



YMCA SAFETY NOTICE REGARDING SWIM LESSONS

We believe the role of the YMCA is critical as families attempt to get back to a new normal. The safety of our staff and children in our care is our highest priority.

However, some of the protective measures that we can expect from adults are, for a variety of reasons, not always possible in youth programs. In some cases, children are too young to understand, or consistently practice the precautions, and in other cases the precaution may create a new safety concern. All of these factors mean that while certain precautions against the spread of COVID-19 can and will be applied in our aquatics programs, our infection control measures will differ from those that may be suitable for other environments.

Social Distancing in Swim Lessons:

- Encouraging social distancing through intentional activity design and reminders;
- Reduced instructor to participant ratios in group lessons;
- Groups will remain consistent for the duration of the session;
- Within groups, participants will attempt to be at fingertip length apart during the lesson;
- Swim lesson groups will maintain 6' from other groups;
- One parent/guardian per child is allowed at the swim lesson;
- Seating in the pool area will be placed 6 feet apart and we ask that you be mindful of maintaining 6' of distance with others.
- Lesson start times will be staggered to ensure we have a controlled flow of people into the facilities.
- Member service areas are equipped with protective acrylic barriers;
- Staff are required to wear a cloth face covering (mouth and nose) when in the facility and not able to maintain 6' from individuals;
- Instructors in the water with participants will initially be wearing a face shield or gator. As safe and allowed, instructors may move over time to not wearing face coverings based on what we learn as we reopen lessons, talk with parents and instructors. We want everyone to feel safe and stay healthy.
- We recommend all individuals over the age of two consider a face covering;
- Children and adult are not required to wear something to cover their mouth and nose. However, any children or adults (over the age of 2) not actively involved in a lesson or on the way in or out of the facility are highly encouraged to wear something covering their mouth and nose;

Facility Occupancy Limits

- We will continue to follow local and state recommendations for how many people are allowed in our facilities and will schedule lessons to meet and adhere to these requirements.
- Staff will monitor and track facility occupancy proactively;



Health and Sanitation

- YMCA staff are required to have daily temperature checks and answer health screening questions;
- We ask that parents/guardians self-monitor anyone coming to the Y for signs or symptoms of Covid-19 and take temperatures prior to coming to the Y. Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 are available at all entry points and we are glad to take you or your child's temperature, but it not required for participation.
- The CDC issued guidance that it is safe to swim as the virus cannot be spread via properly chlorinated and maintained pool water. YMCA pool meets or exceeds the health standards set by the CDC. Here is a [LINK](#) to the CDC direction on swimming and pool water and [HERE](#) is an article outlining how the virus cannot be spread in a properly maintained pool.
- We have enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols and are only using disinfecting products registered with the EPA to work against COVID-19;
- High touch points in the facility and pool area will be disinfected on a frequent rotation throughout the day and will deep cleaned each night;
- Disinfecting wipes will continue to be available throughout the YMCA;
- The use of equipment in our lessons is being scaled back and all equipment that may be used will be disinfected between uses.
- Hand sanitizer will remain available at all locations;

The YMCA is continuously monitoring guidance available from state and local health authorities and the CDC and updating our safety measures so you may see these protocols updated over time.