

1. **TITLE:** **RESCUE EQUIPMENT**
2. **DATE ISSUED:** 1 August, 2010 **ISSUE:** 3
3. **PURPOSE:** To provide advice regarding the nature of rescue equipment to be available at an aquatic facility.
4. **DESCRIPTION:**
  - 4.1 All aquatic facilities should provide rescue equipment for use in an emergency.
  - 4.2 The type of equipment provided will be at the discretion of the facility management and may include items such as:
    - reaching poles
    - rescue tubes
    - lifejackets
    - throwing ropes or throwing bags
    - spineboard
    - self contained breathing apparatus
    - oxygen equipment.
  - 4.3 Where appropriate, rescue equipment should comply with relevant Australian Standards, such as AS 4758.
  - 4.4 **Location of Rescue Equipment**
    - 4.4.1 The location of the rescue equipment will vary according to features such as the nature of the pool, location of lifeguards, and use of the pool. However, rescue equipment should be within easy access of every lifeguard when on duty.
    - 4.4.2 Those facilities with more than a single pool tank must ensure that rescue equipment is readily available in each location.
    - 4.4.3 Lifeguards should be informed of the location and use of all rescue equipment located at the facility as part of their induction (refer Guideline SU7 Lifeguard Induction & In-Service Training).
    - 4.4.4 If any rescue equipment is intended to be used as 'public access' rescue equipment, appropriate signage highlighting the position of the rescue equipment should be installed.

- 4.5** Rescue equipment should be inspected as part of regular facility inspections to ensure that it is in good working order. These inspections should be carried out at least once every three months (refer Guideline GO7 Risk Management).
- 4.6.1** Lifeguards should carry a minimum of a resuscitation pocket mask fitted with an oxygen inlet valve (as approved by AS 4259); a pair of disposable gloves and a signalling device such as a whistle (refer to GSPO Guideline SU9 Lifeguard Clothing and Equipment).
- 4.6.2** Consideration should be given to lifeguards carrying rescue equipment such as a throw rope or rescue tube with them while they are supervising the water (refer GSPO Guidelines SU1 Bather Supervision and GO7 Risk Management).

## 5. REFERENCES / FURTHER INFORMATION

- Aquatic Facility Management, 2005, Human Kinetics, Champaign
- Australian Standard AS 3745-2002 Emergency control organization and procedures for buildings, structures and workplaces, SAI Global, Sydney
- Guide to Ontario Public Pools Regulation, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2004, Lifesaving Society, Toronto
- Guideline GO7 Risk Management
- Guideline SU1 bather Supervision
- Guideline SU7 Lifeguard Induction and In-Service Training
- Guideline SU9 Lifeguard Clothing and Equipment
- Managing Health and Safety in Swimming Pools, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 2003, Sports England Publications, Wetherby
- Pool Operations Manual, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 2003, Lifesaving Society, Toronto
- Practice Note 15 Water Safety, 2005, Department of Local Government, NSW
- The Complete Swimming Pool Reference, 1994, Mosby Lifeline, St Louis

## 6. PREVIOUS ISSUES

- Guideline GO3 Rescue Equipment, Issue 2, July 1996
- Guideline RS13 Rescue Equipment, Issue 1, August 1991