2. Youth who wish to swim without direct supervision may attempt to complete a swim assessment, administered by a lifeguard. Youth undergoing the swim assessment must successfully complete it prior to the responsible person leaving the premises. Refer to Swim Assessment standards listed above for details.
3. Youth who successfully complete a swim assessment will receive a green wristband and have access to all areas of Portage Pool.
4. Youth who successfully complete the swim assessment on three separate visits to Portage Pool will be an entitled to a card that identifies them to automatically receive a green wristband upon entry to the facility.
5. Youth who do not complete the swim assessment are permitted to swim in the shallow end of the main pool, in the wading pool, and in the whirl pool.
6. Youth who do not complete the swim assessment will have to wear a yellow wristband and will not be permitted access to the deep end (including use of the swing rope and diving board) unless they are wearing a lifejacket or have the direct supervision of a responsible person.

“Original Signed”
Chief Administrative Officer

December 5, 2014
Date