



City of Yorkton

POLICY TITLE GALLAGHER CENTRE WATER PARK ADMISSION POLICY		ADOPTED BY Administration	POLICY NO. 20.7000
ORIGIN/AUTHORITY Water Park Manager	JURISDICTION Gallagher Centre Water Park	Effective Date August 1, 2020	PAGE # 1 of 4

1. Purpose / Introduction

The City of Yorkton owns and operates an indoor Water Park and pool facility within the Gallagher Centre, Yorkton's premier recreation and event complex. A primary focus of the facility is to enhance the quality of life for residents of Yorkton and the surrounding area, through safe and effective delivery of leisure opportunities and programming that facilitate growth and development of individual and community capacity.

The City of Yorkton seeks to minimize the risks to its users and staff by promoting aquatic safety within the Water Park, and applies guidance from subject matter experts including the Lifesaving Society, Red Cross, and the World Health Organization. All safety plans are subject to approval by the Saskatchewan Health Authority, in compliance with provincial legislation.

To promote safety for users who statistically are at higher risk for injury in aquatic environments, an admission process has been developed and implemented in the Water Park.

2. Admission Process and Identification

Administration follows this admission policy to determine which guests require accompaniment and supervision while visiting the facility for recreational swimming programs:

A. Children (under 7)

1. All children 6 years old and younger must be accompanied by a supervisor (caregiver, parent, guardian, etc) who is at least 18 years of age or older.
2. Children will be identified by a red waterproof wristband distributed upon admission.
3. Children must remain under direct supervision and within arm's reach of their caregiver at all times
4. A caregiver may look after a maximum of two (2) individuals when a child with a red wristband is under their care.

B. Youth (under 11)

1. All youth ages 7 years old up to and including 10 years old must be accompanied by a supervisor (caregiver, parent, guardian, etc) who is at least 16 years of age or older.
2. Youth will be identified by a yellow waterproof wristband distributed upon admission
3. Youth must remain under direct supervision and within arm's reach of their caregiver at all times
4. A caregiver may look after a maximum of four (4) individuals when youth with a yellow wristband are under their care. This number may increase to eight (8) individuals if all youth are wearing lifejackets, and remain within direct arm's reach.
5. Youth may complete a swim test to demonstrate their ability to show comfort and competence in the water. Youth who successfully complete the swim test will be given a green wristband, indicating their ability to use the facility without direct supervision. See section 3 for additional information regarding the swim test.
 - a. When a youth arrives with a guardian who does not intend to enter the water to provide supervision, the guardian must escort the youth through the change rooms to the guard office

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to request a swim test. The guardian must remain in attendance until the youth has successfully completed the test.

- b. If the youth is unsuccessful they must leave the Water Park, or the guardian must provide supervision in the water.
6. Youth who have previously completed the Facility Swimming test and possess a Swim Test Card may present their physical card to the admission desk and receive a green wristband. The card must be present and completed in order to be accepted.

C. Youth and Teens (11 to 17)

1. Youth ages 11 and older will be allowed to swim without direct caregiver supervision if they have not been identified by a caregiver as needing special support and assistance (see section D).
2. Youth ages 11 and over are not required to wear an identifying wristband.
3. Youth may be asked to demonstrate their swimming ability to ensure they can safely enjoy their time at the Water Park. Water Park Administration and On Duty Lifeguards retain the right to request any patron complete the swim test at any time during their visit.

D. Special Assistance and Support

The Water Park is an accessible facility, and patrons of all abilities are welcome to use and enjoy the many amenities within the Water Park. Some considerations are in place for those patrons who require assistance and/or support from aids when visiting the facility with a support group or like agency.

1. Paid admission to the Water Park will be required from the patron only.
2. The aid will be required to complete an admission form outlining the Acceptance of Responsibility on behalf of the patron. See Appendix A
3. Both the patron and the aid will be identified by matching coloured wristbands. This allows Water Park staff to identify individuals as needing special care in the event of an emergency.
4. The patron must be within arm's reach of the aid at all times while in the Water Park facility.

E. Additional Admission Requirements

1. To prevent the spread of disease, patrons who have been ill with flu like symptoms, bacterial or viral infections, communicable diseases, or skin conditions should not attend the Water Park. Patrons who have suffered from diarrhea should not attend until symptom free for 7 days.
2. Swimmers who are incontinent and children who are not toilet trained must wear a waterproof swim diaper. Infant and Child sized swim diapers are available for purchase at Guest Services.
3. Persons under the influence of a controlled substance (drugs, alcohol, etc) shall not be permitted in the Water Park.

3. Facility Swimming Test

Children and youth under the age of 11 may attempt a swim test to demonstrate their comfort and competency in water, their ability to travel to safety, and their ability to take breaths. The test shall be administered in the shallow end of the lap pool by a Lifeguard.

A. Swim Test Components

1. Swimming 25 meters continuously without touching the bottom, pool walls or features for support, except where turning.
2. Swimming with a horizontal body position.
3. Demonstrating the ability to submerge the face in the water and take breaths.
4. Use of a recognizable stroke on the front: Front Crawl, Breast Stroke, Butterfly, etc.
5. A Lifeguard may also ask a swimmer to demonstrate the ability tread water at their discretion.
6. Upon successful completion of the swim test, the Lifeguard will remove the yellow wristband and provide the swimmer with a green wristband.

