

16 July 2015

Code of Practice for Public Swimming Pools in South Australia
Expressions of Interest for Appointment to Steering Committee

Background

Pool operators work within a diverse web of standards, state legislation and industry guidelines to ensure adequate safeguards are in place to minimise the risk of injury to both patrons and employees. However, the aquatic industry is still largely unregulated.

Since 2008 Recreation SA, via its Aquatic Advisory Committee (AAC) has identified the need for addressing these areas to support swimming pool operators in SA and have included it in the [2015-2018 Strategic Plan](#). Local Government Authorities in NSW (Practice Note 15) and WA (Code of Practice for the Design, Construction, Operation, Management & Maintenance of Aquatic Facilities) have already identified this unregulated area as a risk so have moved to legislate guidelines in public pool management.

The aim of this project is to create a Code of Practice that incorporates all appropriate documentation for operating a public swimming pool, include areas that have been neglected and create a document that is specific to the SA Aquatic Industry. The Code of Practice will not look to rewrite existing documents, but identify gaps and assign minimum standards for good pool practice.

After much consultation, the AAC believe this industry driven approach is the best way to ensure employees are appropriately trained and operating in safe environments and patrons are subject to consistent water safety messages to prevent major incidents. The Code of Practice will benefit all employees and patrons in the aquatic industry by providing a framework for planning and assessing aquatic environments, creating and maintaining safer venues and minimising risks and hazards.

Funding has been granted from the Office for Recreation & Sport's 'Sport and Recreation Development and Inclusion Program' for the 2015/2016 financial year.

Supported By



Government of South Australia
Office for Recreation and Sport

A 3/95 King William Road
Unley, SA, 5061
P (08) 8271 6874
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W www.recreationsa.org

The peak body for physical recreation in South Australia



Steering Committee

Recreation SA are seeking individuals with a commitment to improving aquatic industry standards to form a Steering Committee to create a Code of Practice for Public Swimming Pools in SA.

Individuals might come from a background in the management of pools (public, private, school, indoor, outdoor), Registered Training Organisations, supplying to or engineering of aquatic facilities, or any other position within the aquatic industry. Individuals may have the knowledge, skills or experience to nominate to work on as many or as few areas they feel they can best contribute to. The areas so far identified are:

- Pool Safety, Pool audits
- Photography use
- Training standards
- Workplace design
- Water discharge
- Lifeguard Standards, Supervision
- Overcrowding Procedures
- Child Protection
- Other areas that may arise

Aim

- Work cooperatively with key stakeholders to achieve the common goal of developing an acceptable Code of Practice for use in the SA Aquatic Industry.
- Provide a mechanism to foster collaboration with key stakeholders of the SA Aquatic Industry.

Requirements

It is expected all Steering Committee members will attend an initial meeting at Recreation SA to clarify roles and set a calendar for the project. Further meetings and communication will be dependent on preferences and workload of Committee members for each particular area.

Role and Function

- Develop a plan of action for reviewing all documentation relevant to a Code of Practice for public swimming pools in SA.
- Establish collaborative partnerships between RecSA and various stakeholders to support the review and attend and convene sub committees.
- Share information between stakeholders and organisations about best practice in aquatic policies, procedures and legislation that impacts on safe management of aquatic facilities.
- Promote the Code of Practice throughout the aquatics Industry in SA.
- Provide a central reference point for feedback.
- Assist RecSA to compile the final document and the sign off on it.

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Recreation SA's role

- Host and support the development of the Code of Practice
- Appoint members of the Steering Committee based on the knowledge, experience and skills they have across the listed area(s)
- Provide secretarial support to the process and organise regular meetings to be held on dates to be determined
- Provide a page on RecSA website for contacts and updates to project

Recreation SA Strategic Alignment

Organisational Strategies

- Provide leadership and advocacy
- Advise on industry codes and standards
- Improve communication to stakeholders

Aquatics Strategies

- Continue to work towards a best practice document for swimming pools in SA
- Increase communication and advocacy for the SA aquatic industry

Proposed Timeline

Aug 2015	Steering Committee appointed, first meeting held
Sept 2015	CoP update provided at Season Launch
Dec 2015	1/3 areas complete and available for review
Mar 2016	2/3 areas complete and available for review
May 2016	3/3 areas complete and available for review, CoP update provided at Recreation SA Conference
June 2016	Document Complete
July 2016	Graphic Design and Printing process
Sept 2016	CoP information session at Season Launch, CoP information and video available for dissemination

Application

To apply for a position on the Steering Committee, please address in writing the following points:

- Which area(s) you would like to work on
- What unique knowledge, skills and/ or experience you can contribute to this project
- Anything else to support your application

All applications are to be forwarded to pania@recreationsa.org or Recreation SA, 3/95 King William Road, Unley, SA, 5061 by 9am Thursday, 30 July 2015.

For more information please contact Recreation SA on 8271 6874.

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