

CHAPTER 6

LIFEGUARDS, LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT; LADDERS, RECESSED STEPS; DIVING BOARDS; SLIDES, FLUMES, AND SAFETY RELATED REQUIREMENTS.

Section 1. Lifeguards, Number.

(a) An operator of a general-use public pool shall have one (1) lifeguard per forty (40) bathers or fraction thereof on deck during operating hours.

(i) The number of lifeguards must be adequate to maintain continuous surveillance over the bathers.

(b) An operator of a limited-use public pool shall post a sign reading "No Lifeguard on Duty" in lieu of lifeguards.

Section 2. Lifeguard, Requirements and Duties.

(a) Lifeguards shall hold a current, nationally recognized, certification in:

(i) Lifeguarding;

(ii) Adult/child/infant cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); and

(iii) First aid.

(b) Lifeguards conducting surveillance of pools shall not be subject to duties that would distract them from proper observation of the users or that would prevent immediate assistance of persons in distress in the water.

(i) When a lifeguard is conducting active surveillance, he/she shall not be in the water except in the line of duty.

(ii) Lifeguards shall be dressed in swimming attire such that they are readily identifiable.

(c) Lifeguards, pool operators or managers shall enforce the following rules at all public pools or similar installations:

(i) Nonswimmers and children under eight (8) years of age shall not use the pool unless a lifeguard is present.

(A) In a limited-use pool, a responsible person at least eighteen (18) years of age is present.

- (ii) No person suffering from a communicable disease transmittable via water or under the influence of an intoxicating liquor or drug shall use the pool;
 - (iii) No person shall take food or drink inside the pool enclosure except in an area specifically designated for such use as described in chapter 3, section 28(b);
 - (iv) No person shall bring, throw or carry food, drink, smoking material, trash, debris or any other foreign substances into the pool; and
 - (v) No person shall run or engage in horseplay in or around a public pool.
- (d) A telephone shall be available on the premise of all public pools, spas and similar installations and emergency rescue phone numbers shall be posted in view of the telephone.

Section 3. Lifesaving Equipment.

(a) At least one unit of lifesaving equipment must be provided at every public bathing or swimming facility.

(i) One unit lifesaving equipment shall consist of:

(A) A ring buoy or rescue tube with a minimum outside diameter of twenty (20) inches, to which there must be attached a length of one-quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$) inch rope not less than one and one half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) times the maximum width of the pool or swimming area;

(B) A minimum twelve (12) foot length, reach pole with shepherd's crook securely attached; and

(C) At all general use pools a first aid station equipped with a minimum of one (1) blanket and one (1) first aid kit, as recommended by the American Red Cross shall be provided.

(b) One unit of lifesaving equipment shall be presumed to be adequate for two thousand (2,000) square feet of pool or swimming area.

(i) One additional unit must be provided for each additional two thousand (2,000) square feet of pool or swimming area, or major fraction thereof.

(c) Lifesaving equipment must be:

(i) Mounted in conspicuous places;

(ii) Distributed around the edge of the pool or swimming area, at lifeguard chairs or elsewhere;

(iii) Ready for use; and
(iv) Its function plainly marked, and kept in good repair and ready condition.

(d) Bathers or other members of the general public must not be:

- (i) Permitted to tamper with lifesaving equipment;
- (ii) Use it for any purpose other than its intended use; or
- (iii) Remove it from its established location unless in an emergency.

Section 4. Lifeline.

(a) A lifeline shall be provided at all public swimming pools and similar installations.

(b) A lifeline shall be located two (2) feet (.6m) on the shallow side of:

- (i) The break in grade between the shallow and deep ends; or
- (ii) At the point where the water depth reaches five (5) feet, six (6) inches (1.65m).

(c) Lifelines shall be securely fastened to wall anchors.

(i) Wall anchors shall be:

(A) Of corrosion-resistant materials; and

(B) Recessed or have no projections that would constitute a safety hazard when the lifeline is removed.

(d) Lifelines shall be:

(i) Marked with visible floats at not greater than seven (7) foot (2.13m) intervals;

(ii) Of sufficient size and strength to offer a good handhold and to support loads normally imposed by bathers; and

(iii) Lie in place except when pool use is restricted to lap swimming by competent swimmers, water exercise classes or to supervised swimming instruction by a

certified swim instructor.

Section 5. Elevated Lifeguard Chairs.

(a) A general-use pool and wave pool shall have one elevated lifeguard chair for each one-hundred twenty (120) feet (36m) of pool perimeter.

(i) If more than one elevated lifeguard chair is required, one chair shall be located on each side of the pool.

(b) Elevated lifeguard chairs shall be at least six (6) feet (.83m) in height from the deck surface to the chair seat.

(i) Pools with water depths of five (5) feet or less are exempt.

(c) Portable elevated lifeguard chairs are acceptable, provided they are structurally sound and tilt proof.

(d) Wading pools are exempt from this provision.

Section 6. Ladders, Recessed Steps and Stairways.

(a) All public swimming and wave pools shall have a ladder, set of recessed steps or stairway located at seventy-five (75) foot (22.86m) intervals around the pool perimeter with a minimum of two such means of egress.

