
Information Sheet

Swimming Pools

Classes of pool usage

Private Use -	use of a swimming pool constructed incidental of a dwelling or residential development, for, swimming and bathing exclusively by the owner of the property, their family, their tenants and their guests.
Instruction, Training, Coaching or Competition Use -	use of a swimming pool by a coach or swimming instructor, whether amateur or professional, either fully or part time for instruction, training or coaching members of the public or of an organisation or a group of persons in swimming and/or diving, and the use of a swimming pool for organised competitive swimming or diving.
Public Use -	use of a swimming pool, by the owner or a lessee as a commercial enterprise for profit or charges.

Note: The Council may require submission of detailed drawings for the pool construction and installation of filtrating and purification plant where considered necessary.

Minimum Requirements For Swimming Pool Construction

1. Construction

Swimming pools shall be constructed in accordance with the provisions of the Standard Building Bylaws made in pursuance of the *Building Act 1975* and the Relevant SAA Code where applicable and the Bylaws of Council.

The walls and floor of every complete swimming pool shall be watertight.

The internal angles and junctions of sides and pool bottom shall be rounded off so as to facilitate cleaning.

2. Marking

Permanent markings showing the depth of shallow and deep ends and break points shall be provided in all pools having a water surface area in excess of 55m². These markings shall be visible from both inside and outside the pool.

3. Removal of Extraneous Matter

Scum gutters of an open design as to permit easy cleaning or alternatively, approved pattern surface skimmers, shall be provided to remove all extraneous floating matter from the swimming pool. Where surface skimmers are used, one skimming device shall be provided for each sixty square metres (60m²) of water surface area or fraction thereof.

4. Concourse / Coping / Landscaping

Swimming pools constructed in or partly in the ground shall be surrounded with a concourse/coping, to provide a nonslip surface of at least 1.2 metres wide. Landscaping areas may be constructed within 200mm of the pool edge other than at its access points where landscaping area may not exceed 2/3 of the perimeter of the pool.

5. Hydrostatic (Pressure Relief Valve)

Swimming pools constructed in or partly in the ground shall be provided with a hydrostatic or pressure relief valve to prevent damage to the pool under water uplift pressures.

6. Pool Drainage

Provision shall be made for water from a swimming pool to be capable of being emptied within a period of eight (8) hours or less. Water emptied from a private swimming pool shall be disposed of within the property boundary or drained to Council stormwater drainage by an approved connection. Backwash waters from private swimming pools shall be disposed of on the land or drained to the Council Sewerage System, provided the necessary approvals are received from the Sewerage Department.

7. Filtration and Purification Equipment

Every swimming pool shall be equipped with a pump filtration and purification unit. Such unit is to be to the satisfaction of the Environmental Health Manager. Such unit shall be capable of completely treating the volume of water in the swimming pool in ten (10) hours or less. A suitable hair and lint strainer of a type specifically made for this purpose shall be placed in the suction line ahead of the circulation pump. This device shall include an easily removable screen with a free area of five (5) times the cross-sectional area of the suction line.

The recirculation inlet or inlets shall be sized and spaced to produce uniform circulation of the incoming water through the swimming pool, not exceeding three metres (3m) per second. There shall be at least one inlet for each thirty square metres (30m²) of water surface area, or part thereof.

Where the main outlet is used for a return line, it shall be counted as an inlet but sized as a suction line. Water inlets and outlets are to be placed so as to allow for the complete circulation of the water to prevent short-circuiting and dead spots in the swimming pool.

8. Dressing / Change Rooms

Floors and seating used in dressing rooms shall be constructed of impervious materials. No duckboards or absorbent matting shall be provided or installed in dressing sheds.

9. Egress

Suitable means of egress from the pool shall be provided to the satisfaction of the Environmental Health Manager. Pools with water surface area in excess of forty-five square metres (45m²) shall be provided with a minimum of two (2) egress points, one being provided adjacent to the deepest end of the pool. For the purpose of this clause, ladders, swimouts, steps, niches and grab rails, ledges, or by other similar means, which may be approved by the Environmental Health Manager from time to time shall be deemed to be egress points.

10. Diving Boards

No diving boards shall be installed without the approval of Council.

11. Fencing

- a) Swimming pools shall be fenced. Fences and gates shall be constructed in accordance with the SAA Code (AS11926-1979) or as approved by Council in writing.
- b) If the sides of an above ground swimming pool form a barrier or fence and such barrier or fence complies with the requirements of SAA Code AS11926-1979 it shall be necessary to fence only the means of gaining access into the pool.

12. General

Council may by Resolution, approve the construction of a swimming pool/s which vary from this Code.