

Swimming pools

When will I be able to go for a swim again?

From 16 May 2020, commercial pools are able to reopen for training and public use however limits apply – no more than one swimmer is permitted per lane, with no more than 10 people in each pool at any one time.

Restrictions have been lifted. Why can't I go for a swim now?

While the option for pools to open will become available, reopening for restricted pool access remains a commercial decision for individual pool operators. Government owned pools, including Gungahlin Pool, Canberra Olympic Pool, Tuggeranong Pool, and Erindale Active Leisure Centre, will not reopen at this time while maintenance and upgrade works are completed.

Government owned outdoor pools, being Dickson Pool and Manuka Pool, remain closed for winter as is usually the case.

Lakeside Leisure Centre will remain closed until the end of July 2020 whilst it undergoes routine maintenance on the pool structures and plant.

Why isn't Lakeside Leisure Centre reopening until the end of July 2020?

Routine five-yearly maintenance initially planned for July-August 2020 has been brought forward under the ACT Government's fast-track program.

The ACT Government has allocated \$25 million to fast-track a range of infrastructure and maintenance projects to support local businesses and keep Canberrans employed.

These works are now expected to be completed in late July 2020. The proposed works include routine maintenance on the pool structures (which require the pools to be drained), major upgrades to electrical infrastructure and reconfiguration of the entry foyer.

When will Dickson and Manuka pools reopen?

Dickson and Manuka Pools are scheduled to reopen in late October 2020, as they are currently shut down for the Winter Season.

When will swim school start?

ACT Government aquatic facilities remain closed at this time.

Regarding the status of private aquatic facilities, customers are encouraged to seek advice from individual operators.

Will centre-based swim squad training be resuming?

ACT Government aquatic facilities remain closed at this time.

Regarding the status of private aquatic facilities, customers are encouraged to seek advice from individual operators.

Will swim clubs be returning?

Swim clubs will be able to return to training under the Phase 1 re-commencement of social sport. However, like all other users, access will be restricted (1 swimmer per lane/10 per pool) and sessions will be reduced to provide for access for all pool users.

ACT Government aquatic facilities remain closed at this time.

Regarding the status of private aquatic facilities, clubs are encouraged to seek advice from individual operators.

Can my private pool open for things like swimming lessons?

Yes, private pools may open for up to 10 people per pool or one person per swimming lane, where 4 square metres per person can be observed.

One parent or carer can be present per child with physical distancing to be observed.

Regarding the status of private aquatic facilities, customers are encouraged to seek advice from individual operators.

Decisions regarding communal spaces such as changerooms in non-government facilities is at the discretion of the owner/manager. Where these facilities are made available, it is recommended that venue-specific physical distancing and general hygiene principles are applied.

Can I use a pool for hydrotherapy, prenatal classes or other health-related activities?

From 16 May 2020 the number of persons in a hydrotherapy pool where it is being used for therapeutic purposes is limited only by the need to observe social distancing of one person per 4 square metres. However, the person undergoing the therapy may only be accompanied by one parent, guardian or carer.

Regarding the status of private aquatic facilities, customers are encouraged to seek advice from individual operators.

Decisions regarding communal spaces such as changerooms in non-government facilities is at the discretion of the owner/manager. Where these facilities are made available, it is recommended that venue-specific physical distancing and general hygiene principles are applied.

When will pool-based sports like water polo recommence?

Pool-based sports are able to recommence some training from 16 May 2020, provided this is limited to lap swimming and within the parameters of pool restrictions (one swimmer per lane/10 per pool).

This second phase will provide scope for these sports to expand their training activities however limits on contact, hygiene and physical distancing will remain.

Indoor venues and user group/hirers, including those of pools, are recommended to have a clear “Return to Play in a COVID-safe Environment” plan that details how, in a sport-specific setting, activity will be delivered under this second phase, and any subsequent phases. This plan will provide clear and consistent guidelines for participants, coaches, staff and volunteers, while also providing confidence to participants that their activity is being conducted safely and in accord with requirements.