



Reference: SW PL 12
Issue Number: 1
Assessor/s: Jim Campbell-Marshall
Date Completed: July 2015
Reviewed by:
Risk Assessment: Swimming with no direct lifeguard supervision
Centre: Cripps Recreation Centre

Risk Assessment

Hazards considered in this risk assessment relate purely to the pool being unsupervised. For general pool hazards and supervised sessions please see SW PL 1B. Separate risk assessments are in place for group hirers / users.

Hazards Identified and included in this risk assessment: -

- 1 Slips, Trips & Falls
- 2 Drowning due to unauthorised access to pool (children and vulnerable adults)
- 3 Drowning due to unauthorised access to pool (adults)
- 4 Drowning due to access to pool of existing member or SG member who has not completed PARQ, or been made aware of pool being non-supervised
5. Drowning due to casualty being in the water and having medical incident or getting into difficulty
6. Too many bathers impairing ability to see remotely
7. Injury to swimmers by other pool users
- 8 Inadequate trained staff to deal with spinal injury
9. Drowning due to casualty not seen, no lifeguard in immediate vicinity of pool, alarm not activated by other swimmers
10. Areas of pool not covered by CCTV
11. Lone swimmers getting into difficulty with no immediate assistance / response
12. Children's swimming lessons
13. General
14. Use of pool by clubs
15. Young workers

Excerpts from HSG 179 (2018) Managing Health and Safety in Swimming Pools - relating specifically to pools being operated without continuous lifeguard supervision need to be read in conjunction with this risk assessment.

Awareness of risks section 81 & 82 – What level of supervision is required

Precautions where constant poolside supervision is not provided: - sections 112, 113, 114, 115 & 121

Hazard	Those at Risk	Is the Risk Adequately Controlled?	Residual Risk	What Further Action is Required to Control the Risk?
<i>List significant hazards here.</i>	<i>List groups of people at risk from hazards.</i>	<i>List existing controls here or note where information can be found.</i>	<i>High/ Medium/ Low</i>	<i>List the risks which are not adequately controlled and the actions proposed where it is reasonably practicable to do more.</i>
1 Slips, Trips & Falls	Employees, Customers, Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pool surrounds are kept clutter-free • Signs advise 'no-running' and is backed up by staff intervention / education • Pool hall is monitored by staff periodically (at least half-hourly) via direct checks of pool hall and via cctv • Regular cleaning of poolside keeps it grease-free 	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
2 Drowning due to unauthorised access to pool during normal session (without direct lifeguard supervision) by young people or vulnerable adults e.g. children attending an activity in the building and gaining access to the pool (e.g. attending private hire, Funzone). (This has historically been cause of previous pool-drownings.)	Young People & Vulnerable Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to entire facility is controlled by electronic card-entry system and is for members only • Pool is secured to prevent access when not in use • Changing rooms have numeric code locks – providing access to staff and members only (code is changed daily) • Staff do supervise and patrol the building and have the aid of CCTV, which covers complete pool area and can be viewed in Admin office and in Central Hub • Children attending Funzone or other NLT activities will be supervised at all times • Signage at entrance to centre warns all of unsupervised pool – advising requirement for parents / guardians to closely monitor children in their care • Turnstile area is supervised by site staff during lessons controlling who is entering centre • Doors to changing rooms have numeric key-code locks preventing access to children • Lane ropes have flotation discs – providing support in the water 	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High handles in place on doors leading to poolside from changing rooms with door closers fitted – preventing access by children to poolside 		
3 Drowning due to unauthorised access to pool during normal session (without direct lifeguard supervision) by adults, non-members and members not authorised to use pool e.g. a medical contra-indication exists or non-swimmers	Adults (members and non-members)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to entire facility is controlled by electronic card-entry system and is for members only Changing rooms have numeric code locks – providing access to staff and members only (will be changed daily) Pool is secured to prevent access when not in use Staff do supervise and patrol the building and have the aid of CCTV, which covers complete pool area and can be viewed in Admin office and in the Central Hub Clubs with children attending have their own qualified lifeguards / procedures 	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
4 Drowning due to access to pool of existing member or SG member who has not completed PARQ, or been made aware of pool being non-supervised	SG Members and existing members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategically placed signage ensures all members are made aware of pool being non-supervised Signage; advises members should not use pool if any contra-medical conditions exist e.g. epilepsy, heart conditions Swimmers sign in prior to every swim, where they are reminded of non-supervised pool and questioned regarding existence of any contra-medical conditions 	M	
5. Drowning due to casualty being in the water and having medical incident or getting into difficulty	Customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signage in place warning of no direct pool supervision, this is backed up with staff patrolling the centre Signage in place advising of water depths, deep and shallow ends 	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

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during unsupervised session		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage adjacent to pool alarm activation buttons advising that all people are to operate in an emergency • All swimmers must be able to swim at least 50m (2 x lengths) • Easy-to-use rescue equipment is stationed around poolside and available for use • Swimmers sign in prior to every swim, where they are reminded of non-supervised pool and questioned regarding existence of any contra-medical condition • Clear signage advises customers of deep water • Pool alarms are tested daily • Lane ropes have flotation discs – providing support in the water • Swimmers requiring to cover their bodies must wear purpose-made, tight-fitting swimwear • Regular headcounts are carried out by staff who need to access pool hall to carry out (half-hourly) • An automatic half hourly reminder goes over two-way radios reminding of need to carry out pool Head-Count • On pool alarm activation – a message is sent directly to two-way radios held by staff – advising of pool incident in event of them being out of the building • Signage advising of etiquette / safety on display • Any swimmers appearing to be intoxicated or whose behaviour / self- 		