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B. Swim Test Policy

The following conditions also apply to the facility swimming test:

1. Swimmers may attempt the test once per visit to the Water Park.
2. The test shall be completed in shallow water:
 - a. Along the shallow end wall; or
 - b. The side wall starting from the shallow end, stopping at the red line and returning to the shallow wall.
3. A Lifeguard may evaluate two swimmers simultaneously.
4. Youth are eligible for a Facility Swim Test card upon successful completion of the swim test.
 - a. The Card must be completed in full by the Lifeguard completing the test and can be given to the child/guardian immediately or retrieved while exiting the Water Park
 - b. Cards not retrieved will be kept in the Guard Office for 7 days before being invalidated and disposed of.
 - c. Youth who have passed the swim test may show their Facility Swim Test card at the admission gate to receive a green wristband the next time they visit the facility, indicating their ability to use the Water Park without direct supervision.
5. Children wearing a red wristband (ages 6 and younger) may take the swim test as outlined. If successful, they will receive a green wristband, but must continue to wear the red wristband. They may use deep-water features including the diving board and climbing wall, but must remain supervised by an adult within arm's reach. Children ages 6 and under are not eligible for a Swim Test Card.

Water Park Administration and On Duty Lifeguards retain the right to request any patron complete the swim test at any time during their visit.

4. Group Admissions & Facility Rentals

Individuals and groups may seek to rent the facility for a variety of recreational or sport program activities. The supervision requirements outlined in Section 2 shall apply to all rentals and group admissions.

A. Sport Governed Bodies

When a sport organization that is covered under a Saskatchewan Sport Governing body has rented space within the Water Park the organization shall be responsible for providing supervision for individuals participating in their programs on deck or in the water. Water Park Administration will schedule the required number of Lifeguards and charge the organization accordingly in conjunction with their pool rental fees.

B. Group Admissions

Large groups of more than 25 patrons attending leisure swim programs must inform Water Park Administration two weeks (14 calendar days) in advance of their visit to ensure sufficient Lifeguard staff are scheduled. All reasonable attempts to accommodate group admissions will be made, however Water Park Administration retains the right to refuse entry to maintain Lifeguarding to patron ratios. Supervision ratios of children must be followed.

5. Refunds and Reimbursement

The City of Yorkton will make every attempt to provide service as advertised. Where a service disruption occurs outside of the City of Yorkton's control, no monetary refund will be available. Reimbursement may be given in the form of a coupon with a set expiry printed on it:

- A. Where a youth attempts the facility swim test and is not successful, and no adult is available to accompany them into the water, they will receive a coupon for re-admission. (Section 2, B, 5).

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- B.** Patrons instructed to leave the Water Park due to non-compliance with the admission policy or Water Park rules will not receive a refund.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

A. Water Park Administration

Administration shall:

1. Ensure the policy is promoted to the public attending leisure swims and private bookings.
2. Ensure that Lifeguards are trained in, and understand the intent and practice of this policy.
3. Enforce this policy as may be required.

B. Lifeguards

Lifeguards shall:

1. Be responsible for supervising patron safety within the Water Park.
2. Ensure that caregivers provide supervision for youth, children and individuals with special needs.
3. Administer swim tests for youth and children as outlined in Section 3.
4. Enforce this policy as may be required.

C. Guest Services

Guest Services shall:

1. Understand and explain the Admission Policy to patrons when required.
2. Provide wristbands as part of the admission process to guardians to apply to children and youth.
3. Enforce this policy as may be required.

7. Responsibility

The Water Park Manager is responsible for the ongoing review and update of this policy.

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Appendix A

Caregiver Admission Sign-In



Caregiver Sign-in

The City of Yorkton's Access Communications Water Park is proud to participate in the Easter Seals Access2 program. To promote access to the Water Park and improve the quality of life of Water Park patrons the benefits of the Access2 program are extended to all individuals with a disability who require the continuous 1-on-1 support of a caregiver. Patron safety is our priority in the Water Park and the participation of all visitors in promoting safety and preventing injury is required.

The Water Park requires the paid admission of the patron but will waive the admission fee for one caregiver who shall provide continuous support and supervision while using the facility. The caregiver agrees to the following:

- The caregiver understands they accept responsibility to provide support and supervision of the person in their care while using the premises.
- The caregiver shall remain within arm's-reach of the person in their care at all times while using the Water Park and its features.
- The caregiver and patron shall wear a coloured wristband so Lifeguards can easily identify them.
- The caregiver should be familiar with any medical conditions or triggering characteristics for the person in their care.
- If the Lifeguards must intervene in an emergency or medical situation the caregiver should be available to provide information for the person in their care.

Caregiver Name:

Caregiver Signature:

Client/Charge Name:

Relationship:

Client ☐ Family ☐

Organization Name:

(if applicable)

Date of visit:

Time of visit:
