

Swimming pool complexes to open from April 1 for new swimming season

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) announced today (March 29) that swimming pool complexes will be open for public use from April 1, or upon completion of annual maintenance, for the new swimming season. The department calls on swimmers to mind their safety and keep public swimming pools clean and hygienic while swimming.

All public swimming pools, except Mui Wo Swimming Pool, will be open between April and October from 6.30am to 10pm for three sessions daily with two breaks. To tie in with the ferry schedule, the daily opening hours of Mui Wo Swimming Pool are from 8.30am to 10pm with two breaks. Morse Park Swimming Pool in Wong Tai Sin District has been temporarily closed for works on the provision of a heated pool. It is expected to be reopened in 2020.

For the 16 pool complexes with both heated and non-heated swimming facilities, heated facilities will continue to operate between April 1 and 15 while non-heated facilities will come into service from April 16.

The 16 swimming pool complexes are:

Hong Kong Island:

<u>District</u>	<u>Swimming Pool Complex</u>
Central and Western	Kennedy Town Swimming Pool
Wan Chai	Morrison Hill Swimming Pool

Kowloon:

<u>District</u>	<u>Swimming Pool Complex</u>
Kowloon City	Ho Man Tin Swimming Pool (Note 1)
Wong Tai Sin	Hammer Hill Road Swimming Pool
Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong Swimming Pool
Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool
Yau Tsim Mong	Kowloon Park Swimming Pool

New Territories:

<u>District</u>	<u>Swimming Complex</u>
Islands	Tung Chung Swimming Pool
North	Fanling Swimming Pool
Sha Tin	Hin Tin Swimming Pool
	Sha Tin Jockey Club Swimming Pool
Tsuen Wan	Shing Mun Valley Swimming Pool
Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Swimming Pool (Note 2)

Yuen Long
Sai Kung

Tuen Mun North West Swimming Pool
Yuen Long Swimming Pool
Tseung Kwan O Swimming Pool

Note 1: Ho Man Tin Swimming Pool has been temporarily closed until further notice due to urgent maintenance works.

Note 2: Heated facilities of Tuen Mun Swimming Pool will be in operation between April 8 and 15 while non-heated facilities will come into service from April 16.

To maintain the hygiene of public swimming pools, each pool will be closed for thorough cleaning once a week, in addition to the routine cleaning work carried out daily. The cleaning operation will be conducted on a designated weekday (Monday to Friday) from 10am to the end of the second session. If the scheduled weekly cleaning day falls on a public holiday, cleaning will be rescheduled to another weekday in the same week.

Individual swimming pools will be temporarily closed during certain periods in 2019 for maintenance works. Details are set out in the Annex.

To ensure a clean environment in public swimming pools, swimmers should maintain personal hygiene and observe the pool rules, including the following points:

- (a) Swimmers should shower in the changing room before entering the pool deck;
- (b) Swimmers should walk through the shower bath and footbath;
- (c) Swimmers should not go swimming if they feel unwell and should seek medical consultation instead;
- (d) Swimmers are advised to use the toilet before swimming and should never urinate or defecate in the pools. They should leave the water immediately and use the toilet if they have to vomit; and
- (e) Parents should teach their children the importance of maintaining personal and public hygiene.

Holders of the public swimming pool monthly ticket are encouraged to apply for monthly ticket smart cards which are printed with the card holder's portrait and preloaded with information on the validity period. The smart cards will enable holders to enter the pools easily and conveniently without having to produce documentary proof of identity. Interested monthly ticket holders can apply for smart cards free of charge at 62 ticket outlets including all District Leisure Services Offices and the booking offices of designated sports centres and leisure venues.

For details of the opening arrangements and the schedule of the weekly cleaning operations of the public swimming pools, please visit the following websites:

www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/beach/swim-intro/swim-location-hk.html

(swimming pools in Hong Kong Island and Kowloon); and

www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/beach/swim-intro/swim-location-nt.html

(swimming pools in the New Territories).