

Policy Title	Bassano Outdoor Pool – Mermaid Tail Policy
Authority	Recreation & Leisure Department
Approved (Dates/Motion #)	TOB82/22
Policy Number	P-TOB72a/005-22
Review	Annually
Reviewed by/date	May 9, 2022 – Council

Policy Statement

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the use of mermaid tails at the Bassano Outdoor Pool.

Definitions

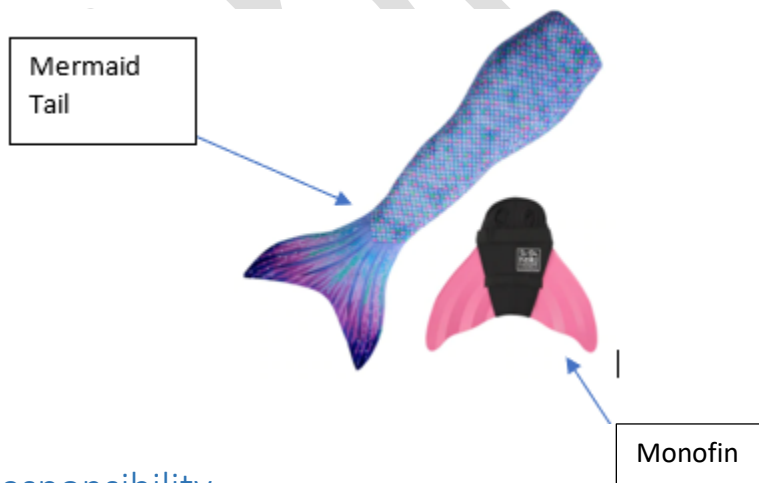
Pool – means the Bassano Outdoor Pool.

Pool Staff – means a person employed at the Bassano Outdoor Pool

Lifeguard Level 1 - is a Pool employee responsible to assist and communicate directly with patrons, enforce Pool rules, and take emergency actions when required.

Lifeguard Level 2 - is a Pool employee responsible to assist and communicate directly with patrons, enforce Pool rules, supervise Level 1 Lifeguards, and Pool Apprentices when the Pool Manager is not present, and take emergency actions when required.

Mermaid Tail – means swimmable accessories designed to make the wearer look and swim like a mermaid. They are worn over the legs and feet and usually have a monofin.



Responsibility

It is the responsibility of all pool staff and pool patrons to adhere to this policy.

Guidelines

These guidelines set out the roles and responsibilities for the safe use of mermaid tails at the pool.

1. A mermaid tail shall not be worn on the pool deck to prevent slips, trips, and falls.
2. A mermaid tail shall not be worn in the hot tub.
3. A mermaid tail can be used in the pool at the discretion of pool staff. Approval depends on the swimmers' ability and the number of patrons in the pool during that time.
4. Swimmers must pass two swimming and mobility tests before they are permitted to wear a mermaid tail. These tests shall be facilitated by a level 1 or 2 lifeguard.
 - i. Swim Test 1: Basic swimming ability without a mermaid tail.
 1. Roll in deep water.
 2. Tread water for one (1) minute.
 3. Swim fifty (50) meters (two (2) lengths of the pool).
 - ii. Swim Test 2: Ensure competency with a mermaid tail.
 1. Swim twenty-five (25) meters with a tail (dolphin kick).
 2. Surface support for one (1) minute.
 3. Demonstrate the ability to stand up and remove the tail with ease.
 4. Swimmers must be able to remove the tail within 10 seconds in deep water.
5. Swimmers may be asked to complete these tests multiple times.
6. Swimmers that are unable to complete the mobility tests may be permitted to wear a mermaid tail in the "Kiddie" area of the pool within arms reach of a caregiver. Refer to the highlighted image below. Use in this area shall be at the discretion of an on-duty level 1 or level 2 lifeguard.



Policy Reference

1. P-TOB72a-001-22 - Pool Operations Plan

END OF POLICY