Natatorium Rules and Regulations

General Guidelines

1. No one may enter the Natatorium without an aquatic staff member present.

2. Patrons must be prepared to present proper Ohio State identification. Guests must be a daily pass holder or a member of a rental group with a scheduled pool time.

3. Each activity must have a responsible supervisor immediately available on deck.

4. Children age 5 or under must have a parent or guardian (at least 18 years of age) with them in the water at all times.

5. Lifeguards have the discretionary authority to require a parent or guardian to be in the water with a child over 5 years old whom they judge a weak swimmer.

6. Children under age 14 must have a parent or guardian poolside.

7. Children ages 14 — 17 must have a parent or guardian in the building.

8. Lap swimmers may be required to circle swim when lane use exceeds two patrons.

9. The use of radios, tapes, or MP3 players is restricted to private listening (headphones).

10. Food, beverages, gum, or tobacco products are prohibited.

11. The Natatorium area may be closed or have restricted use due to competitive events, special events, or rentals.

12. Personal items are to be stored safely in the locker room. Do not ask lifeguards to keep your personal items or valuables.

13. Lifeguards have the responsibility to enforce regulations and have the authority to remove anyone for unsafe or inappropriate behavior.
Health Rules

1. Admission to the Natatorium will be refused to anyone appearing to have a contagious or infectious condition, such as a cold, athlete’s foot, ringworm, boils, and other skin infections.

2. No Band-Aids or casts may be worn into the pools.

3. Street shoes are restricted from the pool deck areas.

4. Spitting, blowing the nose, or urinating in the pools is forbidden.

5. Only clean, appropriate attire designed for swimming is permitted. For females, appropriate swimwear is that which covers the breasts, buttocks, genitals, and the pubic region. For males, appropriate swimwear is that which covers the buttocks, genitals, and the pubic region. Specifically, street clothes, thongs, and see-through swimwear are prohibited.

6. A clean, white T-shirt and/or clean aqua socks may be worn into the pool.

7. Do not swim when you have diarrhea. This is especially important for children in diapers. Germs can spread in the water and make other people sick.

8. Do not swallow pool water. Avoid getting water in your mouth.

9. Practice good hygiene. Take a shower before swimming and wash your hands after using the toilet or changing diapers. Germs on your body end up in the water.

10. Take your child on bathroom breaks or check diapers often. Waiting to hear “I have to go” may mean it is too late.

11. Change diapers in a bathroom and not at the poolside. Germs can spread to surfaces and objects in and around the pool and spread illness.

12. Wash your child thoroughly (especially the rear end) with soap and water before swimming. Everyone has an amount of fecal matter on his or her bottom that ends up in the pool.

13. Young children, infants, and others not in control of bodily functions must wear plastic pants or swim diapers designed specifically for pool use. Swim diapers are sold in the Sport Shop.
1. A long whistle blast may signal an emergency. Exit the pool immediately and look to the lifeguard for further instruction.

2. Do not converse with or distract the lifeguards while they are actively engaged in their duties.

3. Patrons under the influence of alcohol or other drugs that alter awareness are restricted from the building.

4. You may be asked by a lifeguard to show an ability to swim before using a pool or pool equipment.

5. Glass is prohibited in the Natatorium. Eyeglasses worn into the water should be worn with a safety strap.

6. Headfirst entries are prohibited in the Recreation Natatorium.

7. Do not swim under the bulkhead or walk on its surfaces.

8. Do not hang on the life or lane lines.

9. Horseplay is not tolerated. Running, pushing, dunking, water fighting, chicken fights, etc., are dangerous and prohibited.

10. Hyperventilation or the holding of one’s breath underwater for an extended period of time can be extremely dangerous and therefore is prohibited.

11. U.S. Coast Guard approved personal floatation devices are permitted under the direct supervision of an adult 18 years of age or older.

12. The use of water toys is restricted to those furnished by the university.

13. The use of mask, snorkel, and fins is restricted to commercial quality equipment. The mask must be well fitted and have tempered safety glass.

14. All training and fitness equipment is to be used in the manner for which it was designed.

15. Use of the starting platforms is restricted to organized competitive practice or competition.

16. Water slide use is restricted to one person at a time in a seated position.
Diving Area Rules

1. Swimming in the diving well is prohibited when the diving boards or platforms are in use.

2. Use of the diving platforms is restricted to competent divers in the supervision of certified competitive diving coaches.

3. Use of the sparger system is restricted to organized diving practice periods supervised by approved coaches.

4. Do not wear goggles, earplugs, or contact lenses while diving.

5. When diving, springboards are for recreational use:
   a. Use is restricted to competent, unassisted swimmers at least 6 years of age.
   b. All jumps and dives are to be in a forward direction from a standing position.
   c. No back dives, handstands, cartwheels, or seat drops are permitted.
   d. Only one person is permitted on the diving board or its ladder at a time.
   e. Do not jump or dive until the diver before you reaches the ladder.
   f. One spring per dive or jump permitted.
   g. Dive or jump straight ahead.
   h. Swim directly to the nearest ladder and exit the pool immediately.

6. Moving a springboard fulcrum increases its spring, but decreases your control. The fulcrum is not to be moved from the No. 1 position (fully forward) during recreational diving.

7. Diving or jumping deemed unsafe, in the judgment of the lifeguard, will be prohibited.

For clarification of these rules and regulations, or to offer comments and/or suggestions, please contact:

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These rules and regulations reflect current standards of the U.S. Department of Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and The National Swimming Pool Foundation. The Department of Recreational Sports and The Ohio Aquatic Council, Ltd. review them annually.