

Ashbourne Swim Club - 2020 FAQ

When will the pool open and what are the hours?

The pool will open on Saturday June 13th at noon

Hours from June 13th through July 31st will be noon to 9pm

Hours from August 1st through September 7th will be noon to 8pm

Why do we need to sign a waiver this year, we have never had to do this before?

Just about every other pool in the area either required members to sign a waiver in the past or have implemented one this year due to the added risk with COVID-19. It was highly recommended by the State and the various legislators we have been speaking with. It is for the protection of the pool, it's staff and administrators.

What if we do not sign the waiver?

Then we cannot allow you entrance to the pool and your membership fee will be refunded if you desire.

How is the capacity number calculated?

Normally, capacity is calculated using the usable square footage inside the fence. However, capacity is currently being dictated by the Delaware State Division of Public Health. Currently, as of June 15th, that number is set at 250. We expect that as we move through the summer that number will continue to increase.

How many people are at the pool on a weekday or weekend during a normal summer?

That's difficult to answer because in the past, we kept general, manual records. Based on those records, we don't expect to reach the 250 number on most days.

How are you going to track the number of people on the grounds?

Membership cards will have a barcode that will be scanned for each person in your family when you enter AND leave the pool. Our IT department built a program that will track the number of people on the grounds.

Do I have to scan out if I leave to get food or go home to pick something up?

No. But please don't leave for hours at a time and take up a spot that potentially could be used by someone else.

How will we know what the current number of people at the pool?

We will regularly update the capacity when it gets close to the maximum and post it on Facebook and the front page of the website. We suggest you check there first if planning to come to the pool.

What if I have 5 people in my family and the capacity number is hit with the first 2 people scanned. Will the other 3 have to wait outside?

No. You will all be admitted.

Will we have to make reservations?

At this time, we do not see the need to set up a registration process. We will monitor capacity levels over the first week or so and adjust if necessary.

Enough about counting people, how about this mask wearing situation. Do I really have to wear a mask?

Yes, but only when not swimming and when unable to maintain 6 ft of distancing, for example, when entering/exiting the pool grounds, using the restrooms, in line at the snack bar, and in line to enter the pool.

Do I have to wear one while sitting at my table?

No. Once you get to your table you can remove your mask provided you are 6 feet away from others.

Do my kids have to wear a mask?

Children under 12 are not required to wear masks, but it is encouraged. Children under 2 should NEVER wear a mask

Speaking of tables and chairs.... will they be made available for use?

Tables will be available and spaced to help distancing.

Please bring a vinyl table cloth for the table. You will not be able to use a table without a table cloth.

Chairs will be available for you to take at the front of the pool. Take what you need to your table. When you are finished with them, you will place them in the proper area when our staff will disinfect them.

No lounge chairs will be available.

I see that we can't have parties. Why is that?

Given the current capacity numbers, we do not want to use up capacity with non-members. As the capacity numbers increase, we may revisit this policy.

Why are many things not being made available, like diving board, slide, games in the garage, and playground?

We are required by the Division of Public Health to ensure all high touch surfaces are disinfected every 15 minutes to 2 hours or after each use. We need to limit the number of things people touch as we don't have the funds to pay enough staff to keep up with the additional cleaning requirements.

Will the snack bar be open and if so, what will be sold?

The snack bar will be open, but given the strict disinfecting regulations, we decided to eliminate any cooked food and will only sell pre-packaged items.

How can I pay for these pre-packaged items?

Everything sold at the snack bar MUST be purchased with a Snack Bar Card that you can purchase at the front desk. No cash will be accepted at the snack bar. We want to avoid food servers handling money.

Will we have our temperature taken when we enter the pool? What about the guards?

No. We are not monitoring people's temperature. All the staff will be asked upon arrival if they have been feeling ill or running a temperature. If yes, they will be sent home. Member are asked to monitor themselves and their family for symptoms and asked to stay home if not feeling well.

Can chlorine kill the COVID-19 virus?

According to the CDC while chlorinated pool water has been shown to kill viruses, it's likely that it also kills COVID-19, but this has not been confirmed. Per Dr. Cristina Cicogna at the CDC, "Based on what we know about chlorine and other viruses, it is likely safe to be swimming in a properly maintained pool, provided you continue to observe rules of social distancing and proper hand hygiene".

The rules and regulations say if we don't follow the rules we will be asked to leave the grounds and we won't get a refund. That seems harsh.

We are going with the "We are all adults here, so let's just follow the rules" methodology. You may not like them or even agree with them, but they need to be in place and followed for us to stay in business. We do not want our staff to be constantly reminding people to follow the rules as they have enough to worry about. We don't want to engage Board members to confront members who are non-compliant. So, we are making it clear up front.

This seems like a lot of work and frankly overkill, why are you doing all of this?

It is a lot of work, for the guards who must clean everything, our manager who must document every procedure and keep records of every cleaning, and for the Board who must make sure it is all being done and done properly. Failure to comply with the regulations set by the State Division of Public Health could mean the pool is shut down, which no one wants to see happen. Getting shut down would be a financial disaster for the pool as well as deprive all members from using the pool. Would we rather not have to do all of this, of course, but the risk of not doing it is too great.

What happens if the regulations dictated by the State change during the summer?

We will adjust as we go along. We generally get very little notice of any changes. We will move as quickly and responsibly as possible to lift or ease any restrictions based on any updated guidance we receive.

This summer is going to be a little weird, right?

Yeppers! But, if we all work together and follow the rules we can get through this and enjoy our time at the pool.