

**House and Pool Rules for the indoor, warm water and natural outdoor pools of the University City of Siegen**

Serial number	Responsibility	Council Decision of
52.040	Division 2/5 Sports and Pools	14 September 2022

## **§ 1**

### **Purpose of the House and Pool Rules**

The House and Pool Rules are designed to ensure safety, order and cleanliness in the entire area of the indoor, warm-water and natural outdoor pools.

## **§ 2**

### **Binding nature of the House and Pool Rules**

- (1) The House and Pool Rules are binding for all users.
- (2) With the acquisition of the access authorisation, the users (swimmers, others) accept the House and Pool Rules as well as further regulations (e.g. for diving facilities, water slides) for a safe and orderly operation.
- (3) The staff or other representatives of the baths are authorised to exercise domiciliary rights. Instructions of the staff or other representatives must be followed. Users who violate the House and Pool Rules may be expelled. In such cases, the admission fee will not be refunded. In addition, a ban from the premises may be imposed.
- (4) The marked and designated areas of the establishment are under video surveillance for security reasons. The provisions of the Federal Data Protection Act, in particular Section 4 d para. 6 and 6 b, shall be observed. Stored data shall be deleted immediately if it is no longer required or if interests of the persons concerned worthy of protection oppose further storage.
- (5) The House and Pool Rules apply to general pool operations. In the case of special events or use by certain groups of people (e.g. schools, clubs and other swimming groups), exceptions may be permitted without the need to cancel the House and Pool Rules.
- (6) Political actions, events, demonstrations, the distribution of printed matter, the posting of posters or notices, the collection of signature lists as well as the use of the pools for commercial or other purposes not usual for swimming are permitted only with the approval of the City of Siegen as the operator.

## **§ 3**

### **Opening hours, prices**

- (1) The opening hours and the valid price list are announced on a notice board or can be viewed at the ticket office. Exceptions may be made for special events or use by certain groups of people.
- (2) The swimming time in the outdoor pools ends 15 minutes, the swimming time in the indoor pools 20 minutes before the end of the opening time. The water areas are to be left quickly. The ticket office closes 30 minutes before the end of the opening time in

the outdoor pools and one hour before the end of the opening time in the indoor pools.

- (3) Special access requirements and opening hours may be set for school and club swimming as well as for courses and events for specific groups of people.
- (4) If the use of individual offers or individual parts of the operation or pool areas is restricted or cancelled (e.g. for ongoing courses) or if the pool is closed during ongoing operation, there is no entitlement to a reduction or refund.
- (5) In principle, there is no entitlement to a refund of purchased admission tickets or other access authorisations. Users must inform themselves in advance about the existing tariff and keep their admission tickets safe.
- (6) The admission ticket or access authorisation received at the cash desk or the receipt issued when the access authorisation was purchased must be kept until the user leaves the pool. Season tickets must be presented to the cashier at each visit without being asked. Day use tickets or single tickets lose their validity when leaving the pool and cannot be used a second time during the day.
- (7) Change must be checked immediately; later complaints will not be accepted.
- (8) Admission tickets may be transferred only in the designated tariffs. In case of violation, the ticket may be confiscated and a ban may be imposed. The city reserves the right to claim damages and/or initiate criminal proceedings if necessary.

#### **§ 4 Access**

- (1) In principle, every person is eligible to visit the pools. Restrictions result from the following regulations.
- (2) All users must be in possession of a valid admission ticket or access authorisation for the respective area of use. When entering the area of use, it is not permitted to pass on the admission ticket or access authorisation.
- (3) Pool users must store admission tickets or access authorisations, changeroom locker, cabin or valuables keys and items on loan in such a way as to prevent their loss. As far as possible, they should wear them on their body and not leave them unattended. In the event of loss, users must compensate for any damage caused. This also applies to damage to items on loan, insofar as this is the result of culpable behaviour. The users are required to provide evidence of proper safekeeping or proper handling.
- (4) Children up to the age of 7 must be accompanied at all times by an adult supervisor from the time they enter until they leave the pool. If children of this age enter the pool without an accompanying adult, access to the swimming areas will not be granted. In

this case, the city as operator is not obliged to supervise the children. Further regulations and age restrictions (e.g. water slides or during events) are possible.

- (5) Non-swimmers and very unsafe swimmers are only allowed to stay in the designated areas. Even with the aid of swimming aids, these persons are not permitted to stay in the swimming areas.
- (6) Persons who are unable to move around safely without assistance are permitted to use the pools only together with a suitable or trusted companion. In the event of an obvious need for assistance due to the absence of such an accompanying person, the person concerned may be prohibited from visiting the pools for safety reasons.

In the event of infringement, no liability claim can be made against the operator in the event of damage.

- (7) Admission shall not be granted to the following persons (among others)
  - persons who are under the influence of intoxicating substances
  - persons who have animals with them
  - persons who suffer from a notifiable and/or transmissible disease (e.g. athlete's foot) or open wounds (in case of doubt, a medical certificate may be requested).

