



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®

*The Lifeguarding Experts*

## GENERAL SAFETY PLAN

### Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to maximize safety at lifesaving competitions. General emergency procedures are in the host policy and procedures manual, in conjunction with any legislation and regulations pertaining to venue operations. This plan will address items specific to the lifeguard competition held at these venues.

### Code of Conduct

Everyone has the responsibility of acting in a safe manner. This includes volunteers, officials, guests, competitors, coaches, meet management etc. However, it is the responsibility of the management team to ensure that this plan is enforced. Anyone not adhering to the safety procedures as prescribed in this plan may be disqualified or removed from the property. Unsafe actions and behaviours will not be tolerated.

### SAFETY PLAN

#### Safety Officer/Chain of Command

The Safety Officer for the competition is \_\_\_\_\_.

The Safety Officer is required to report and document any incidents that occur to the Management Team.

The **Management Team** consists of the

- Meet Manager \_\_\_\_\_
- Meet Referee \_\_\_\_\_
- Safety Officer \_\_\_\_\_
- Host Representative(s) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Volunteer Management

Pool areas will be supervised by qualified and trained lifeguards. For venues that do not involve the pool, trained health and safety designates will be identified. In case of an emergency, the following is the order in which communications should occur:

1. Sectional/Deputy Referee
2. Safety Officer
3. Meet Manager/Meet Referee
4. Host Representative
5. Other

In addition: In a pool environment the host lifeguard/facility staff are to take control of any situation and follow the protocol designed in the Policies and Procedures Manuals. If an increased level of care is volunteered by outside party (i.e., doctor) and accepted by the liable care givers, that person must assume complete responsibility of the patient until Paramedics arrive and assume control.

## **Operational Procedures**

Operational procedures are defined by the host. This standard of care is required to meet the minimum health regulations and guidelines supported by the Lifesaving Society. In a situation where the host does not have operational standards, the Management Team will consider adopting operational procedures that meets the industry standard for that location/venue.

## **General safety**

- Ministry Regulations as well as facility/host specific rules must be followed to ensure safety.
- Lifeguards are to be supplied by host for all pool venues.
- Lifeguards are to ensure the safety of those in the facility at large.
- The lifeguards are to be made aware of any mock situations that may occur before the start of the event.
- The lifeguard staff are to interact with public and enforce house rules are required.
- Non swimmers that are involved in the competition should identify themselves to the sectional referees.
- Diving is prohibited in the shallow water. Check specific facility for details.

## **In Non-Aquatic Environments:**

Any incident should be reported to the facility staff immediately. Trained personnel will be on call in non-aquatic environments, i.e., lock-up, venues not in the pool area.

## **Personal Safety/Cross Contamination**

- Individuals are responsible for ensuring the complete information of any medical conditions, medications and/or allergies are communicated to a responsible person that will be looking out for their interest, i.e., Coach.
- The Competition Management Committee will not be responsible for the monitoring of individuals.
- Personal Protective Equipment used by competitors should be disinfected between uses. Any manikin or prop used during the competition that could be contaminated with bodily fluids will be disinfected appropriately. Any equipment that has been contaminated with bodily fluids that can be disposed should be done appropriately.
- Footwear must be worn in non-pool areas.

## **Warm-ups**

- Warm-Up plan provided in Appendix (attached).

## **Safety Equipment**

- Stocked First Aid kits are required at all venues. First Aid kits are in a designated area and clearly identified.
- Emergency phones are required at all venues. Emergency phones are in designated areas and clearly identified.

## Specialized Equipment

- Back stroke flags are required for all swim events.
- If specialized equipment is available at facilities, only the trained designate is to use equipment. This may include equipment such as oxygen, BVMs, etc. If an increased level of care is volunteered by outside party (i.e., doctor) and accepted by the liable care givers, that person must assume complete responsibility of the patient until Paramedics arrive and assume control.

## Emergency Procedures

- If an emergency occurs, it should be identified to the nearest Official or host staff.
- Officials will communicate with the trained host staff to provide treatment.
- The host trained health Safety Officer are to command and take control of the situation at the earliest possible moment.
- All emergency procedures are set by the facility and should be adhered to.
- Competitors and those associated with the event must follow the direction of host staff.

## Communication

- Radios may be provided by the Management Team to link the competition areas.
- The Safety Officer will always have a dedicated line out.

## Contingency Plans

All contingency plans are decided by the Management Team. The Management Team has the right to postpone, reschedule, move, or cancel an event or competition if the venue/situation is deemed unsafe.

## Facilities

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Map link: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Map link: \_\_\_\_\_

## In Case of Emergency

Emergency Service	Emergency Phone #	Non-Emergency Phone #
Police	911	
Fire	911	
Ontario Poison Control	1-800-268-9017	
Walk-In Clinic		
Hospital		

Emergency Contact Information	Phone #
Meet Manager/Referee	
Safety Officer	
Volunteer Coordinator	
Host	
Your Coach	

Reference: *Handbook for Canadian Lifesaving Sport Championship Organizers: Safety Procedures* (2019)