



# Municipality of Princeton

Department of Recreation  
380 Witherspoon Street  
Princeton, NJ 08540

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## COMMUNITY PARK POOL

### GENERAL INFORMATION, RULES AND REGULATIONS

**(Revised March 2023)**

#### **Family Definition**

Persons eligible for membership under the family plan are: Members of the same family unit permanently residing at the same legitimate Princeton address. A family unit is defined as parent(s)/legal guardian and his/her immediate dependent(s). Dependent is defined as natural, foster, adopted, or any minors for which an adult(s) has legal custody. To qualify for a family membership, the dependent(s) of the adult(s) member must not have reached their 21st birthday as of June 1 of that year. Dependents to the age of 23 years as of June 1 may be included in this definition if they are full time students (proof will be required). Babysitters, live-in helpers and grandparents do not qualify as family members under this definition, however, babysitters, live-in helpers and grandparents may qualify to join as separate entities if they also live at this bona fide Princeton address.

The Recreation Department offers Wading Pool access to pool members during non-public time starting with the first weekend in June. The program is offered Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on weekends and Holidays. It is not necessary for the guardian, babysitter or parent to have a pool membership for this special program. It is necessary for each child to have a membership.

#### **General Membership Information**

Season memberships may be revoked or suspended by the Recreation Department without refund of fees for making any false report pertinent to the acquisition of a membership. Memberships and Daily Admission Cards (DAC's) are not transferable. Any person using a membership or DAC that is not his/her own will be automatically suspended for seven (7) consecutive days for a first offense and for the entire season for a subsequent offense. Any person allowing his/her membership card or DAC to be used by any other person will suffer the same penalties. All membership and DAC's must have a photo on them.

The Princeton Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners has established a general policy that refunds will not be allowed. The Commission reserves the right to make special exceptions regarding refunds for membership. If a special exception is granted by the Commission, an administrative service charge of **20%** will be deducted from the refund.

The Pool shall be open for public swimming from 12:00pm to 8:00 p.m. on weekdays and 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on weekends and holidays. Starting in August (date TBD) the pool will close at 7:30pm due to diminishing daylight. The manager shall have the right to close all or any portion of the pool facilities at any time for health and safety reasons.

The following rules and regulations are established pursuant to **N.J.S.A. 40:61-22-27** for the supervision, regulation and control of activities and for the protection of property at Community Park Pool. Patrons

are requested to cooperate in observing these rules and to obey the instructions of the Aquatics staff. Patrons violating swimming rules are subject to the revocation of their swimming privileges.

### **General Rules /Admission Policies**

All persons must pay the appropriate daily admission Fee (DAC holders) or present a valid membership ID card, when entering the pool complex regardless of whether they plan on swimming or not. Princeton residents that do not have a membership, must register for a Daily Admission Card (DAC) prior to coming to the pool and paying the daily admission fee (\$7/youth & \$14/adult). Youth = 17 & under.

Non-Resident guests must be accompanied by either a pool member or a DAC holder and pay the appropriate daily admission fee at the time of entry. Pool members/residents must be present at the pool while their guests are in attendance. Guests must sign a waiver at the time of entry (see FAQ Page at [www.princetonrecreation.com](http://www.princetonrecreation.com)). Guest of pool member = \$7/youth and \$14/adult.  
Guest of DAC Holder = \$14/youth & \$18/adult.

The Pool Manager reserves the right to limit the admission of guests when necessary. Residents or members shall be responsible for the conduct of their guests.

Children must be 11 years of age or older to come to the pool unaccompanied. Children under 11 years of age must be accompanied by an adult or responsible person at least 15 years of age.

To use the diving boards, children under the age of 11 or any swimmer of questionable ability must pass the CP Pool swim test. In order to use the slide, children under the age of 11 must be at least 48" tall or pass the swim test. The swim test consists of swimming the length of the pool without stopping or standing and treading water for 90 seconds. Individuals that do not pass the swim test must wait a minimum of 1 day to take the test again. Swim tests are administered by an off duty lifeguard when enough staff is available to administer the test. Management reserves the right to administer a swim test to anyone who is not demonstrating proficiency or limit access to certain pools.

