

Mechanicsville Recreation Association

Pool Rules

The pool rules are put in place for the safety of all members. Please review this information with your family. The rules must be enforced and adhered to by everyone. Any questions or concerns must be addressed to the Pool Manager in the office, or in writing to the Operations team. A confrontational discussion will not be tolerated on the pool deck at any time. This type of behavior can distract the lifeguards causing them to not focus on the safety of the patrons. A patron may be asked to leave the pool if inappropriate or unsafe behavior is displayed. The rules are reviewed on a regular basis and every effort is made to accommodate all members. Our goal is for all families to experience a summer of fun in a safe environment.

GENERAL

1. Hours of Operation: (Pool opens the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend and closes for the season the Monday of Labor Day weekend)

Please refer to our website for the most up to date pool hours for:

- Holidays and weekends
- Days that school is in session
- Regular summer time sessions

There will be times that portions of the pool will be closed to accommodate our swim team the MRA Marlins. Additionally, the pool may close early due to inclement weather, swim meets, etc. Inclement weather information will be posted on the front gate. The other information will be listed in our newsletter or posted on our website <http://www.mechanicsvillepool.com>

- a. The pool may be closed when necessary for maintenance operations or inclement weather (30 minutes from the last sound of thunder and 45 minutes from the last sighting of lightning). The lifeguards will blow their whistles to clear the pool and there will be an announcement made over the speaker system by the Manager. Patrons are expected to clear the pool immediately for their safety. If lightning is sighted, patrons will also be asked to clear the pool deck.
 - b. Pool may be closed one hour prior to the established closing time at the discretion of the Pool Manager or senior lifeguard on duty due to non-participation of swimmers.
 - c. Swimming instruction classes will be organized and scheduled at a time recommended by the Pool Manager or Operations team.
 - d. For purposes of these pool rules, Pool Manager, Operations Team, and a designated senior lifeguard on-duty may be interchanged.
2. Admission to the Pool
 - a. **Members** - All members and children of members who are entitled to the use of the pool will be required to check in at the front gate upon entering the pool area for MRA staff to date stamp the member's registration card and confirm membership is valid. Fees must be paid in full to participate with the swim team and receive member rates for swimming lessons.

b. Guests - All guests must be accompanied with a member of the Association to enter the pool area. The onsite pool manager, acting for the Association, may restrict the number of guests members may bring to the pool or limit the times when guest privileges are allowed. The guests name will be logged with the member's registration card upon arrival. A fee of \$7.00 for weekdays, \$10.00 for weekends and holidays, or a previously purchased guest pass will be collected by the gate staff. A booklet of passes can be purchased at the gate. MRA will be offering guest pass booklets of five passes for \$35.00 which can be used any day of the week. You must have the pass with you or the gate staff will be required to collect based on the daily rate. Guest(s) 2 years old and younger admitted at no charge. Additional passes and membership responsibilities are listed below:

- (1) Members must accompany their guest(s) at all times. Members will place their name and each guest's name and age each day they visit the pool. Members should explain the pool rules to the guest(s) as they apply in this document. Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests.
- (2) Grandparent/Babysitter Passes - These passes are intended for a non-household member(s) to visit the pool in the company of an active member, on a semi-regular basis. These passes are offered for the summer for \$75.00. Members applying for such privileges will sign a statement to the Association stating specifics regarding this pass including child's parents name & emergency number as well as the babysitter's emergency contact and phone number.
- (3) Any member who violates the guest privileges may be subject to having their membership in the Association terminated by the MRA Board.

CONCESSION

1. Our concession stand is available during most operating hours of the pool and during swim meets.
2. No member or guest shall be allowed to establish a tab at the concession stand. All food must be paid for at the time of purchase.
3. Food cannot be delivered to members or guests on the pool deck. All concession orders must be picked up at the concession window.
4. No member or guest shall be allowed to enter the concession stand. All needs will be addressed by the concession worker at the window.
5. Food and drinks shall not be allowed in the pool or baby pool, and must be kept at the tables or lounge chairs on the deck of the pool.

HEALTH

1. No member, child, or guest shall knowingly enter the pool while suffering from any contagious disease, such as athlete's foot, ringworm, chicken pox, colds, or while suffering from an open wound or sore, etc. The Pool Manager and Staff will observe all patrons, and any questionable cases may not be allowed admission or may be asked to leave the pool area.
2. Members need to notify the Pool Manager or a lifeguard immediately if a patron has thrown up or has had a bowel movement in the pool or on the pool deck. This could be very dangerous for all patrons if not addressed immediately. The pool may need to be cleared and shocked with chemicals. An announcement will be made addressing the course of action to be taken and the duration the pool will need to be closed depending on the situation.
3. Spitting, spouting of water, blowing of nose, etc., are strictly prohibited in the pool.
4. All parents are cautioned not to allow over fatigue. If temperature is extremely high for several days, all patrons should double their intake of fluids and nourishment to avoid dehydration.

5. There will be a ten minutes rest period called hourly at the discretion of the Pool Manager or senior lifeguard on deck, at which time all swimmers under the age of 18 must exit the water.

