

Underwater Explorer

Operating Policy

Last Revised On: 03.01.19

Qualification: Trained and assessed externally by in2action.

This operating Policy must be read in conjunction with any existing onsite pool management safety policies.

Location and Site Specification

- A swimming pool, with a designated marked off area.
- A suitable area with no obstructions or hazards.
- Adequate space for the size of the group and nature of the activity.

Equipment

- Suitable equipment specific to the activity must be used (Easy breath Masks, floaters, sinkers and floating numbers).
- Easy breath Mask must be uniquely coded and inspections need to be logged on a monthly basis.
- Masks must be sterilized on a fortnightly basis. This must be logged.
- Buoyancy aids must be available for anyone who requests them.
- Buoyancy aids must be uniquely coded and inspections need to be logged on a monthly basis.

Pre Activity:

- Ensure area to be used is appropriate and free of hazards.
- Ensure area for use is clearly roped off for the public to see.
- Lane ropes must be attached in a safe manner that will cause no trip hazard to the public or participants e.g. clipped inside the pool and not attached to grates or sunbeds etc.
- Session must be set up in accordance with training given.
- All equipment should be checked to ensure that it is suitable for use.

During Activity:

- Any equipment not in use must be placed in a safe area.
- A warm up must take place before the participants begin the session and a swim test must take place before the activity begins to ensure acceptable level of confidence and ability.
- The Staff Member must demonstrate the correct procedure for fitting buoyancy aids.
- Participants to be monitored throughout the activity to ensure acceptable swimming capability.
- The Staff Member must ensure they do not push guests into the pool. They must also ensure participants/spectators do not push each other into the pool.
- The Staff Member must give a safety brief, to include:
 - Walking around the pool sides
 - No jumping or diving
 - No pushing each other into the pool from the pool side
 - How to get in and out of the water safely
 - To be careful when swimming near the pool sides
 - To keep their buoyancy aids on at all times.
- The Staff Member must explain safe practice for each individual piece of equipment including fitting of masks
- The Staff Member must explain the dangers of equipment and emphasise the need to use it as directed. – this must include not taking it out of a pool setting without proper training and guidance from qualified individuals. In2actions Underwater Explorer session **does not** qualify participants in snorkeling or any form of diving.
- The Staff Member must explain each game.
- All participants must remain in the view of the Staff Member at all times.

- Competitions must be relevant to the groups/individuals age and ability.
- The Staff Member must remain vigilant and ensure participants are using the equipment in the correct manner.
- **If Aquajets are added into the session then please refer to specific session plan, operating policy and risk assessment.**

Post Activity:

- All participants must be accounted for upon their return to the side of the pool.
- Buoyancy aids and masks must be washed in clean water.
- The equipment must be checked and secured in a safe place, where it can dry out properly.
- Activity area must be left tidy and ready for next session.