

## NEW – Birthday Party Swim Band Policy

Because water safety is so important, we have upgraded our pool safety policies at the Skaneateles Y. **Now, every child ages 0-17 must wear one of three Colored wrist bands while in our pools.** These bands give our lifeguards instant information on each child's swimming ability, helping us keep them safe in the most appropriate swimming areas.

**These policies apply to swim Birthday parties – please review the following prior to booking your child's party**

### WHAT IS THE TEST?

Upon entering our Aquatic Center each child will be asked to participate in a swim test to determine their level of swim competency. This test includes swimming one length (25 yds) of the competition pool with the ability to raise arms up and out of water and place face in water (rudimentary crawl). This is to evaluate strength and endurance not stroke technique. Other portions of the swim test include a timed interval of treading water and continuing to swim to the pool wall and exiting pool under their own power. After completion of the test each child will be given an appropriate wrist band to wear for the duration of the visit.

### HOW DOES THIS IMPACT MY PARTY?

The information below will provide you with details about how banding decisions are made and how that applies to your party– **please note that in some instances we will require supervising adults in the pool or on the deck with party participants. This adult age 18+ is expected to be actively supervising the child/children as outlined below.**

**Red Band** – May be in shallow end of leisure pool and are defined as children who are:  
Unable to pass the deep water test, one (1) length of comp pool /25yd with arms up and out of water and face in water  
**OR** children who do not take the test.

**7 years and younger:** Must be 1 adult age 18+ in the water within arm length reach for each child issued a red band

**8 –10 years of age:** Must be 1 adult age 18+ on pool deck in close proximity for each child issued a red band.

**11+ years of age:** Must have 1 adult age 18 in close proximity or wear a PFD

**Yellow Band** – May go down water slide and are defined as children who are:  
5ft or taller or are able to pass the deep water test. one (1) length of comp pool /25yds with arms up and out of the water and face in water, but are not strong enough to pass the water treading portion of the test.

**7 years and younger:** Must be 1 adult age 18+ on pool deck in close proximity per 5 children

**8 –10 years of age:** Must be 1 adult age 18+ in aquatic facility per 5 children

**11+ years of age:** No adult needed other than supervising birthday party parent, must wear pdf in Chest Deep water.

**Green Band** – Children that have been given a green band need no additional adult supervision, other than supervising Birthday Party Parent.