(i) Flotation tanks, spa, plunge and wading pools shall have at least one (1) ladder, recessed step or stairway for each fifty (50) feet (15.25m) of pool perimeter.

(ii) Wading pools with a minimum pool water depth of less than one (1) foot (.3m) at the pool wall and a maximum deck height of one (1) foot (.3m) above the pool floor, are exempt from this requirement.

(b) Pool ladders must be:

(i) Corrosion resistant;

(ii) Securely attached; and

(iii) Equipped with slip-resistant treads.

(c) A side handrail extending up and above and returning to the horizontal surface

of the pool deck, curb, or coping must be provided at each side of each ladder or set of stepholes.

(i) Stairs shall have at least one (1) handrail.

(d) Below the water line there must be a clearance of not more than five (5) inches or less than three (3) inches between the ladder and the pool wall.

(e) If stepholes are provided, they must be of such design that they may be readily cleaned and must drain into the pool to prevent the accumulation of dirt.

(i) Stepholes must have a minimum tread of five (5) inches and a minimum width of fourteen (14) inches.

(f) Stairs, recessed step surfaces and stairs leading into the pool must:

(i) Have a slip resistant design; and

(ii) Have a minimum tread of twelve (12) inches, and a maximum rise of ten (10) inches.

(A) Recessed steps shall drain into the pool.

Section 7. Diving Boards.

(a) In public pools and similar installations in which diving and swimming are allowed, the area of the pool in which diving is permitted must be:

(i) In the case of a rectangular pool, at one end of the pool which is separated from the main swimming area by a lifeline; or

(ii) In the case of a T, L, or Z shaped pool, in a recessed area forming one of the legs of the T, L, or Z which is separated from the main swimming area by a lifeline.

(b) A pool designed only for diving may be located in an area which is separate from a pool designed for swimming.

(c) Diving boards, towers and platforms in excess of three (3) meters in height shall:

(i) Comply with the dimensional design requirements of FINA, U.S. Diving, National Federation of State High School Associations (NFSHSA); and

(ii) Not be allowed in a pool without special provisions, controls and definite limitations on their use. Where such boards, towers or platforms are permitted, their use must be limited to adequately trained personnel and must not be open to the general

public.

(d) Supports for diving equipment, platforms, stairs, and ladders for diving equipment shall be designed to carry the anticipated loads.

(i) Stairs and ladders shall be of corrosion-resistant material, easily cleanable and with slip-resistant tread.

(e) Platforms and diving equipment of one (1) meter or higher shall be protected with hand rails which shall be at least thirty (30) inches above the diving board and extend to the edge of the pool wall.

(i) All platforms or diving equipment higher than one (1) meter shall have guard rails which are at least thirty six (36) inches above the diving board and extend to the edge of the pool wall.

(f) Diving equipment shall:

(i) Be designed for swimming pool use;

(ii) Be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations;

(iii) Have slip-resistant tread surfaces; and

(iv) Be permanently anchored to the pool deck.

(A) The edge of the board at the tip end shall be parallel to the water surface; and

(B) The tip end of the board over the pool water surface may be higher than the butt end of the board.

Section 8. Slides.

(a) Slides installed and located at public swimming pools and similar installations shall:

(i) Comply with the requirements of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Safety Standards for Swimming Pool Slides;

(ii) Be sturdily constructed of corrosion-resistant material;

(iii) Be securely fastened to the pool deck;

(iv) Have a ladder equipped with slip-resistant treads and rigidly attached

handrails;

(v) Have runways that are smooth, of one piece and free of cutting, pinching, puncturing or abrasion hazards; and

(vi) Have slide runways that are provided with side rails not less than two (2) inches (5 cm) in height on both sides.

(A) Slide runways shall be water lubricated when in use.

(b) There shall be no slides higher than twelve (12) feet (3.66m) above the water surface.

(c) Water depths, four (4) feet, five (5) inches (1.37m) beyond the end of the slide, shall be based on the slide height described in the following chart:

Height	Minimum Water Depths
7.5 feet (2.29m) or less	4 feet (1.22m)
7.5 feet (2.29m) - 8 feet (2.44m)	5 feet (1.52m)
8.0 feet (2.44m) - 11 feet (3.35m)	5.5 feet (1.68m)
11.0 feet (3.35m) - 12 feet (3.66m)	6 feet (1.83m)

Section 9. Flumes; Design and Construction.

(a) Each flume must meet the following design and construction parameters:

(i) It shall be watertight;

(ii) The surface must be inert, nontoxic, smooth and easily cleanable;

(iii) All curves, turns and tunnels within the path of a flume shall be designed so the impact of users with the walls of the flume or ceiling of a tunnel does not present a hazard;

(A) The flume shall be banked so that forces on the bathers keep them safely inside the flume under all foreseeable circumstances of operation;

(I) Bathers must not become airborne.

(B) In the curved sections of a flume, the design of the wall of the

flume must cause the outward thrust of the body of the bather to be dissipated towards the centerline of the flume.