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		control is adversely affected will not be permitted to swim		
6 Too many bathers during unsupervised session impairing ability to see anyone in difficulty remotely	Customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximum numbers per lane in place (12), if exceeded either lifeguard will directly supervise the pool, or bathers will be spread evenly across the lanes Numbers are low – enabling clear monitoring via pool window and cctv Half-hourly head-counts will identify problem early on, staff can stop further entry if necessary 	L	
7 Injury to Swimmers by other swimmers	Customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No diving is permitted reducing likelihood of collisions Lanes are used to help control sessions – reducing likelihood of collisions Adjacent lanes alternate direction of swim (clockwise / anti-clockwise) so swimmers swim in same direction as those in adjacent lane Users are advised to activate pool alarms if anyone is in a dangerous or vulnerable situation Backstroke is controlled by lane swimming and backstroke marker flags are placed at 5m from each end 	L	•
8 Head / Spinal Injury Limited number of Lifeguard qualified staff on-site to deal with spinal incident / injury	Customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diving and activities with potential to cause spinal injuries are not permitted Clear signs advise diving is not permitted Lifeguards are trained in spinal management – including retrieval from the water Spine-board is available Lanes are limited to 12 per lane and consist of a third of the pool width to enable overtaking to be done safely 	L	•

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<p>9 Drowning due to casualty not seen by staff / no Lifeguard-qualified staff in immediate vicinity</p> <p>Or alarm not raised by other swimmers</p>	<p>Customers & Young People</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive signage advising bathers that sessions are not supervised prior to entry into pool hall • CCTV provides full coverage of pool hall and in the pool covering all pool areas • A Lifeguard Zone Visibility Test (LZVT) has been carried out to check all areas of the bottom of the pool are visible on CCTV • Designated member of staff to increase vigilance / monitoring of CCTV / and/or pool with very low or single bathers • CCTV in the Central Hub where others can see and where the designated member of staff is generally working – an activation button is installed by CCTV monitor for all to use • Lack of water clarity, impacting on ability to see into the water will close the pool until full & normal vision returns • Staff are trained in effective scanning of pool and recognition of those in difficulty using CCTV • Bather load is limited to a number that is easily [remotely] monitored. 12 per lane / 36 in total • Pool alarm activation buttons are provided adjacent to cctv monitors, window overlooking pool and 4 x on poolside • Adequate rescue equipment supplied as advised be RLSS • Adequate number (two) of trained staff to be on-site to provide Team to effect 	<p>M</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do LZVT

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		rescues and deliver emergency treatment required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero tolerance approach to disorderly behaviour • Defibrillator is available in Central Hub should it be required 		
10. Bottom of pool by sides not covered by CCTV	Swimmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positioning of CCTV cameras covers all aspects / areas of the pool as tested in LZVT 	L	
11. Lone swimmers getting into difficulty with no immediate assistance / response	Swimmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All customers allowed to swim without supervision are reminded of pool being unsupervised and are not permitted to swim if contra-medical condition exists to swim safely • Minimum age of 16 for non-supervised sessions • Lane ropes have flotation discs – providing support in the water 	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
12. Children before, during and after lessons	Young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 years is the minimum age to be able to swim in unsupervised sessions • Pupils not permitted to pass barrier until 30 minutes prior to lesson (teacher arrives on poolside prior to lessons to set up equipment) • Ensure teachers know to start prior to lesson and stay until all children left poolside Parents attend poolside during lessons – providing continuous supervision of children • Doors to changing rooms have numeric key code locks preventing access by children • Doors from changing rooms onto poolside have 6 foot high handles preventing access to poolside by children 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers have a minimum of Teachers rescue test qualification There will always be a minimum of one teacher on poolside i.e. not in the water (other than 1-2-1 and 1-2-2 lessons) Admin know to advise new swim lesson customers to remain on poolside Teachers know to not leave unattended children / pupils on poolside 		
13 General	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear written procedures are in place to assist staff in adhering to the controls An emergency action plan is in place detailing action to be taken in an emergency New staff receive a full induction making them aware of the hazards to themselves and others Regular training maintains staffs' knowledge and skills required to provide a safe environment and act accordingly in event of an incident A clear reporting procedure is in place in the emergency action plan – including following RIDDOR regs. The building does not provide equipment suitable for those with disabilities (NLT has other facilities to meet these needs) 	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
14 Use of pool by clubs	Club members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubs with no rescue qualified staff have poolside supervision in place. There will be two qualified NLT staff on-site to deal with an emergency Clubs who provide their own rescue-qualified staff have a designated safety officer supervising. An NLT pool rescue 	L	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

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		qualified staff will also be present during a club's session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hirer's agreements details the requirements of their safety procedures 		
15 Young workers	Young People (staff)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual risk assessments are completed for workers under 18 to ensure their individual capabilities are not exceeded • 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Review Details - To be reviewed at least annually			
Date review conducted	By Who	Are controls sufficient, in place and functioning adequately	Next review due date
17-3-16	Jim C-M	Reviewed due to altercation (lane-rage) in the pool with one member feeling disorientated in the deep end and needing to grab a lane rope for support. Findings were that the incident / difficulty was noticed by staff from the Central Hub – who went down to investigate, that the member did feel supported by the lane ropes which have double the normal amount of floating markers. No further action required.	July 2016
1-7-16	Jim C-M	Annual review – checked the further actions – all OK	July 2017
Oct 2017	Jim C-M	Small changes	Oct 2018
Mar 2018	Jim C-M	Reviewed following move of work station in Central hub, relocation of CCTV monitor in the gym to the Central Hub and changes made to the pool alarm / two-way radios to alert staff of pool incident and provide a half-hourly reminder on the radios of the requirement to complete a pool head-count Staff are aware of changes to radios	Mar 2019