

THE ROLE OF THE POOLSIDE SPOTTER

The overall role is to watch for the safety of the swimmers

In order to achieve this:-

First and most important, make sure you know who the qualified lifeguard is for the session.

Poolside clothing and position

- 1) Wear poolside shoes or bare feet.
- 2) Make sure you can see the whole of the pool at all times.
- 3) Have the swimmers horn (if unavailable a whistle) with you.

Maintaining the swimmer's safety

- 1) Watch to see if any swimmers are in trouble.
- 2) Watch to see that no unauthorised children or adults enter the poolside area.

During the session

- 1) Count the number of swimmers at the beginning of the session and be aware of swimmers going to the toilet or leaving with a problem. Recount the swimmers during the sessions if necessary.
- 2) Watch for swimmers who are having breathing difficulties or keep stopping and inform the lifeguard and or lane coach.
- 3) If you see unauthorised persons coming on to the poolside inform the lifeguard or chief coach.

The Swimmer's Horn

Blowing the horn signals to the swimmers they must stop swimming immediately and then they must evacuate the pool. The lifeguard will tell the spotter in which direction so the spotter can direct the children.

Blow the horn only if:

- 1) Instructed to do so by the head coach at the end of the session
- 2) Instructed by the lifeguard and any coach at any time as an emergency has arisen
- 3) If you see someone in trouble and due to the severity of the situation it would not be immediate enough to inform the lifeguard/lane coach.

Written 30.6.2008 SH/CS