

**BY-LAW NO RCM-64-2017**

**BY-LAW CONCERNING SAFETY AT THE OUT DOOR AQUATIC CENTRES**

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Municipal Council meeting held at City Hall, 60 Martin Avenue, Dorval, Québec, on May 15, 2017 Mayor Edgar Rouleau presiding.

Amended by RCM-64.1-2017	July 17, 2017
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WHEREAS a by-law concerning the safety of bathers in municipal aquatic centres was adopted on June 18, 2001 for the purpose of establishing minimum safety regulations applicable in municipal aquatic centres;

WHEREAS it is appropriate to replace by-law 52-2014 entitled 'By-law concerning safety at aquatic centres' so as to update the needs identified by the relevant City representatives;

WHEREAS a notice of motion of presentation of the present by-law was given at the sitting of the Council held April 10, 2017;

**The Municipal Council decrees and ordains the following:**

1. The safety regulations enacted by the present by-law apply in the City of Dorval aquatic centres.
2. It is against the rules to swim without the supervision of a lifeguard. Before entering the water, swimmers must be sure that there is a lifeguard on the chair.
3. The supervisor on duty will close the pool without notice due to the following circumstances:
  - a) power failure;
  - b) poor water quality;
  - c) dangerous materials in or around pool area;
  - d) electrical storms;
  - e) defective phone line;
  - f) any other abnormal instance.
4. The pool supervisor shall control the entrance to the aquatic centres by respecting the maximum number of bathers, as follows:
  - a) Walters: 350
  - b) Ballantyne: 300
  - c) Surrey: 300
5. Members are required to present a valid citizen card or proof of residency
6. Guests must pay the appropriate daily pass rate.
7. Patrons must bathe in regular bathing suits. Shorts, cut-offs, diapers other than swimming diapers or underwear are not permitted.

Some type of clothing may represent a drowning hazard. Lifeguards must make a judgment call based on safety or hygiene concerns, and must restrict access to bathing if the swimwear in question presents a drowning risk.
8. Bathing caps are not mandatory. However those with shoulder length hair or longer are encouraged to tie their hair up.
9. A shower with soap is mandatory before entering any pool.

10. Persons with any infectious disease, skin lesions, wound dressings or bandages are not permitted in the pool.
11. With the exception of guide dogs that are allowed when accompanied by its guardian, no other animals are admitted on the premises. However guide dogs must remain out of the water.
12. Glass containers and other articles of a breakable nature are not allowed on the premises.
13. Alcoholic beverages will not be permitted at any time.
14. Food and refreshments are restricted to the designated patio area. The pool supervisor may designate other areas during special events. Chewing gum is prohibited in the pool area at all times.
15. Patrons are encouraged to make special efforts to keep the premises neat and tidy. Persons found destroying or vandalizing City property will be held accountable for damages resulting of such actions. Dangerous and disrespectful behaviour of any nature is subject to disciplinary measures.
16. It is prohibited to smoke or vape on the pool premises at all times, as per article 6.2 of the Nuisance By-law .
17. Running, pushing, shoving, obscene language and similar behaviours are considered disruptive or hazardous to fellow patrons.
18. Only staff and specific authorized personnel are permitted in the restricted areas (such as lifeguard room, snack bar, utility room).
19. It is not permitted to jump or dive from starting blocks during public swim periods unless approved by the supervisor on duty.
20. It is not permitted to climb guard towers or sit on lifeguard chairs.
21. Hanging on the lane ropes is not permitted. Bathers must avoid or swim under them.
22. Swimming aids, toys or balls are not permitted except during designated times. Toys brought by patrons are subject to approval.

Swimming aids may be borrowed at the aquatic centres. Personal swimming aids (i.e. water wings) must be approved by the supervisor.

23. The aquatic centres are not responsible for lost or stolen items.
24. It is the responsibility of each user to remove their padlocks before closing.
25. The following ratios must be respected at all times in large pools with a deep end:

- a) Children 0 to 5 years: one responsible person, in the water, within arm's reach for each child (one on one ratio), if the child does not know how to swim and is not wearing a personal flotation device (PFD). One responsible person in the water for 3 children, if the children that do not know how to swim are wearing a PFD. One responsible person in the water for 5 children, if the children know how to swim.

The child's ability to swim is determined by the aquatic team.

- b) Children 6 to 8 years: one responsible person in or out of the water at all times for a maximum of 5 children.

If a child is unable to swim 5 metres without the use of a flotation device he must be accompanied by a responsible person in the water at all times.

