



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®  
SOCIÉTÉ DE SAUVETAGE

*The Lifeguarding Experts*  
*Les experts en surveillance aquatique*

## **Revised Guideline on the Use of Snorkels in Swimming Pools**

### **September 2020**

On 28 May 2020, Lifesaving Society Canada published the COVID-19 Guidelines for Progressive Reopening document. The guideline stated that snorkel use should be prohibited as, at the time of publication, there were concerns about the aerosol-generating nature of a snorkel along with the distance the aerosol can carry with a strong exhalation.

As the COVID-19 situation has evolved and more information is made available, there is no current evidence that would prohibit snorkel use so long as swimmers practice safe physical distancing recommendations and do not share snorkels without them being properly disinfected after each use. To err on the side of caution, Lifesaving Society Canada recommends snorkels that have a purge valve (a one-way valve located at the bottom of the snorkel to expel water) to reduce aerosol droplets in the air.

In the rapidly changing COVID-19 era, Lifesaving Society Canada will continue to update COVID-19 Information Bulletins and Guidelines as evidence-based research becomes available. The information contained within any of the Information Bulletins or Guidelines does not replace or supersede local, provincial/territorial or federal health authority guidelines.

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