



AQUA-TOTS SWIM SCHOOL CASE STUDY



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REVOLUTIONIZING AQUATICS MANAGEMENT:

AQUA-TOTS JOURNEY WITH DIGITAL DOCUMENTATION



Meet Mike Steele, the Vice President of Operations for Aqua Tots in Atlanta and Washington, DC. With a wealth of experience in the aquatics industry, Mike has witnessed firsthand the transformative power of digital documentation. In this article, we'll explore Mike's journey through the world of aquatics and learn how the switch to digital documentation has impacted his team and operations at Aqua-Tots.

Mike's journey in aquatics began as a lifeguard at 15, a common starting point for many aquatics professionals. He continued lifeguarding until age 21, enjoying the outdoor environment and community interaction that came with the job. During his college years, Mike worked his way up the ranks, gaining valuable experience in the industry. After college, he became Aquatics Director at the YMCA before eventually joining Aqua-Tots in 2016, where he found a home.

AQUA-TOT'S MOVE TO DIGITAL DOCUMENTATION

Several factors drove the transition to digital documentation.

Traditional paper-based records were often illegible, unreliable, and prone to damage, creating significant liability concerns. Mike and his team realized the need for a digital solution to provide real-time data and insights. Digital documentation offered greater accountability, ensuring crucial information was consistently recorded and accessible for reference.

Why HydroApps?

Several factors influenced Mike's decision to choose HydroApps for digital documentation. The company's exceptional support played a crucial role, with prompt responses to queries and concerns. Recommendations from other aquatic facility owners further validated their choice. HydroApps' certification under the Model Aquatic Health Code also ensured compliance with health department guidelines, making it a reliable option for Aqua-Tots.

How Did Mike's Team Handle the Switch to Digital?

As the Vice President of Operations, Mike sees his role as one of support. He aims to remove obstacles and streamline operations for his team. In the dynamic world of aquatics, no two days are the same, and his job involves more than just analyzing spreadsheets. Mike is hands-on, ensuring everything from fixing toilets to painting walls is done to enhance the experience for Aqua-Tots' families and make the team's job easier.

Implementing digital documentation was a significant change for Aqua Tots. The switch was done region by region to ease the transition, minimizing disruption. The key to success was creating accountability and establishing new recording habits. Mike acknowledges that the first month was the most challenging, but over time, the benefits of digital documentation became apparent to the team.





Has Digital Documentation Saved Aqua-Tots Money?

While it's challenging to quantify the exact savings, Aqua-Tots has observed tangible benefits from digital documentation. Improved monitoring of chemical levels has led to more efficient chemical usage, resulting in cost savings. However, the most significant impact has been the enhanced documentation and accountability, leading to fewer incidents and closures.

Challenges Faced with Digital Documentation

Despite the overall success of the transition, Aqua-Tots encountered resistance from some inspectors who preferred traditional paper documentation. However, most inspectors appreciated the clarity and accessibility of digital records. The ability to provide inspectors with quick and accurate information has improved relations and streamlined inspections.

Mike's Favorite HydroApps Features

Mike particularly appreciates HydroApps' dashboard, which provides a comprehensive overview of Aqua Tots' operations. The color-coding feature for pool chemicals also helps identify potential issues quickly, even for team members with limited aquatics knowledge.

Advice for Those Considering the Switch

Mike's advice for those contemplating the move to digital documentation is clear. Consider the value proposition – the benefits of improved record-keeping, ease of access, and reliable support outweigh any associated costs. Traditional paper documentation may seem cheaper, but it comes with challenges, including error-prone data, difficulty spotting trends, and the absence of dedicated support.



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Watch Mike's Interview [Here](#)

Mike Steele's journey through aquatics and his experience with digital documentation at Aqua-Tots serve as a testament to the industry's evolution. By embracing digital solutions like HydroApps, aquatics facilities can enhance operations, reduce costs, and prioritize safety and accountability. As Aqua-Tots continues to thrive under Mike's leadership, the future of aquatics management looks promising, driven by the power of technology and innovation.



Revolutionize the way you manage your aquatic facility today! Learn more at



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