



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®

The Lifeguarding Experts

ANNOUNCEMENT

Implications for NCCP-certified coaches of the revised Ontario Public Pools Regulation

May 9, 2018 – Revisions to the Ontario Public Pools Regulation come into effect July 1, 2018. Under the regulation, when the pool is being used for aquatic instruction, practice or competition:

The pool is exempt from providing lifeguards required in the regulation's Minimum Number of Lifeguard tables (section 17.2 and 17.3) if the following conditions apply:

- The pool is being used solely for aquatic instruction, practice or competition.
- The pool is being used by classes or groups of not more than 25 people per class or group.
- Each group is under the direct supervision of a certified aquatic coach or instructor who is at least 16 years of age.

An individual who holds a current NCCP certification (National Coaching Certification Program) from one of the aquatic sports – swimming, diving, synchronized swimming, water polo – is recognized as “certified aquatic coach”.

The pool is exempt from providing lifeguards when the above conditions are met *and* when the current NCCP-certified coach also holds a current assistant lifeguard (Bronze Cross) or lifeguard certificate (National Lifeguard). The significant change for coaches is that they may now hold an *assistant lifeguard* certification (previously they were required to hold a lifeguard certificate).

Aquatic coaches need not become certified as lifeguards or assistant lifeguards: where an aquatic coach does not hold a lifeguard or assistant lifeguard certification, the pool operator shall ensure a lifeguard is on duty on the deck during the aquatic instruction, practice or competition.

Certifications are "current" for 24 months from the date of certification.

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