- c) Access is provided to formal groups such as day care centres (CPE), schools, home daycares and day camps on the basis of the following ratios:

For children under the age of 5:	1 accompanying person for 6 children
For children 5 to 6 years old:	1 accompanying person for 10 children
For children 7 to 8 years old:	1 accompanying person for 12 children

For children 9 to 11 years old: 1 accompanying person for 14 children  
For children 12 to 17 years old: 1 accompanying person for 15 children

- d) Accessibility rules and applicable ratios regarding the wading pool can be found in appendix D of the present regulation.

For the purposes of the application of the present regulation, a responsible person refers to an able person, 16 years of age and older.

26. Safety instructions:

- a) When the air horn is sounded, patrons must cease all activities and listen carefully to the lifeguards' instructions;
  - b) One (1) short whistle means stop. The bather must check if the lifeguard is calling him;
  - c) Two (2) short blasts of the whistle mean that there is a swimmer in distress. Bathers must evacuate the pool to clear the way for the lifeguard.
  - d) Three (3) long blasts of the whistle mean the end of a designated swim period or an evacuation of the pool. Bathers must get out of the pool.
27. All suggestions, comments and concerns should be directed to the pool supervisor (wearing a red shirt) who will take appropriate action.
28. In the interest of the safety of all bathers, the supervisor may, at its sole decision and at any time, enforce any measure they deem necessary, even if said measure is not an integral part of these regulations.
29. The lap lanes are reserved for lap swimming only. Swimmers must ensure that they do not hinder other users.
30. Bathers must show respect to all employees of the City and all users of the aquatic centers. No form of harassment, violence or intimidation will be tolerated.
31. For their own safety, bathers must notify the pool staff of any medical condition they may have (asthma, cardiac problems, allergies, etc).
32. Failure to respect the pool rules and/or City policies may result in disciplinary measures and/or a patron being asked to leave the facility and/or being denied admission.
33. It is forbidden to dive in the shallow end or in the ramp of the pool.
34. Cameras, camera phones and video cameras are prohibited on deck and in the locker rooms at all times.
35. Appendices A to D attached hereto form an integral part of the present by-law :
- Appendix A - Diving areas;
  - Appendix B - Whirlpools;
  - Appendix C - Slides;
  - Appendix D - Wading pools.
36. By-law no. RCM-52-2014 is replaced by the present by-law .
37. The present by-law comes into force as per the law .

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ MAYOR

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ CITY CLERK

## **APPENDIX A DIVING AREAS**

1. Dives must be executed from the end of the board only and straight off.
2. Only one diver is allowed on the board at any time.
3. Only one bounce is permitted on the board.
4. Swimmers must avoid swimming under or in front of the diving board.
5. Swimming is not permitted in diving areas except during designated swim times.
6. Hanging on boards is prohibited.
7. After diving, a swimmer must immediately go to the closest ladder.
8. Before diving, swimmers must wait until the previous diver has reached the ladder.
9. Swimmers must always stand on the diving board.
10. The diving area is reserved to those who are 46 inches (116.8 cm) or taller and those capable of swimming one full length of the pool, without the use of a flotation device.
11. Flotation devices are not permitted while using the diving board.
12. Catching children off the diving board is not permitted.

## **APPENDIX B WHIRLPOOLS**

1. Soaps or other pollutants are not permitted in the whirlpools.
2. Anyone over the age of 14 may use the whirlpools at any time during normal operating hours. Children will have access to whirlpools during posted hours.
3. The whirlpools are subject to closure during heat waves.
4. To ensure the safety of all patrons, the maximum time period permitted in the whirlpools is 15 minutes.

## **APPENDIX C**

### **SLIDES**

1. Swimmers must wait for the guard's signal before using a slide and must ensure that the previous person has reached the ladder before sliding.
2. Swimmers must slide in a seated position with feet first at all times.
3. Only one person is allowed on the slide at a time.
4. Standing or jumping on the slide is not permitted.
5. Swimmers must refrain from wearing jewellery, glasses and accessories as these may damage the surface of the slide.
6. Anyone can use the slide. A non-swimmer child may be caught in the water by a responsible person. Toddlers under 2 years old may be accompanied by a responsible person on the slide. Children under 46 inches (116.8 cm) must be accompanied by and may slide with a responsible person.
7. Flotation devices are not permitted.

## **APPENDIX D**

### **WADING POOLS**

1. Wading pools are restricted to children six (6) years old and under and their accompanying adult or responsible person;
2. Children six (6) years old and under must be accompanied by a responsible person for a maximum of 5 children. Children should never be left unattended.
3. Access is provided to formal groups such as day care centres (CPE), schools, home daycares and day camps on the basis of the following ratios:

For children under the age of 5:	1 accompanying person for 6 children
For children 5 and 6 years old:	1 accompanying person for 10 children