

5.8 Public Swimming Pool Behaviour Policy

1. POLICY PURPOSE

To ensure that patrons behave in a safe and responsible manner while using Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool (Pool).

2. POLICY SCOPE

This policy covers the behaviours which will be deemed inappropriate and may result in penalties.

3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Health (Aquatics Facilities) Regulations 2007

4. POLICY STATEMENT

Objectives:

1. All pool patrons have the right to feel safe at the Pool.
2. Patrons should understand the Pool rules and act in a courteous and respectful manner towards other patrons and property.
3. To help staff control inappropriate behaviour and ensure that the majority of patrons enjoy their visit to the Pool.

Behaviour:

The Health (Aquatic Facilities) Regulations 2007 place obligations on patrons and permit the Supervisor to take action in the following incidents involving patrons:

1. Unclean persons;
2. Unclean clothes;
3. Under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs;
4. Babies in nappies not wearing aqua nappies while in the pool;
5. Persons suffering from communicable diseases;
6. Permitting a dog and/or animal in the aquatic facility;
7. Persons running within the centre;
8. Persons damaging the aquatic facility;
9. Persons causing violence or bullying to another person(s);
10. Persons of an abusive nature towards the manager or patrons;
11. Indecent exposure; and
12. Persons stealing within the facility. Note that these incidents will be reported to Police immediately.

Penalties

Three (3) warning approach:

First Offence in a day and continuing that day:

1. First approach - Patron receives a Verbal warning (explaining why the behaviour is inappropriate).
2. Second approach - Patron will receive a verbal warning (explaining the consequence if the behaviour is not stopped).
3. Third approach - Patron will be asked to leave the facility for a period of no less than 24 hours.

However, if that patron commits any of the below offences, they will be excluded from the pool immediately for a period of one (1) month without any warnings.

1. Being intoxicated;
2. Indecent exposure;
3. Violence or Bullying;
4. Abuse towards the staff or another patron;
5. Stealing.

Where the patron refuses to leave the facility, the police will be called to deal with the situation and an immediate six (6) month ban will apply.

Further Offences during a Season:

1. On returning to the pool and if it is necessary to exclude the patron for a second time in the season, they will be excluded for a mandatory one (1) month.
2. If it is necessary to exclude the patron for a third time in the season, they will be excluded for a mandatory three (3) months.
3. If it is necessary to exclude the patron for a fourth time in the season, they will be excluded for a mandatory six (6) months.
4. If the patron is excluded from the pool for a fifth time they will be excluded for the remainder of the pool season.

5. KEY POLICY DEFINITIONS

NIL

6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Aquatic Coordinator is responsible for the implementation of this policy.
All Pool employees are responsible in ensuring this policy is adhered to.

7. MONITOR AND REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed by the Governance Officer every two (2) years.

Document Control Box					
Document Responsibilities:					
Owner:	CEO	Decision Maker:	Council		
Reviewer:	Governance Officer				
Compliance Requirements					
Legislation	Health (Aquatic Facilities) Regulations 2007				
Document Management					
Risk Rating	Medium	Review Frequency	Biennial	Next Due	April 2025
Version #	Action	Date	Records Reference		
1.	Adopted	20 November 2007	CMRef 29221		
2.	Reviewed	17 December 2024	CMRef XXXXX		