A free, one time only, photo ID badge (memberships and/or DAC) will be issued by the Recreation Department. The cost to replace a lost ID badge will be \$10.00. Lost cards should be reported immediately to the Recreation Office.

Children in the Wading Pool and the Family Bay area must be under the direct supervision of a parent or guardian. The designated morning wading pool block of time is reserved for youth (must be a CP Pool member) that are six years of age or younger and their parent/guardian (must be at least 15 years of age).

### **Facility**

Food and drinks are to be consumed in designated areas. Food and beverage are not permitted on the pool deck. No glass containers are allowed in the complex. No chewing gum is allowed. All bags, totes and coolers are subject to inspection.

Alcohol is prohibited in the pool complex. Anyone found in possession of alcohol or under the influence of alcohol (or drugs) will be asked to leave the complex immediately.

Smoking (including e-cigarettes) and vaping is prohibited in the pool complex and within 30 feet of any/all entrances to all municipal buildings and facilities.

Shade pavilions, chairs and picnic tables are available on a first come, first serve basis when not reserved for Princeton Recreation Department camps.

The pool community room is available for reservation for parties and large gatherings on weekends only.

No animals, except service animals, shall be allowed in the pool area.

Headphones must be worn when listening to music or entertainment devices. Playing music over or through any type of speaker is prohibited.

### **Locker Rooms/Attire**

Lockers are available for day-use only. Users must provide their own lock or purchase one from the Pool Office. Overnight storage of belongings in day lockers is prohibited. Seasonal lockers are currently available for rental.

Community Park Pool is not responsible for personal property or valuables brought into the complex or stored in lockers. Use of lockers shall be strictly at the users' own risk.

Bathing suits must be worn by all patrons. Undergarments, underwear, jeans, or other non-swimming attire is not allowed. Water/swim shoes are allowed as long as they are clean and snug-fitting.

Sun protective swim shirts and T-shirts may be worn, but must be close-fitting so as not to hinder the ability to swim. Excessively baggy clothing is not allowed in the diving well or slide.

Dressing and undressing shall be done in the changing rooms only.

Family changing rooms are intended for use by families with young children who may need privacy. Please restrict your use time to 10 minutes or less so that the changing rooms are available to all that may need them.

### **Behavior**

Lifeguards enforce all pool rules and regulations. Any violations shall be brought to the attention of the Pool Manager who shall have the authority to expel or suspend such persons from use of the pool. Parents may be held responsible for the actions of their children.

Vulgarity, roughness, rowdiness or other conduct affecting the safety and comfort of others shall not be permitted. Such conduct will result in disciplinary action by the management.

Ball playing, Frisbee tossing, hacky sack use, running, pushing, profane language, or any other behavior creating conditions of danger or annoyance to any person is prohibited within the pool complex.

No advertising, sale of merchandise, or solicitations for any purpose shall be permitted upon any part of the premises unless specifically authorized by the Princeton Recreation Department.

Persons suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol shall be prohibited from entering the complex and/or asked to leave immediately.

### **Health and Safety**

No one is permitted in the water unless the pool is officially open and a Lifeguard is on duty.

Per the Health Code, all persons must take a shower before entering the pool. Sunbathers should shower before each entrance into the water in order to rinse off perspiration, lotions, sunscreen, etc.

All children under 3 years of age, all children age 3 and over that are not completely toilet trained and any pool patron that is incontinent must wear swim diapers and plastic pants with snug fitting elastic waist and leg bands in all pools. Plastic pants are for sale at the Pool Office.

Do not enter the water if you are experiencing or recovering from diarrhea or have had any signs or symptoms of a gastrointestinal (stomach) disease in the past seven days.

Any persons showing evidence of a skin disease, sore or inflamed eyes, nasal or ear disease may be denied admission. Any person with excessive sunburn, cuts, open blisters, cuts or bandages may be denied admission.

No prolonged underwater swimming for time or distance. Competitive and/or repetitive breath holding can be dangerous and is not permitted.

All injuries must be reported to a Pool Manager or a Lifeguard.

### **Equipment and Toys**

Non-inflatable personal floatation devices (PFD) are permitted. A child using a PFD must be supervised by an adult in the water at all times. PFD's are not allowed in the diving well or on the slide. Coast Guard approved vests are available for use (free of charge) at the Pool Office.

