

Warrington Swimming and Water Polo Club

Emergency Procedures for Club Sessions

Overall Principles

The safety of those in the water is of paramount importance.

There must always be one qualified person with a minimum of a rescue award on duty on the poolside whenever swimmers are in the water.

The session should be cancelled if this minimum requirement cannot be achieved.

This person should deal with an emergency by using the red button or summoning help from leisure centre staff as appropriate.

Communicate with the leisure centre staff the nature of the emergency, so they can take charge of the incident.

Check that pool and environment is safe to use at the start of a session.

Advise centre staff, if in their opinion there is any thing that makes the pool environment unsafe, and make sure the pool is completely empty before leaving the poolside at the end of the session.

An additional person who is suitably qualified should also be on poolside.

In the event of an emergency then this person will make sure the remaining swimmers are taken to a place of safety, while the incident is being resolved.

For all accidents, and injuries, these should be recorded in the accident log book at the centre, and in the accident log book which is held by Maureen Appleby or Neil Musgrove. In the event of a head injury, the parent/ guardian should be advised of the incident (ideally in writing) and to keep an eye on the child for 24hrs.

It is important that the attendance register is used at all sessions (Paysubsonline/ LoveAdmin App) as this contains details of all swimmer's emergency contact names, phone numbers and any medical conditions on the second screen for each individual, as well as identifying how many swimmers are in the pool in the event of an evacuation.

In the event of an incident in the pool

Call for assistance, and if necessary, push the nearest red button to summon leisure centre staff.

Take immediate action to deal with the safety of those in the pool area, and get other volunteers on poolside to get swimmers away from the incident or out of the water if necessary, so that everyone is in a safe place.

In the event of an incident in the changing room

All children under 8 must be supervised by an adult at all times. If a child under 8 wishes to leave the pool before the end of a session or for the toilet or illness during the session, then this should be done with the parent / guardian being summoned. **It is therefore important that any parent or guardian of children under 8 should remain in the building during any swimming session so that they can be summoned in the event that the child needs to leave the poolside for any reason.**

For any other incident send a member of the poolside staff of the same sex into the changing room. If this is not possible see if a parent, or older swimmer can investigate, or if necessary, depending on the nature of the incident- two people to go, rather than being left with a child in a one on one situation. At least one person with a rescue qualification should stay on poolside if this happens. If this is not possible, then the pool should be cleared.

In the event of an alarm in the leisure centre

If the fire alarm or evacuation sound or voice is heard, then the pool should be cleared as soon as possible, with the children assembled close to an emergency exit as directed by centre staff who should come onto poolside. They should not return to the changing room, unless directed to do so.

In the event that the building has to be evacuated, and as a last resort then emergency space blankets will be provided to all swimmers by the leisure centre staff. At Orford these are stored in the first aid room. At Woolston they are available in rooms adjacent to the emergency exits adjacent to the main pool and small pool. At Great Sankey they are available by the emergency exit to outside from the pool.

Any parents on the balcony or spectator area will be asked to make there way out of the building to a place of safety and designated assembly point.

If it is a false alarm, then the leisure centre staff should inform the coach/ and or lifeguard on duty that it is now safe to continue the session