

My manager overruled me – now what?

Here's a real-life scenario: you're a lifeguard with a legitimate safety concern about your ability to scan an entire pool area. When you tell your manager, he or she overrules you and tells you to continue guarding without addressing the problem. Now you're left worrying about the safety of the patrons and also wondering if you'll be held liable if there's an accident. What should you do? National Lifeguard training teaches you that you are responsible to scan designated zones. It also teaches you that this should be done from one location and within a specific timeframe (10–30 seconds), and that as long as you can see all of the designated areas from one position – including the pool bottom of those areas – you are lifeguarding appropriately.

If you are concerned about a safety matter, you should address it with the owner/operator of the swimming pool (often the pool manager) right away. Then you should immediately put it into writing. Put a date on the document and keep a copy. Communication, including a discussion with the pool manager, will often resolve the issue.

Once you've identified a concern and transferred the responsibility to the pool manager/employer, you've done your job since your duty is to comply with your training. If an employer refuses to provide a safe work environment, you always have the option of leaving and finding another employer at an appropriate time.

Introducing Liability Insurance for Lifesaving Society Members

The Lifesaving Society Canada, in partnership with HUB International, is offering insurance protection available only to Lifesaving Society members who hold National Lifeguard certification.

Many of the Society's members work on contract, consult, and teach for organizations, communities and individuals. This coverage provides professional liability and general liability insurance for instructors, trainers and lifeguards who are teaching any Lifesaving Society course or providing safety supervision in Canada.

Eligibility: Lifesaving Society Canada members who are at least 18 years of age and who hold a current National Lifeguard certification are eligible. "Current" means within 24 months of the date of your last certification or recertification.

Coverage: The \$101.00 annual premium includes:

- **Professional Liability:** \$2,000,000 total limit per policy period; \$2,000,000 annual aggregate
- **General Liability:** \$5,000,000 total limit per policy period; \$5,000,000 annual aggregate

In today's world, it is important to have insurance that protects you and those you service on a professional level should an unfortunate incident occur and you are held liable. This coverage represents tremendous value for those who need insurance to access rental agreements, deliver Lifesaving Society programs independently from an employer (e.g., backyard pool lessons, supervise canoe trips), or who are seeking additional professional protections to support their career.

For more information and to apply, visit: www.nationallifeguard.ca and click on Professional Insurance in the top navigation bar.

STARTboating

Earlier this summer the Lifesaving Society launched a comprehensive online boating safety program targeted to new boaters, particularly new Canadians who may be experiencing recreational boating for the first time. *STARTboating* teaches basic boating and water safety skills and is available in English, French, Mandarin, Cantonese, Hindi and Tagalog.

The program consists of a series of interactive videos, which guide the user through the basic skills needed to safely enjoy a day on the water. *STARTboating* allows users to choose from one of four vessel types – canoe, kayak, stand-up paddleboard and small outboard motorboat. Many of these vessels represent entry-level craft – those most likely to be operated by those new to boating.

The introductory video begins with a family planning to spend a day on the water; as the family continues on their journey, users have the option to click on additional videos that demonstrate:

- what to wear and what to pack
- how to understand right of way, mapping, markers and areas to avoid
- how to call for help in an emergency
- how to use safety equipment including how to fit a personal flotation device
- how to paddle, launch a boat and righting and re-entering from the water

Visit startboating.ca to get started!

Save the dates

October 17-19 – ILS World Conference on Drowning Prevention (Vancouver). Visit www.wcdp2017.org

April 21, 2018 – Lifesaving Society Newfoundland and Labrador Annual General Meeting

May 30–June 1, 2018 – Atlantic Recreation and Facilities Conference and Trade Show (Charlottetown, PEI)

Stearns lifejackets come in all sizes for all ages and any activity – swimming lessons, on the boat or your personal watercraft.

Infant – 20-30 lb. Child – 30-60 lb.

Youth – 60-90 lb. Adult – 90 lb. and over

Order before October 31st and receive FREE SHIPPING with coupon code M1FSHIP

Visit lifeguarddepot.com

Stearns lifejackets are approved by Transport Canada.



The Lifesaving Society is a national, volunteer organization and registered charity working to prevent drowning and water-related injury. Annually, over 1,000,000 Canadians participate in the Society's swimming, lifesaving, lifeguard and leadership training programs. The Society sets the standard for aquatic safety in Canada and certifies Canada's National Lifeguards.