

Aquatic Facilities (Indoor & Outdoor Pools) Reopening Guidelines

These guidelines are meant to support the reopening of aquatic facilities (indoor & outdoor pools) adhering to the [Nova Scotia Provincial Government coronavirus guidelines](#). The following must be demonstrated in any reopening plans:

Environment

- How appropriate physical distancing will be maintained and [gathering restrictions](#) respected at the facility before, during, and after activity, following the [physical distancing guidelines](#). (*i.e: barriers incorporated to ensure a minimum of 2m between swimmers or groups of 10 or less swimmers while in the pool*)
 - Lane swims and aqua-fit classes can be done, and individuals need to be at least 6 feet apart (maximum number determined by physical size of pool/pool area)
 - Child swim lessons can be done with groups of up to 10; distancing between groups; consistency of individual group members should be kept as much as possible
 - Recreational swimming/splashing can be done in groups of up to 10 in a single marked off area of the pool; distancing between groups; consistency of individual group members should be kept as much as possible
- How the number of people within a [facility](#) will be limited. (*i.e: implement a reservation system that gives patrons a time limitation for use of the aquatic facility*).
- How congregation of people in shared areas such as common space where participants enter and exit, washrooms, changing rooms, equipment rooms, etc. will be managed. (*i.e: provide facility access with one entry point and a separate exit point; ensure the occupancy rate in changerooms is reduced to allow physical distancing*).

Equipment

- How shared equipment will be limited. (*i.e: remove nonessential items; no sharing of water bottles, goggles, towels, etc.*)
- How swimming supports and tools will be managed (*i.e: distribution and disinfecting of life jackets, flutter boards, pool buoys, etc.*)
- How equipment will be managed and [cleaned](#) with appropriate disinfecting cleaner before and after use. (*i.e: ensure the use of diving boards and waterslides are adjusted to establish physical distancing measures*).

Personal Protective Precautions

- How enhanced cleaning will be managed, including high touch surfaces (*i.e: washrooms, changerooms, door knobs, deckfurniture, etc.*)
- How users will be encouraged to practice good hygiene.
- How users will be educated to ensure those who are unwell and symptomatic do not enter the facility or participate in the activity. Testing information can be found here.
- How to ensure the safety of lifeguards and providing necessary rescuing equipment.

Communication

- How users will be informed of the specific safety precautions they must follow.
- How your facility protocols will be communicated to all participants.
- If possible, maintaining a user registry (names, dates, time, and contact info) to facilitate potential public health contact tracing.

For operational guidelines, please visit: <http://lifesavingsociety.ns.ca/index.php/covid-19>