

General Rules

- Pool patrons must take a shower before entering the water.
- Children who are not fully toilet trained must wear diapers and snugly fitting protective pants in the pool. Disposable diapers are prohibited.
- Children under the age of twelve (12) must be always supervised by an adult (18+) in the pool area.
- Parents are required to be in the water within arm's reach with children using US Coast Guard approved lifejackets.
- Children (age 5 and under) must be accompanied by an adult (age 18 and over) in the water and remain within arm's reach.
- Monitoring your child/children remains your responsibility even if a lifeguard is present.
- Gum chewing is prohibited.
- Rough, boisterous play or running on deck is prohibited.
- Diving is prohibited except in the diving well or during a city sponsored/supervised activities such as Learn to swim, Swim meets etc.
- Alcohol is prohibited.
- Glass containers are prohibited.
- Ball playing is not permitted.
- Lifeguards have full authority to clear the pool of all (or any) swimmers at any time.
- Pets are prohibited on the pool grounds.
- Patrons are responsible for reading & following rules & signs. Persons that are directed to leave the premises are NOT eligible for any type of refund or pass. Depending on the severity of the offense, a patron may be indefinitely suspended.
- Persons that are experiencing diarrhea are NOT permitted in the water. Persons with diarrhea should wait two weeks after symptoms end before returning to the pool.
- Failure to follow rules can result in serious injury (and may result in a patron being required to leave the pool, pool area and surrounding premises).
- Proper swim attire must be always worn, no cut-offs or denim shorts.
- Patrons may bring food and / or beverages into the pool on a restricted basis.
 - **ONE** cooler or bag, not larger than 14x14x14 inches.
- Beverages are not to exceed 24oz.
- If you are listening to your own music, you must use headphones or ear buds.
- No person shall engage in smoking or use an electronic cigarette within any City Park.
- Children ages 10 and under must complete a swim test before swimming in the Lap and Dive pools.
 - If the child is unable to pass, and they really want to be in the lap pool they must be wearing a life jacket or a US Coast Guard approved floatation device within arms reach of an adult (18 & over). They must also stay in the shallow end of the Lap pool.

Swimming Lessons

- Only City of Delaware recreation staff are authorized to teach swimming lessons within our facilities. Private swimming lessons are prohibited during normal operation.

- Group as well as Private/Semi-Private Swim Lessons are available through the Recreation Department.

Weather/Environmental Conditions:

- At times of cool or rainy weather or any condition considered unsafe, the Aquatic Center may be closed at the discretion of the Recreation Department.
- When lightning has been seen, or when thunder has been heard, or when the Lightning Detection System states that lightning is within 0 – 8 miles, the lifeguards will adhere to the National Lightning Safety Institute recommendations. The pool will close, and staff will evacuate patrons from the pool and deck. The pool will re-open if there has been no thunder or lightning in the area for a minimum of 30 minutes.
- If the pool water is “contaminated” or if the pool water chemistry needs adjusting, the pool may be shut down for an indefinite period to allow staff to correct the problem.
- During periods of cool weather, the facility will NOT open when the air temperature is below 70° F. If the temperature falls below 70° F, the pool may stay open at the discretion of the Recreation Dept.
- RAIN CHECKS – If the pool suspends operation or closes due to inclement weather, lightning in the area or water contamination and you have been at the facility for 60-minutes or less, our staff will issue you a RAIN CHECK to be used later if you have kept your receipt which is dated and time stamped. It is your responsibility to keep your receipt. Please present your receipt to our front desk staff so we may assist you. NOTE: This policy only applies to daily fee patrons or patrons presenting daily pass cards, not seasonal pass holders.

Shallow Water Play Structures Pool Rules

- Warning: Water Depth is Zero feet.
- Reserved for children 6 years of age and younger, along with their parents.
- Children should NOT be unsupervised when they are on play structure.
- No running on the play structure
- One person at a time on slide
- All riders must slide feet first and, on their backs,
- Crawling up slides will not be permitted.
- No kneeling, standing, or stopping allowed on slides.
- No diving in shallow waters
- Failure to abide by these rules may result in injury to you and to others.

Lap Swim Rules

- Be sure new swimmers' alert others that they will be joining them in the lane.
- Two swimmers may split a lane. Three or more swimmers will use circles to the left.
- Water walking should be accommodated in lap pool.
- Hyperventilating or prolonged under water breath holding is prohibited.
- No hanging on lane lines.
- Stopping in the lane lines is not permitted. Stopping in the lanes is prohibited.

Pool Equipment & Toys

- Pool toys must be approved by pool management and may be removed at the supervisor discretion.
- Water walking belts are for adult use only.
- Kick boards and pool buoys are for lap swimmers and swim lesson participants only.
- Foam dumbbells and noodles are available to swim lesson and group exercise participants only.
- Patrons may bring their own life vest for use at the facility. All life vests (including Puddle Jumpers) must be **U.S. Coast Guard Approved**.
- Water wings, baby seat floaters, suits with built-in flotation devices, water noodles & kick boards provide a "false sense of security" and are prohibited.
- Inflatable items, squirt gun, "hard balls", snorkels & fins (not used for training or swimming laps) are prohibited.
- Sitting, hanging or playing on the ropes, lane lines & ladders is prohibited.

Diving Well

- Persons that are pregnant and persons with heart conditions or back trouble are advised NOT to use the diving boards.
- Eyeglasses, loose fitting t-shirts & life vests may not be worn.
- Diving is prohibited from the sides of the pool.
- Only one person at a time is permitted on the board and ladder.
- Divers must dive straight off the diving board.
- Only one bounce per dive is permitted.
- Divers must wait until the person in front of him/her has reached the side of the pool before diving.
- Divers must swim directly over to the nearest ladder after diving.
- Swimming under the diving board or hanging from the board is prohibited.

Water Slide

- Riders must be at least 48 inches tall and be able to swim unassisted to the ladder.
- Persons that are pregnant or have heart, neck or back trouble are advised NOT to ride on the slides.
- Riders must keep arms inside the slide, cross arms at chest.
- Speed slide riders must lie down on their back's feet first. Sitting up is not permitted.
- Riders may not swing from cross bar.
- Upon entering the water, keep feet and legs up.
- Riders must follow directions given by dispatcher.
- Riders may only always ride solo and feet first.
- Riders may not run, dive, kneel, rotate, stop or form chains while on the slides.
- Eyeglasses, jewelry, suits with zippers, t-shirts & life vests may not be worn.
- Riders must exit the slide landing area immediately.
- Riders that do not follow the posted rules may be removed from the facility.

Conduct

- Patrons must behave in a safe & positive manner. Running, rough play, pushing, snapping of towels, acrobatics, dunking, or holding persons underwater, excessive noise, wrestling, fighting, use of abusive/profane language are prohibited.
- No public display of affection (PDA).
- Spitting, spouting of water, blowing nose in the pool is prohibited.
- Persons who appear to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be refused admittance or directed to leave.
- Persons found violating City or personal property will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.
- Depending on the nature of the incident, City staff will give a documented verbal warning for general problems the first time they occur. If a patron continues to violate rules or policies, the patron may be suspended from the facility. The suspension length depends on the infraction. For children (17 yrs. & under), a parent will be contacted and made aware of the situation.