



# Parasailing

Recreational activities are pillars of summer/winter camp, summer school, and recreational center experiences. They provide an opportunity for socialization and learning in a fun setting. These activities also provide an increased liability and potential for staff and/or participant injury. The safety of participants and staff should be standard operating procedure. It should be completed to the highest professional standards and in line with federal, state, local, and accrediting agency guidelines. The following checklist template provides a high level oversight to assist with your activity structure. Your organization is responsible for the development of your own written program guidelines and policies for the oversight of your activities. Through consistent management and preventative programs, exposures can be reduced to help ensure a safe recreational experience.

Parasailing is considered an extreme action sport as it involves a degree of risk and involves elements of speed, height, a high level of exertion, and specialized gear and equipment. Many organizations may not allow parasailing. It is important to consider your organization and the population served to determine if parasailing is an acceptable activity.

Parasailing is an unregulated industry such that there are no qualifications for operators or equipment, equipment inspections, equipment service, or overall operating details.

## Program Pre-Activity:

- Written program guidelines which outline major components including, staff qualifications, participant guidelines, age requirements, liability controls, safety equipment requirements, training and other protocols as determined by your program.
- Participant assessment protocols in place and completed in line with internal written policies. This includes a physical and emotional assessment to assess their ability to safely participate in the activity.
- Age of participants should be limited to 14+ as there are physical and communication skills required.
- Legally reviewed liability waivers, in line with state and federal guidelines, signed by legal guardians. Kept on file in a secure location.
- If participant meets guidelines and passes program assessment, training program that includes equipment usage policies and expectation for participation is completed.
  - Completed prior to participation and must be renewed per internal written policy.

## Oversight:

- Operation must carry a separate accident and health insurance policy/Required Accident & Health policy for participants
- Utilize and established parasail business that can provide a COI with matching limits to the organization.
- Release forms in favor of the parasail business should not be signed.

## Safety:

- Never parasail beyond 600 ft. as this is the best area of rescue if the line were to snap. If a line snaps and you drift into the water you may be dragged along the surface, limiting the length of line allows a shorter distance to travel for rescue.
- Distance from shoreline should be a minimum of 3 times the tow rope length. Keep in mind that if line snaps the kite will drift and could drift onto shore, buildings, powerlines, etc.

## Additional Resources

[Parasail Safety Council](#)

[Professional Parasailing Association Europe and Worldwide](#)

Providing solutions  
to help our members  
manage risk.®

For your risk management  
and safety needs, contact  
Nationwide Loss Control  
Services: 1-866-808-2101  
or [LCS@nationwide.com](mailto:LCS@nationwide.com).