SAFETY

1. All persons using the pool do so at their own risk.
2. No running, pushing, wrestling, chicken fights, throwing a patron up in the air or causing inconsiderate disturbance in or around the pool area are permitted.
3. No diving allowed in the wading pool, 2 ft section, 3 ft section or 4 ft section. Diving is allowed only in the 5 ft section or diving well. The pool deck is marked accordingly and the depth of each section of the pool is marked on the blue tiles in the pool.
4. Smoking shall not be allowed in the pool or baby pool. This includes cigarettes, cigars, pipes, vape-pens, e-cigs and any other form of tobacco and non-tobacco smoking products. The entire pool area is a smoke free facility. There smoking areas posted outside of the fence line. Please be aware of the appropriate locations to smoke or the staff can explain the areas.
5. No chewing or bubble gum shall be allowed anywhere on the pool deck.
6. No glass containers of any kind will be allowed within the pool area.
7. Only face masks or goggles with plastic lenses will be allowed in the pool.
8. Only those in proper swimming attire (bathing suit) shall be allowed in the pool.
9. Patrons requiring flotation devices must be accompanied by an adult at all times. We recommend flotation devices be Coast Guard approved.
10. Kick boards and/or toys that have or contain sharp edges, or any other object that may be considered unsafe will not be allowed in the pool during normal operation. Floats may be allowed depending on the number of members in the pool which will be at the Manager's discretion.
11. Rules pertaining to the diving well are as follows:
 - a. One person on the diving board at a time.
 - b. Do not dive or jump off the board until the previous swimmer has reached the step ladder on the side of the pool.
 - c. Dive or jump in the forward position only straight in front of the board. Do not jump off backwards or towards the side steps.
 - d. No horseplay or clowning around on the diving board.
 - e. Swimmers must stay out of the diving well when diving boards are in use. Patrons using the diving boards have first preference over cross pool. No inappropriate remarks will be tolerated to a patron interrupting a cross pool game to go off the diving boards.
 - f. If the diving boards are not in use, cross-pool may be played by a maximum of 10 swimmers. All players must take no more than one step before diving into the pool and must not dive in front of the diving boards. Swimmers can only dive to the left of the side steps. Lifeguard or Pool Manager can use their discretion to stop the game if they feel the patrons are not participating in a safe manner.
 - g. Parents or other swimmers may not get into the diving area to catch another swimmer going off the diving boards. You may ask the Pool Manager or another lifeguard to assist you with this. MRA wants to avoid having two patrons to rescue.
 - h. No goggles, inflatable devices or inflatable toys allowed.

12. Unauthorized persons are not allowed on the lifeguard stands.
13. Rules having specific application to children attending the pool without their parents:
 - a. Children under the age of 14 must be accompanied to the pool or pool deck by an adult (18 years old or older) or you must have written permission with emergency contact information from a parent or legal guardian, as well as approval from Pool Manager which may or may not include a swim test.
 - b. Member children 16 years and older may bring a guest aged at least 16 years at the discretion of the Operations Manager.
 - c. Responsible member children at least 16 years old may bring younger siblings to the pool.
 - d. Only children 4 years old and younger are permitted to use the baby pool and play equipment under the supervision of their parents or responsible sitter over the age of 16.
 - e. Adults shall be responsible for and shall watch the children in their care in the baby pool and play equipment. The lifeguard's duties extend primarily to the main pool.
 - f. Parents are requested to use swim diapers on children not toilet-trained. Disposable diapers are not to be used in the baby pool or main pool.
14. Lifeguards may exclude anyone from the deep water who has not demonstrated sufficient ability to swim.
15. Members MUST abide by and cooperate with the lifeguard's decisions. This could also include a time out session to explain to the swimmer the specific issue and the importance of safety. Members are not permitted to interfere with or reprimand employees of the Association. If a difference of opinion should arise, members should speak to the Pool Manager or Operations Team only.

SWIMMING POOL GROUNDS

1. The presence of an intoxicated person(s) or the bringing of alcoholic beverages or drugs in any form into the pool area is strictly prohibited. Your membership could be terminated. The MRA Board may grant exceptions for alcohol on special occasions.
2. No abusive, offensive or profane language shall be permitted. Misconduct of this type by any patron will be asked to leave the premises.
3. Members shall drive slowly and carefully on driveways, parking areas and approaching streets.
4. Parking must be only in designated areas and in such a manner as not to obstruct other cars from the main entrance to the pool.
5. Bicycles shall be parked in designated areas only.
6. No skateboards, scooters, etc. are allowed in the parking area or pool area.
7. All refuse must be placed in containers provided for this purpose.
8. Unauthorized persons will not be permitted to use the office facilities of the pool unless accompanied by the Pool Manager or a lifeguard.
9. No pets will be allowed in the pool area at any time.

10. The Association reserves the right to require a security deposit for use of borrowed equipment by the gate staff. The deposit will be refunded once equipment is returned in good condition.
11. The cost of any property damage shall be charged to the responsible member or shall be charged to the sponsoring member if a guest is responsible.
12. The Association is not responsible for loss or damage to personal belongings, bicycles or automobiles on the premises.
13. Radio station will be determined by the Pool Manager or senior lifeguard on duty. No other forms of music shall be played by individual members unless used with ear phones so as not to disturb other members.
14. Suggestions concerning pool rules and operation shall be directed in writing to the MRA Board for consideration. poolboard@mechanicsvillepool.com

Thank you for taking the time to read and review these with your family so that everyone at MRA can enjoy a safe, fun atmosphere that all can enjoy!