(iv) All slopes in a flume must be designed so the speed of the bathers does not reach a point at which a safe equilibrium of dynamic forces cannot be maintained on any curve or turn in the flume;

(v) In sections of a flume where bathers can stop, provisions must be made by design or modification to prevent bathers from falling out of the flume;

(vi) The construction, dimensions and methods of mechanical attachment of a flume must provide a smooth and continuous surface through the entire length of the flume;

(A) Any misalignment of joints in a sectional flume must not exceed one-eighth ($\frac{1}{8}$) inch.

(vii) The walls of any flume must be designed:

(A) So the continuous and combined action of hydrostatic, dynamic and static loads, as well as normal environmental deterioration do not damage the flume bed to the extent of creating a structural failure that presents a hazard of injury to users; or

(B) So that they do not require frequent patch repairs that may weaken the structural integrity of the flume.

(b) If a tube-type flume is used, it must be designed or ventilated to prevent a hazardous concentration of toxic sanitizing fumes under all circumstances of operation.

Section 10. Flume Exits.

(a) The exit of any flume must be designed to ensure that bathers enter the splash pool or slide runout at a safe speed and angle of entry.

(b) If a pool has two (2) or more flumes and there is a point of intersection between the centerlines of any two flumes:

(i) The distance between that point and the point of exit for each intersecting flume must not be less than twenty (20) feet; or

(ii) Less than thirty (30) feet if any user exits a flume at high speed.

(c) If users exit the flume into a splash pool, the flume must be:

- (i) Horizontal;
- (ii) Perpendicular to the wall of the pool at the point of exit;
- (iii) Designed with an exit system which provides for safe entry into the splash pool or flume runout; and
- (iv) Designed with an exit grade which, for the last ten (10) feet, does not exceed ten (10) percent.

(d) The flume exit must be flush with the vertical wall of the pool at the point of exit and not more than two (2) inches above, nor less than six (6) inches below, the normal operating level of the pool.

(e) The distance between the side wall of the pool and that portion of the flume exit nearest the wall:

- (i) Must not be less than five (5) feet at the point of exit.

(A) The centerline of the flume and the centerline of any adjacent flume must not be less than six (6) feet at the point of exit; and

(B) The point of exit and the side of the pool opposite the bathers as they exit, excluding any steps, must not be:

(I) Less than twenty (20) feet, if the flume ends above or below the normal operating water level of the pool; or

(II) Less than thirty (30) feet if the flume ends at the normal operating water level of the pool.

Section 11. Flume Walkways; Pumps.

(a) A four (4) foot (1.22m) minimum width walkway, walkway steps or a stairway shall be provided between the plunge pool and the top of the flume.

- (i) Walkways and steps shall be:

(A) Well drained;

(B) Slip resistant;

(C) Separated from the flume by a physical barrier;

(D) Set back far enough from the operating flume so users are unable to touch them while traversing the flume; and

(E) Have a ladder or stairs equipped with slip-resistant treads and rigidly attached handrails.

(b) Pump reservoirs or pumps shall have:

(i) Sufficient volume to contain at least two (2) minutes of combined flow from all water treatment; and

(ii) Enough water to insure that the plunge pool will maintain a constant water depth.

Section 12. Flume; Mats.

(a) Flexible or plastic foam mats used to traverse the flume shall be:

(i) Stored dry; and

(ii) Wiped or soaked daily prior to dry storage with one of the following sanitizing solutions:

(A) 50-200 ppm of free chlorine;

(B) 12.5-25 ppm of titratable iodine; or

(C) 200 ppm of quaternary ammonia.

Section 13. Flume Attendants.

(a) All general use pools shall provide an attendant at:

(i) Any plunge pool; and

(ii) At the top of a flume.

Section 14. Signs; Pools and Similar Installations.

(a) A public pool or similar installation operator shall post a sign at the entrance to the pool enclosure stating the following information:

(i) No person suffering from a communicable disease transmittable via water or under the influence of an intoxicating liquor or drug shall use the pool;

- (ii) All nonswimmers and children under eight (8) years of age shall be accompanied by a responsible adult observer;
 - (iii) No person shall run or engage in horseplay in or around the pool;
 - (iv) Elderly persons and those suffering from heart disease, diabetes or high blood pressure should consult their physician before using the spa pool;
 - (v) Persons using prescription medications should consult their physician before using the pool;
 - (vi) Pregnant women should not use the spa pool without consulting their physician;
 - (vii) Persons should spend no more than fifteen (15) minutes in the spa pool at any one time; and
 - (viii) The emergency rescue number.
- (b) Signs shall be a minimum of eighteen (18) inches by twenty-four (24) inches with letters at least one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) inch in height.

Section 15. Depth Markings.

- (a) The depth of the water, whether in feet or meters, shall be plainly and conspicuously marked above the water level on the vertical pool wall and on the top of the coping or edge of the deck or walk next to the pool.
- (b) Depth markings shall:
 - (i) Be at least four (4) inches (10cm) in height and of a contrasting color with the background;
 - (ii) Be located at the minimum and maximum depth points and at one (1) foot (.3m) depth increments in the shallow portion of the pool;
 - (iii) Be spaced at no more than twenty-five (25) foot (7.62m) intervals; and
 - (iv) Be located at slope breaks.