# **SAFETY INFORMATION:**MOBI-CHAIR® BEACH WHEELCHAIR

## City of Moreton Bay Accessible Beaches

All participants and carers are responsible for their own safety and must be aware of the following:

- All universal beach rules must be followed at all times. These include:
  - Swim within the patrolled area when the beach is patrolled.
  - o Be sun safe: 'slip, slop, slap, seek, slide.'
  - The beach is a public place and therefore all other patron's rights must be respected.
- Check the weather for incoming tides as well as the strength of the waves, wind strength, storms, and heat prior to using the wheelchair.
- Care should be taken in hot weather as the metal frame and armrests can heat up and lead to burns.
- Wave patterns, wind strength, type of beach and underwater formations can all affect the use of the chair. Unexpected movement of the chair is a risk factor for users.
- Surf lifesavers and lifeguards must not be requested to assist users to transfer to and from the beach wheelchair.
- It is recommended to transfer on flat ground, with the help of a support person.
- Care must be taken when using the wheelchair over uneven or unsteady ground.
- The chair is not designed to move up and down stairs whilst loaded.
- If the user cannot swim, they are required to wear a life jacket in the water must be accompanied at all times.
- Follow all surf lifesaving instructions such as swimming in a patrolled swimming area.
- The wheelchair may become unstable if the user creates excessive movement or rocking motions.
- As a duty of care responsibility, the user and wheelchair MUST NOT be left unattended in the water.
- Consider the number of people needed to push the wheelchair with a person in it over soft sand and up the slope of the beach.





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### Out of the water:

- Visually inspect seating, tyres and moving parts for any damage or maintenance issues before and after use. Do not use if there are issues and notify the equipment provider immediately.
- Max safe weight loading for this product is **136kg**.
- Do not place heavy items on the back of the wheelchair.
- Users **MUST NOT** attempt to use this equipment on their own. It is designed to be pushed by someone other than the person sitting in it.
- The Mobi-Chair® should only be used at walking speed and not subjected to sharp turning manoeuvres.
- You must not be pulled by an animal or an object (e.g. kite, bicycle or motorbike).
- Ensure the wheel brakes are activated prior to the user transferring in/out of the wheelchair.
- The seatbelt (harness) should always be used if a passenger experiences unsteadiness (such as with epilepsy).
- Ensure the safety belt is properly adjusted for the user.
- The backrest angle can be adjusted into three positions by pulling the looped chain located at the back of the chair behind the backrest.

#### Additional information when in the water:

- Although the Mobi-Chair® floats, it is not a boat. The sitting position is stable and you won't slip out of the Mobi-Chair under normal conditions of use. However, for safety reasons, a life jacket is required for non-swimmers. The Mobi-Chair® is not intended for areas with current or strong waves.
- Two capable support people must accompany the wheelchair user in the water. The Mobi-Chair® is not intended for independent use.
- The chair must not be taken to depth which exceeds waist height of the shortest support person.
- The Mobi-Chair® will begin to float as the water level reaches halfway up the balloon tyres. At this point, the user will notice a small tilt backwards as the chair transitions into the floating position.
- The Mobi-Chair® is not intended for use in areas with strong currents or waves.

Be safe and enjoy the beach!

