



# Checklist for Evaluating Your Test. Mark. Protect. Policy

## Overall

- We have a clear, simple, and written policy that all staff, parents/guardians, guests, etc. are aware of
- Our policy is communicated to parents/guardians ahead of programming
- Our policy is implemented when bringing kids to owned pools/waterfronts, managed pools/waterfronts, and any other off-site aquatic location where swimming will take place
- Our policy is implemented consistently between all locations, groups, programs, special events, etc.

## Test

- There is a person or group of people that have been assigned and trained on their responsibility to conduct swim tests and assign appropriate skill levels
- There is a plan for how and when swim tests will be conducted
- There is a plan for how swim tests will be documented and recorded
- There is a plan for how a kid will receive a swim test if they arrive late to programming or miss the designated swim test time
- The swim test includes any skill a swimmer will be expected to perform during programming. For example, self-extraction, using a slide, water entry, swim stroke, water tread, etc.
- If programming includes swimming in natural bodies of water and pools, there is a plan for how to test for both types of programming as some kids will not be as comfortable/confident in natural bodies of water
- There will be a lifeguard present during all swim tests that is separate from those who are giving the swim test
- To account for potential skill changes, there is a plan for how often kids who are in programming throughout the summer will receive a swim test
- Based on our policy, every kid who is supposed to receive a swim test does. There are no exceptions based on relationships, parental word, etc.

## Mark

- There are enough supplies to properly mark all swimmers for the summer
- All staff have been trained on what the markings mean
- The marking procedures are simple enough that everyone can understand and remember them. For example, swimmers are in green and non-swimmers are in red.
- There is a plan if a kid somehow loses their marking

## Protect

- There are enough US Coast Guard approved lifejackets for non-swimmers this summer
- The lifejackets are in good condition
- Waterlogged, faded, or damaged lifejackets are properly discarded
- All staff have been trained on how to properly fit a kid in a lifejacket
- There is a plan on how to organize lifejackets this summer so they stay in good condition
- All staff have been trained on what it means to be within arm's reach of a non-swimmer
- All kids who have not received a swim test will wear a lifejacket when in the water
- Based on our policy, every kid who is supposed to wear a lifejacket or be within arm's reach of an adult is. There are no exceptions based on relationships, parental word, etc.