

PURPOSE

These Guidelines have been established to ensure the safe and consistent enjoyment of The City's aquatic facilities. **Staff are required to ensure user compliance with facility guidelines.**

ACCESS

- Access to the pool deck is available only when the coach is with the team.
- An adult must actively supervise all non-adult participants when not supervised by the coach.
- Deck access may be available and is limited to a maximum of 10 minutes before booked time.

ANIMALS

- Pets are not permitted in City Recreation Facilities.
- Individuals with disabilities who are accompanied by a qualified service animal may be asked to provide a Service Animal Identification Card.

ATTIRE

- Individuals who use the pool must have appropriate swim attire. (See appropriate swim attire definition on page 4).

BANNERS AND SIGNS

- No signs, posters or messages with explicit language, profanity or derogatory characterization directed toward any person or groups.
- Signs may not be attached to buildings without prior City approval.

COMMUNITY STANDARDS BYLAW

- Profanity, aggressive and disrespectful behavior from players, coaches or spectators will result in immediate expulsion. This may include but not limited to, police or by-law being contact. This is in direct contravention with the City of Red Deer Community Standards Bylaw.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (ALCOHOL/CANNABIS)

- Consumption or presence of controlled substances by participant and/or spectator, can result in the suspension of booking privileges for a specific time or the entire season.

This includes immediate expulsion from the facility of the individual or individuals. Facility renter is responsible for the conduct of participants and spectators.

- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in any City facility unless specifically approved in writing and subject to compliance with applicable regulations.
- Smoking or consumption of cannabis is not permitted on City property.

EMERGENCIES

- Please call 9-1-1 for a major emergency.
- During emergencies please follow the instructions of the staff.
- Emergency exit maps are located in each facility; staff can point out their location for your reference.
- Emergency exits and walkways must be kept clear at all times.

EQUIPMENT

- Pool equipment may be used but access to equipment is by Aquatic staff only. Equipment must be returned after use. An additional charge may be incurred for the use of specialty equipment.
- Any “Swim Club” that owns specific equipment must give written permission to any other users and forward a copy of the agreement to the Recreation Section, Safe & Healthy Communities Department.
- Any pool equipment owned by swim clubs must be set-up and taken down before and after each pool booking.
- No glass snorkel masks or goggles permitted.

FIRST AID

- First Aid responders are not guaranteed in City of Red Deer Recreation Facilities. All City of Red Deer Recreation Facilities are equipped with Automated External Defibrillators (AED’s).
- User Groups should be prepared to provide first aid response for their participants along with the appropriate personal protective equipment, including a mask and gloves.
- Please report major safety incidents to staff.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE POLICY

- Food is not permitted on any playing surface; water only.
- For the safety of everyone, glass containers are prohibited.
- All users must honor all food service contractual arrangements specific to each facility.
- Team snacks may be served in dressing rooms; no cooking or reheating permitted.

NOISE MAKING DEVICES

- For comfort and safety of all patrons, whistles, compresses air horns or other amplified noise makers are strictly prohibited before, during and after all scheduled activities. The use of whistles, starting pistols, time clock horns, etc. required on the field of play for sport training or competition purposes are permitted.
- Portable sound systems may be used if sound levels and language are respectful for all patrons of the facility.

PERMIT HOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Permit Holders must share these Aquatic Facility User Guidelines with all participants and require compliance.
- A Participant is defined as *all athletes, parents/guardians, coaches, officials, volunteers and staff.*
- Permit Holders are responsible to ensure that the facility is left in an acceptable condition and free of damage to the ice, including facilities/structures.
- Additional charges will be levied if damages are incurred, or if extra cleanup is required which includes, but is not limited to spit, chewing gum and garbage.

RISK AND LIABILITIES

- The City's liability is with respect to the maintenance of the facility you use.
- As a user of City recreation facilities, you are responsible to make certain that the standards that apply to your sport are followed and for the safety and well-being of players in the sport in which you are involved.

SMOKE FREE FACILITY

- As per the Smoke Free Bylaw, all tobacco products including vaping and e-cigarettes are not permitted within any City facility, within ten (10) meters from sports fields and playgrounds and five (5) meters from buildings, doorways or access gates to the facility. Any infraction will result in additional charges and cancellation of future bookings.

USER CONDUCT

- Coaches are responsible to ensure that the dressing rooms are left in an acceptable condition and free of damage. Additional charges will be levied if damages are discovered, or if extra cleanup is required.