Water toys, noodles, balls, kick-boards etc. are NOT allowed in the family bay, main pool or diving well. Small pool toys can be used in the wading pool and may be limited at the Manager's or Lifeguard's discretion. Large inflatable devices, including rafts and inner tubes are not allowed in the complex. Small inner tubes designed for kids under the age of 4 may be allowed in the wading pool at the manager's discretion.

Selfie-sticks and similar devices are not allowed in the pools, on the diving board or on the slide.

Bikes, scooters, hoverboards, roller blades, inline skates and skateboards are prohibited in the complex.

Patrons may not bring non-aquatic athletic equipment of any kind in the complex (Frisbee, football, soccer, basketball, baseball/softball, lacrosse, etc.)

Small pop-up beach-tents/canopies (not taller than 50" or wider than 60") may be allowed at the manager's discretion. In those instances, anchoring hardware may not damage the grass turf or pool complex irrigation system. No camping tents are allowed.

### **Weather**

During thunder, lightning, or storms all pools must be evacuated and all patrons must leave the pool complex. There is not sufficient room in the facility for patrons to safely shelter during an electrical storm. The concession stand will be closed during thunder/lightning storms. The complex will reopen no earlier than 30 minutes after the last sound of thunder or sight of lightning.

Management reserves the right to close the complex at any time based on weather conditions.

Rain checks will be issued to patrons paying daily rates when the facility must be closed due to inclement weather, an equipment malfunction or for safety reasons.

### **Diving Rules**

To use the diving well, children under the age of 11 must pass the CP Pool swim test. The lifeguard on duty reserves the right to direct any patron to complete the swim test, regardless of age.

The Manager reserves the right to close the Diving well, diving boards or slide as deemed necessary and without advanced notice.

Only one person at a time shall be permitted on a diving board and ladder.

Divers shall not dive until the previous diver has cleared the area below the board and there is no danger of colliding with a swimmer.

Divers should never come down the dive board steps except in an emergency or if directed to do so by the lifeguard.

Diving shall not be permitted from the side of a board or the side of the diving well.

Divers may not spring (bounce) more than one time.

After finishing a dive, swimmers must exit the pool immediately by swimming directly across the dive well to the wall on the opposite side of the boards.

Swimmers, other than divers, shall not be permitted in the diving well except during designated periods.

Diving from the deck is prohibited. Running on the boards is prohibited.

Retrieving objects from the bottom of the diving well, unless authorized to do so, is prohibited.

Goggles, masks, glasses or floatation devices are not permitted in the diving well.

Management reserves the right to close the dive well and/or slide for Bluefish Dive Team home meets and afternoon practices. Every effort will be made to notify the public in advance of these dates.

### **Slide Rules**

To use the slide, children under the age of 11 must be 48" tall or pass the CP Pool swim test.

Start slide when directed by the lifeguard. The slide lifeguard has the authority to turn away questionable swimmers.

Only one person on the slide at a time.

Younger children MAY NOT ride with an adult.

Slide feet first only in a seated position or lying on the back. No stopping, turning, standing, kneeling or rotation.

Pregnant women, persons with heart conditions and/or back problems should not use the slide.

Bathing suits or swim attire with buckles or exposed metal parts cannot be worn on the slide as they may cause damage to the slide surface.

Goggles, masks, glasses or flotation devices are not permitted in the slide. Sliders must exit the pool immediately.

### **Lap Swimming Policies**

Always swim to the right within your lane and in a circular pattern at all times. When passing another swimmer, pass to the left. Do not stand or rest in the lanes or at either end of the pool. If you are tired or have finished your workout, please leave the lap lane area.

Be aware of other swimmers to prevent head-on collisions.

Very slow swimmers should swim outside the lap lanes.

The following is prohibited in the lap lane to ensure safety of all lap swimmers: masks and snorkels.

Lap Swimming and Senior Dip must remain in designated areas and may not encroach on designated space for other aquatic programming such as swim lessons or parent-toddler classes.

**Management reserves the right to close the lap lane for all Bluefish Swim Team home meets and afternoon practices. Every effort will be made to notify the public in advance of these dates.**