

SWIMMING POOL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS AND STUDENT AQUATIC ACTIVITIES

The following definitions apply to this policy:

“School swimming pool” means any swimming pool approved by the Ledyard Board of Education for student aquatic activities offered through Ledyard High School (LHS).

“Student aquatic activities” means any physical education class, interscholastic athletics or extra-curricular activities offered to students at LHS that makes use of a school swimming pool.

“Qualified swimming coach” means any person who: (1) holds a valid coaching permit issued by the State Board of Education; and (2) either (a) is certified as a lifeguard by the American Red Cross or another nationally-recognized organization that conducts aquatic training programs, (b) has completed a safety training for swim coaches and instructors course offered by the American Red Cross or an organization approved by the State Board of Education, or (C) was certified as a lifeguard for at least five (5) years during the previous ten (10) years and has at least five (5) years of experience as a swimming coach or an instructor of a physical education course that makes use of a school swimming pool.

“Qualified educator” means any person who: (1) holds a valid certificate issued by the State Board of Education with an endorsement in physical education; (2) either (a) is certified as a lifeguard by the American Red Cross or another nationally-recognized organization that conducts aquatic training programs, (b) has completed a safety training for swim coaches and instructors course offered by the American Red Cross or an organization approved by the State Board of Education, or (C) was certified as a lifeguard for at least five (5) years during the previous ten (10) years and has at least five (5) years of experience as a swimming coach or an instructor of a physical education course that makes use of a school swimming pool; (3) is certified in CPR; and (4) has completed a course in first aid offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the Department of Public Health or any director of health.

“Qualified lifeguard” means any person who: (1) is sixteen (16) years of age or older; (2) is certified as a lifeguard by the American Red Cross or another nationally-recognized organization that conducts aquatic training programs; (3) is certified in CPR; and (4) has completed a course in first aid offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the Department of Public Health or any director of health.

A school swimming pool may only be used in a physical education class if it is part of the approved curriculum at LHS.

The use of a school swimming pool in any extra-curricular activity offered through LHS, except for an approved interscholastic athletic activity, requires the specific approval of the Board of Education.

Prior to August 1st of each school year, the Board shall review and update as necessary the school swimming pool safety plan, the purpose of which is to ensure the safety of LHS students participating in an approved student aquatic activity.

The LHS Athletic Director is responsible for ensuring that the requirements of this policy are met for all student aquatic activities offered through LHS.

1. Physical Education Class – The instructor for physical education class activities involving a swimming pool must be a qualified educator and shall be responsible for implementing the requirements of this swimming pool safety plan.

2. Interscholastic Athletic Swimming Activity – The coach of the swimming activity must be a qualified swimming coach and shall be responsible for implementing the requirements of this swimming pool safety plan.

3. The qualified educator or qualified swimming coach leading the activity shall be assisted by a second person who is either a qualified educator, a qualified swimming coach or a qualified lifeguard and whose primary responsibility is to monitor the swimming pool for swimmers who may be in distress and provide assistance to such swimmers when necessary.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-220l. Qualified personnel to monitor school swimming pool. School swimming pool safety plan.

Public Act 13-161 – *An Act Concerning Pool Safety at Public Schools.*

Policy adopted: October 2, 2013
Policy revised: August 20, 2014

LEDYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Ledyard, Connecticut