

## Pool Safety

- **Don't just dive in...** Swimming pools come in all shapes and sizes with a variety of features that either aid enjoyment or quite possibly increase your chance of incident. Take some time to look around the pool area, look for things like underwater features which may look great but could be dangerous if dived onto or trapped against. Also look for depth markings and warning signs as even the simplest pool may have changes in depth that are surprising and dangerous if you are unaware.
- **Look around...** Look for signs that the pool is well maintained and free of broken fixtures and fittings. The pool area should be clean and surfaces around the pool should not be obstructed or too slippery so that moving around is dangerous.
- **Children's pools...** When ensuring that your children are safe to swim do not assume that a dedicated children's pool is safe. Make sure that you can supervise them easily and that should they get out of the children's pool it is not possible for them to get into deeper pool area.
- **Avoid overcrowding...** Swimming pools are designed with a certain number of patrons in mind. If this number is exceeded it becomes difficult to safely control the pool as an individual in distress or drowning would be much harder to spot when obscured by so many others. Another aspect of overcrowding is the fact the area surrounding the pool may become too full to navigate safely without the risk of falling in.
- **What is in the water...** Swimming pool water should be clean, clear and not murky or smelly. If the water clarity / quality is poor then it is evidence that the water disinfection regime is not working effectively. Avoid waterborne illnesses by staying out of water if you see these characteristics.