WARM UPS

- Dryland training and warm-up activities are not allowed in the concourses, hallways or spectator areas.
- The pool deck with Aquatic staff approval may be accessed for light static stretches only providing the activity does not interfere with or is disruptive to another activity or private rental. Please check with the Aquatic staff first.

COMPLIANCE

Thank you for treating our staff with respect as they ensure user compliance with facility guidelines.

Abuse or harassment of staff will not be tolerated.

Thank you for your cooperation. Non-compliance may result in loss of booking privileges. For your convenience,

User Guidelines can be viewed online [HERE](#)

APPROPRIATE SWIM ATTIRE DEFINITION

The City of Red Deer is committed to providing safe and welcoming recreation spaces. We want all people to feel comfortable in and around our aquatic amenities.

In partnership with the **Lifesaving Society**, and in compliance with **Alberta Health Services**, The City of Red Deer has developed the following definition for appropriate swim attire.

This definition also ensures that City of Red Deer pool operations are aligned with the **Alberta Human Rights Act**, which does not allow for discrimination based on gender, gender identity or gender expression.

City staff have the responsibility to determine if swimwear poses a safety risk and will manage facility use accordingly.

1. When visiting a public pool, swimwear must be suitable for general participation in aquatics and must not impair swimming skills. Swimwear may be made of different types of fabric as long as it does not put a user's safety at risk or interfere with pool water quality.
2. When patrons choose not to expose a part of their body, a modified version of traditional swimwear is permissible as an alternative.

Acceptable alternatives for swimwear include:

- i. footless tights, gymnastic leggings,
 - ii. tight-fitting undershirt,
 - iii. tight-fitting hood that covers the head and neck with wide openings for the face,
 - iv. tight-fitting sweater or pants, or a wetsuit,
 - v. long-sleeved pants and shirts,
 - vi. tee-shirts and shorts with undergarments or a swimsuit worn underneath,
 - vii. burkinis and rash guards, where there is a wide opening for the face and fabric is tight-fitting enough to not interfere with swimming skills. Hands and feet must be able to move freely.
3. For safety reasons, patrons wearing traditional garments (such as saris) are asked to remain in the shallow end of the pool. We ask that they not use the dive tank.
 4. All patrons are required to wear swimwear bottoms. The use of swimwear tops is a patron's choice.
 5. Clothing that absorbs water and becomes heavy is not permissible in pools.
 6. All swimwear must be clean and brought to the facility for the purpose of swimming.
 7. Prior to entering the pool, all patrons are required to take a cleansing shower in their swimwear.
 8. Children under 3 years of age and anyone who is incontinent must wear a reusable/disposable swim diaper as well as a fitted plastic pant.

STANDARD POOL RULES**ADMISSION**

- Children under the age of 8 years must be accompanied by a person 16 years of age or older at a ratio of 3:1
- Children under age 8 must be within arm's reach of their accompanied person
- Individuals who use the pool must have appropriate swim attire.
- All children under the age of 3, or anyone incontinent are required to wear a waterproof pant over a swim diaper.
- Admission will be refused to anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- People with communicable diseases or infections are not permitted to use the aquatic facility

PATRON CONDUCT

- Diving is not permitted in the shallow end of pool and is limited to certain areas only (deep)
- Food and drinks are permitted in designated areas only
- Water only. No Glass containers.
- Safety & emergency equipment may not be used by patrons
- Individuals who want to swim in the deep end must be able to swim 25m
- Water toys such as noodles, infant floating rings and pool equipment are used at the lifeguard's discretion. Busier swims may impact this decision.
- Spouting, spitting, nose blowing or otherwise polluting the pool is prohibited
- Verbal obscenity and physical assault is cause for immediate dismissal from pool

HOT TUB/ SAUNA /STEAM ROOM

- An adult must accompany children under 8 years in hot tub – infants and toddlers should be up to waist only
- Children under 8 years are not permitted in sauna or steam room; 8-15 years olds are permitted with a person over 16 years of age
- Recommended stay is 10 minutes – rehydrate and/or dip in main pool before re-entering
- Not recommended for pregnancy or medical conditions
- No perfumes or scents in saunas or steam room
- Liquids are not permitted on sauna rock or burners
- Head must remain above surface in hot tub
- Exercising is not permitted in the heated areas

DIVING

- Diving area is kept clear of swimmers
- Inverted dives/back dives are not permitted
- Diving from the pool edge is permitted in the deep end of the **outdoor** pool only
- Only one diver on the board at one time
- Diving is only straight out from the board, patrons should swim forward or exit from side of pool
- Swimmer must wait until previous swimmer has hit the safety point before going off board