



# SOUTH SHORE YMCA OUTDOOR AQUATIC CENTER AT THE EMILSON YMCA

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES GUIDE 2026

The **Outdoor Aquatic Center** is available for those South Shore YMCA (SSYMCA) members who have purchased a Seasonal Pass (Pass). This was implemented to ensure a safe environment and create an optimal user experience. Passes were made available only to South Shore YMCA (SSYMCA) members. Pass registration is expected to open each fall for the future summer season. All Passholders must maintain an active SSYMCA membership to uphold their Outdoor Aquatic Center Pass.

The following Guide was created to set clear expectations and enhance the user experience. Policies and procedures will be consistently evaluated and may be adjusted with or without notice as we progress through the season.

The SSYMCA Member Code of Conduct applies to the use of this and any SSYMCA facility. Please see the "Pool Rules" section of this document for details on swimming tests and other pool rules.

### HOURS OF OPERATION

<b>MONDAY – FRIDAY</b>	<b>May-June 16</b>	<b>JUNE 17-JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
• Pool #1	3:00pm-7:00pm	9:00am- 7:30pm	9:00a- 7:00pm	9:00a- 7:00pm
• LAP SWIMMING	7:00am-9:00am	6:00am-9:00am	6:00am-9:00am	7:00am-9:00am
• Pool #2 & Splash Pad Splashpad Only	3:00pm-7:00pm	3:15pm – 7:30pm	3:15pm – 7:00pm	3:15pm – 7:00pm
• Playground	3:00pm-7:00pm	9:00am – 7:30pm	9:00am – 7:00pm	9:00am – 7:00pm
<b>SATURDAY &amp; SUNDAY</b>				
• Entire Facility	10:00am-7:00pm	10:00am - 7:30pm	10:00am – 7:00pm	10:00am – 7:00pm
<b>CONCESSIONS</b>				
• Monday – Sunday	Weekends only	11:00am – 7:30pm	11:00am – 7:00pm	11:00am – 7:00pm

**Memorial Day Hours: 10am-5pm Both Pools, 4<sup>th</sup> Of July Hours: 10am-5pm Both Pools, Labor Day Hours: 10am-5pm**

*Hours of operations may change with or without notice based on operational, weather, situational, etc...Issues.*

### OUTDOOR AQUATICS CENTER FACILITY ACCESS

You must have an active South Shore YMCA Membership and Outdoor Aquatic Center Seasonal Pass to access the Outdoor Aquatic Center facility. If your SSYMCA membership should lapse, the Pass will automatically terminate. If a Pass is terminated the SSYMCA has the right to sell the Pass to another active SSYMCA member on the waiting list. All Passholders must maintain an equivalent active SSYMCA

membership for the duration of this program. To hold a Household Season Pass you must have an active SSYMCA Household Membership. Passholders must present a SSYMCA membership key tag to access the Outdoor Aquatic Center.

## **AGE REQUIREMENTS**

SSYMCA Household Season Passholders and guests 13 years of age and under must be accompanied by an adult while using the Outdoor Aquatic Center. In accordance with our swimming policies at our indoor pool locations, children under the age of 7 must be always accompanied by an adult in the water regardless of swimming ability or PFD use.

## **GUEST PASSES**

To ensure safety and create an optimal user experience for our Passholders, guest usage will be limited. Guests must be accompanied by a SSYMCA Seasonal Passholder.

- All Guest fees are \$20 per person
- Current passholders may bring one guest each with a limit of three times
- Guest passes are not available to non-passholder, non-members or members visiting from other YMCAs through the YMCA National Reciprocity Program

## **APPROPRIATE SWIMWEAR**

- Proper swimwear must be worn and must be appropriate for a family environment.
- Swimsuits must provide full coverage and be made of material that is intended for water use.
- The following are not considered appropriate swimwear:
  - Thong-style, and/or translucent materials
  - Underwear and other undergarments
  - Absorbent materials such as denim, cotton, wool, etc.