## **§ 5**

### **Rules of conduct**

- (1) Users must refrain from anything that is contrary to good morals and the maintenance of safety, peace and order.
- (2) The facilities of the pools including the items on loan are to be treated with care. The users are liable to pay compensation for any damage to the bathing facilities or the items on loan (see also Section 4 Para. 3). The same applies to culpably caused soiling.
- (3) Different clothing regulations may apply in individual swimming areas. As a matter of principle, users are permitted to stay in the wet areas of the pools only in normal swimming attire made of suitable material and with water shoes or bare feet. The swimwear must completely cover the primary sexual characteristics. Aquatic nappies are obligatory for babies and small children as well as incontinent persons. The wearing of underwear and other everyday clothing in the water is expressly prohibited. The supervisory staff shall decide on the admissibility of swimwear in individual cases.
- (4) Barefoot areas may not be entered with street shoes. Aids such as wheelchairs, walkers and wheelie bins brought into the pool must be cleaned by the user or their companion before entering the barefoot area. In the case of aids already present in a pool area, these are to be used exclusively, as they are specially designed for pools (slip resistance, hygiene).

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- (5) Users are not permitted to use musical instruments, sound or image reproduction devices and other media if this causes a nuisance to other users.
  - (6) Photographing and filming of other persons and groups by users without their consent is not permitted. The carrying and use of mobile devices (mobile phone, tablet, camera, etc.) in the pools and at the pool edge is not permitted. For commercial purposes and for the press, photography and filming require the prior consent of the management. For marketing purposes, the management or its representatives may take photos or video recordings, e.g. at events or on special occasions, for advertising material or corresponding Internet platforms of the pools or permit press photos. Only photos that do not discredit persons may be used. Information about photography on such occasions will be provided in the entrance area. The acquisition of access authorisation or entry into the pool or participation in the event shall be deemed to constitute consent.
  - (7) Before using the pools, the body must be cleaned. Shaving, cutting nails, dyeing hair, washing clothes and the like are not permitted. Long hair must be tied up with an elastic band or a bathing cap must be worn.
  - (8) All users must be prepared for the typical dangers of swimming by exercising increased caution. Running around the pool and jumping into the pool from the side, pushing into the pool or throwing other people into the pool is prohibited. The water attractions offered require circumspection and consideration for other users.
  - (9) The use of diving facilities and water slides goes beyond the typical dangers of bathing; users must adapt their behaviour accordingly. These facilities may be used only after approval by the supervisory staff. When jumping, it must be ensured that only one person enters the diving board/platform and that the diving area is clear. After a jump, the jumping area must be left immediately. If the jump clearance is given only by the supervisory staff, this must be obeyed. It is forbidden to swim under the diving area when the diving facility is in operation. Water slides may be used only in accordance with the posted signs; the safety distance when sliding must be observed and the landing area must be left immediately.
  - (10) The use of sports and play equipment (e.g. flippers, automatic diving devices, snorkelling devices) as well as swimming aids is permitted only in certain areas and with the consent of the supervisory staff. The use of eye protection goggles (swimming goggles) is at your own risk.
  - (11) Food and drinks may be brought in only for personal consumption and may be consumed only in the designated areas (not around the pool). Bringing alcoholic beverages is prohibited. Disposable barbecues and other barbecue equipment may not be brought in.
  - (12) Fragile containers (e.g. glass or porcelain containers such as shishas) may not be brought in.

- (13) Smoking is permitted only on the sunbathing lawns and in the outdoor catering areas. Smoking is prohibited in the buildings, in the water playgrounds and around the pools. This also applies to electric cigarettes.
- (14) Lost property must be handed over to the staff and will be handled in accordance with the legal provisions.
- (15) Changeroom lockers and/or safe-deposit boxes are available for use by users only during the validity of their access authorisation. The user is responsible for locking the changeroom locker/valuables locker and for keeping the key. There is no entitlement to use the locker. After closing time, all changeroom lockers and safe-deposit boxes that are still locked will be opened and, if necessary, cleared. The contents will be treated as lost property.
- (16) Loungers and chairs may not be permanently occupied with towels, bags or other objects. Objects placed on the loungers and chairs will be removed by the staff if necessary.

## **§ 6 Liability**

- (1) The City pools are generally made available to users at their own risk. The City as operator is liable only for intentional or grossly negligent breach of its duty to ensure safety in the event of accidents within the scope of its contributory negligence. For damages resulting from injury to life, body or health, the City shall also be liable within the scope of its contributory negligence for negligent breaches of its traffic safety obligation. The City shall not be liable for damages that are not based on a breach of the duty of care.
- (2) Users are expressly advised not to take any valuables into the pool. The operator accepts no liability for the loss of valuables, cash or other items. This applies in particular to valuables and cash.
- (3) When using the changeroom lockers or valuables compartments provided by the operator, the operator accepts no liability for lost items. It is the sole responsibility of the users to lock the lockers or valuables compartments properly and to keep the keys in a safe place.
- (4) In the event of loss or destruction of the access authorisation, changeroom locker and valuables locker keys, items on loan or other objects, the operator reserves the right to demand compensation at least in the amount of the cost price.

## **§ 7 Operation**

- (1) The City owns and operates Siegen's indoor and warm-water outdoor swimming pools.

- (2) The natural outdoor swimming pools Seelbacher Weiher and the Eiserfeld outdoor pool are owned by the City.

The operators are:

- Schwimmvereinigung Neptun Siegerland 1913 e. V. for the Seelbacher Weiher
- Förderverein Freibad Eiserfeld e. V. for the Eiserfeld outdoor pool.

In the natural outdoor pools, regulations or times that deviate from these House and Pool Rules may apply.

## **§ 8**

### **Entry into force**

- (1) These House and Pool Rules shall enter into force on 1 October 2022.
- (2) At the same time, all conflicting or identical provisions of local law shall cease to apply.