



Shellharbour  
CITY COUNCIL

# SWIMMING ATTIRE GUIDELINES

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Patrons at Shellharbour City Pools are required to wear suitable swimming attire while participating in recreational swimming, programmed sessions and swimming lessons.

To be deemed 'suitable swimming attire' clothing should:

- 1. Meet general public decency expectations**
- 2. Ideally be designed for use in a swimming pool**
- 3. Be made of suitable material**
- 4. Be hygienic and safe**
- 5. Be unlikely to be a risk to user or others**
- 6. Include recognised swim nappies for infants**

The following is a general interpretation of criteria:

### **1. Meet general public decency expectations**

- a. The attire should be consistent with general community standards and public decency, and be unlikely to offend other patrons.

### **2. Ideally be designed for use in a swimming pool**

- a. Recognised swimwear, including one and two piece swim suits, rash vests and board shorts made from neoprene, nylon, lycra or polyester are preferred.
- b. Swimming attire specifically designed for modesty, is accepted, provided it is made from traditional swimsuit material. This attire offers the same benefits of a normal costume while providing fuller coverage to meet a swimmer's modesty requirements.

### **3. Be made of suitable material**

- a. A sensible lightweight clothing material should in all cases be the standard. Articles of clothing such as street wear, underwear, jeans, workwear and sporting wear are not suitable.
- b. The material and clothing should not give any colour leakage which may affect water chemistry and balance.
- c. Cotton and similar materials can absorb the chemicals in the water, causing the water to become less effective at maintaining the proper chemical balance. They can also break down in the water and cause fibers to clog filters.

### **4. Be hygienic and safe**

- a. The clothing should be clean and where individuals may have exercised in attire, they are encouraged to shower prior to participation
- b. Where clothing is affected by the cleaning agents in the pool, Council will not be accountable for any deterioration or damage to clothing.

### **5. Be unlikely to be a risk to user or others**

- a. The clothing should fitted be so that the bather has unrestricted movement and so loose material is not at risk of getting caught on other pool patrons or equipment.

### **6. Include recognised swim nappies for infants**

- a. All infants/toddlers that require a nappy must wear recognised waterproof nappies in the water along with appropriate swimwear.