## **DIAPERING**

- Infants and toddlers who require diapers are required to wear two layers while in the pool:
  - Layer 1: a disposal swim diaper (worn underneath)
  - Layer 2: a reusable waterproof swim diaper (worn over disposable swim diaper)

## **FOOTWEAR**

- Inside the SSYMCA Outdoor Aquatic Center, we recommend wearing water resistant sandals, slides, water shoes or flip flops.
- Footwear is not permitted inside the pools except appropriate water shoes.
- Bare feet are permitted inside the Outdoor Aquatics Center, but please use caution.
- We strongly encourage closed toe footwear in the playground areas to reduce the risk of injury.

## **SEATING**

- Please consider courtesy towards your fellow users as you reserve seating.
- Please limit usage to 2 poolside chaise lounge chairs per household, per visit.
- Pool seating is available on a first-come-first-served basis.
- Bringing personal chairs/seating is not permitted, but you may bring towels or blankets for sitting.

## **FOOD & DRINKS**

- Full, family-friendly concessions will be available for an additional cost.
- Food and beverages are not allowed in or near pools or splash pad.
- Please enjoy food and beverages inside the seating areas or food designated areas.
- Bringing your own food and beverage into the Outdoor Aquatics Center is allowed.
- Alcohol is strictly prohibited.

- All glass containers are prohibited.

## **PERMITTED ITEMS FROM HOME**

- Coolers
- Food & beverages
- Towels, blankets, bags
- Strollers are permitted but must be stored in designated locations off the pool deck.

## **PROHIBITED ITEMS FROM HOME**

To keep all users safe, comfortable, and ensure a positive experience for all, the following items are **not** allowed into the Outdoor Aquatic Center:

- Floatation devices, snorkels, fins, and inflatables such as noodles, rafts, and water wings. (*Exception: US Coast Guard Approved Lifejackets are permitted*)
- Portable chairs
- Wheeled carts (strollers allowed)
- Alcoholic beverages, vape or tobacco/CBD/THC products, gummies, etc.
- Glass containers
- Pop-up tents
- Beach umbrellas
- Pets/animals
- Sport balls, yard games, frisbees, and other throwable objects. (*We do provide yard games and various balls in our playground areas*)
- Fireworks, sparklers, open flames, candles
- Chewing gum
- Audio speakers

## **LOCKER ROOMS & RESTROOMS**

- Universal changing cabanas, locker rooms and individual restrooms are available for use.
- A limited number of security lockers are available for members wishing to secure wallets, mobile phones, car keys or other items. The SSYMCA is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

## **OUTDOOR PLAY AREAS (Playgrounds and Sky Trail)**

- Use of *provided* sports balls, and yard games to be used in the outdoor play area only, this area is off the pool deck and away from the water.
- Shoes must be always worn while climbing on play structures, playing in outdoor play areas and while using the Sky Trail.
- While playing on the slides in the outdoor play area, please slide facing forward, with your feet first.
- Parent/Adult supervision is always mandatory for anyone utilizing the outdoor play area, for ages 13 and under.
- Check in for Sky Trail usage will be at either the Outdoor Center desk, or the Emilson branch front desk. Upon check in, you will be given pertinent information and safety protocols about your Sky Trail appointment before meeting our staff team out at the Sky Trail.
- Sky Trail will have limited, set hours that vary during the week and will be updated and posted based on availability and camp programming.

## **INCLEMENT/SEVERE WEATHER**

In the event of inclement or severe weather, the SSYMCA will decide on closure and/or delayed opening of the Outdoor Aquatic Center based on the forecast and/or visual confirmation of conditions. We will inform Passholders in the following ways:

- Posts on our website and social media platforms as timely as possible
- Signage posted at the Outdoor Aquatic Center entrance and at the Emilson YMCA Welcome Center
- In the event of thunderstorms, we will evacuate the Outdoor Aquatic Center and reopen when safe.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

We have a lost and found box at the Outdoor Aquatic Center, this will be emptied and taken to donation every two weeks. Please contact our staff right away if you notice you are missing anything. We will not keep leftover food, drinks, soap, shampoo, etc. in the lost and found if left behind at any of our South Shore YMCA facilities.

