

The intent of this policy is to ensure the safest environment possible when members are using swimming pools. Swimming pool Rules, Regulations, and/or Policies shall be established by each facility and members shall follow them at all times while using the facility. Below are some additional guidelines:

When attending any Special Olympics PEI sanctioned event, members are not permitted to use any pool for leisure activities. This includes when members are required to stay in overnight accommodations that include a swimming pool, the swimming pool is off limits at all times.

Special Olympics Prince Edward Island has set out policy for programs that take place in a swimming pool.

1. SOPEI requires the facility to provide a lifeguard(s) responsible for the SOPEI member(s) in the pool.
4. Coaches must indicate to the lifeguard if an athlete is seizure prone, or at risk in the water another way, at each program session.
5. If athlete(s) are experiencing high incidence of seizures, or at risk in the water another way, and the program is:
  - i. Working in deep water in small/large groups, the athlete must wear a certified Life Jacket or Personal Floatation Device (PFD).
  - ii. Working in deep water with a volunteer at a ratio of 1:1, a certified Life Jacket or PFD is not mandatory, but volunteer must be aware that athlete may seizure
  - iii. Allowing unsupervised athletes in the shallow end, each athlete must be in a certified Life Jacket or PFD.
  - iv. Athletes who cannot maintain a good head position in the water **MUST** be accompanied by a coach while in the pool (ratio of 1:1).
6. All Life Jackets or PFD's used must be certified by Transport Canada.