



PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER'S DIRECTIVE

Directive No.	05-2001
Issued	April 15, 2001
Supersedes	13/91 & 03/95

RULES RESPECTING THE OPERATION OF ST. JOHN AMBULANCE YOUTH CAMPS

The following shall govern the operation of all St. John Ambulance Youth Camps in Ontario.

- a. All Youth Camps must be approved in advance using the appropriate documentation.
- b. All Youth Camps must have camp leaders of the same gender as the participants (at least one per gender).
- c. A minimum supervisory level of one adult to 10 youths must be maintained at all times throughout the camp.
- d. At least one leader must be 21 years of age or older.
- e. All youth participants must have (a) signed consent forms and (b) signed medical information forms completed and in possession of the Camp leader and/or the designed Camp Medical Officer.
- f. All St. John Ambulance Youth Camps (particularly those conducted by newly accredited camp leaders) may be inspected by an individual (designated by the Provincial Commissioner) who holds an accreditation level at least equivalent to that of the camp leader(s). The purpose of the inspection is to ensure that all aspects of safety are being implemented.
- g. The Camp Leader is responsible for ensuring that appropriate safety procedures are followed at all times. If a serious safety deficiency is identified by the Camp Inspecting Officer or any participant or leader, it will be brought to the attention of the Camp Leader, who shall take appropriate corrective action. Details of the deficiency and corrective action will be communicated to the Provincial Commissioner, through the Provincial Community Services Department, for review.

- h. Camp Inspecting Officers will forward their reports to the Provincial Commissioner, through the Provincial Community Services Department, within seven days, with a copy being provided to the Camp Leader.
- i. Where swimming activities are conducted in a designated area at a Conservation Area or Provincial Park or other similar facility, it is acceptable to use Lifeguards provided by the facility. On all other occasions, the Camp Leader is responsible for ensuring that swimming activities are conducted under the direct supervision of a certified Lifeguard (NLS or RLSS). There must be one Lifeguard to 25 swimmers, and one Lifeguard for each additional ten swimmers.
- j. All water activities (Canoes/Boats) must be under the supervision of a qualified person (Scouts Canada Water Charge Certificate or ORCA qualifications or equivalent). Participants shall wear Transport Canada/Canadian Coast Guard approved Personal Floatation Devices (PFD) at all times when engaged in water activities (canoes, boats, personal watercraft, etc.) Use of PFDs during swimming activities is at the discretion of the participant, lifeguard and/or camp leader.
- k. All Youth Camps will comply with St. John Canada Instructions and Provincial Commissioner's Directives and must be directly supervised by current St. John Ambulance Camp Accredited Leaders.

Authority



Provincial Commissioner