## **BIRTHDAY PARTIES / GROUP GATHERINGS**

The Outdoor Aquatic Center does not permit unauthorized group outings, birthday parties, reunions, functions, or business events. These activities must be officially facilitated in advance by the SSYMCA during predetermined times. Please feel free to contact our Membership Operations Manager, Adrienne Ciulla, [aciulla@ssymca.org](mailto:aciulla@ssymca.org) to schedule a party at our Outdoor Aquatic Center.

# SOUTH SHORE YMCA POOL RULES

## GENERAL RULES

- All swimmers under the age of 13 must be swim tested.
- In accordance with our swimming policies at our indoor pool locations, children under the age of 7 must be always accompanied by an adult in the water regardless of swimming ability or PFD use. Children under the age of 13 must have an adult on the pool deck. For safety purposes, there must be one adult for every three children in the swimming area.
- For the safety of everyone, we ask that patrons do not run on the pool deck.
- Entering the pool:
  - You may walk in through the zero entry areas and stairs or slide in from any of the walls.
  - When jumping into the pool, swimmers must face forward and jump feet first into a clear and designated area. Swimmers may not flip, spin, or jump backwards into the pool.
  - Diving is not permitted in any part of the Outdoor Center.
- For your own safety, please refrain from holding your breath for long periods of time. This includes:
  - Swimming underwater long distances
  - Breath-holding games
- Please refrain from wearing band aids or athletic/medical tape in pools.
- Food or drink of any type is not allowed in the pool.
- No glass of any kind allowed in the facility, this includes but is not limited to, glass food containers, water bottles, dishware, straws, utensils, dive masks, etc.
- All participants who are not toilet-trained must wear swim diapers.
- To lap swim, you must be 15 years or older or have passed the swim test.
- Should lane space become limited, we ask that you share with other swimmers by utilizing a circle swim technique.
- Only US Coast Guard accepted floatation devices are permitted. Should you have a question about your child's floatation device, please ask any of our aquatics staff.
- Masks, fins, snorkels or objects with hard surfaces are not allowed in the pools.
- Please refrain from prolonged conversation with the lifeguards while they are actively guarding.
- For the safety of all, we ask that swimmers do not engage in any rough housing/horseplay, including but not limited to:
  - Sitting on Shoulders
  - Aggressive splashing
  - Pushing/Shoving
  - Tossing each other
  - Hitting/Kicking
  - Dunking

## SWIM TEST COLOR BAND SYSTEM

- **Red - Under the age of 7, Shallow Water Only:** Red bands will be given to children under the age of 7. Children with red bands must stay in the shallow end designated by lane lines. Adult caregivers of children with Red Bands must be in the water and within arm's reach of the child. Children under the age of 2 are not required to wear the band but still must stay within arm's reach of an adult.
- **Yellow - Age 7 & over, Shallow Water Only:** Yellow bands will be given to any child 7 and older who has not passed the swim test or has chosen not to take it. Children with yellow bands must stay in the shallow end designated by lane lines. Adult caregivers of children must remain in the pool area *or* in the water with their child. Children who are categorized as YELLOW swimmers or those that do not take the swim test, must always have a parent or adult within arm's reach/on the side of the pool actively watching their child.
- **Green - Any age (passed swim test):** Green bands will be given to any child of any age who has passed the swim test. Children with green bands may utilize the deep end of the pool. Children under the age of 10 must have an adult caregiver on deck or in the water with them. Children with green bands may use the water slide.

*\*A patron may take the swim test as many times as he or she would like to attempt, please note, it is at the lifeguard supervisor's discretion for a passing confirmation.*