

2015 Public Swimming Pool Rule Review – February 10, 2015

List of Attendees

Michael Vartorella, Dept. of Agriculture
Elissa James, YMCA
Joe Harrod, Columbus Public Health
Tim Flury, HTP
Paul Scaglione, PH Dayton & Montgomery City
Barry Grisez, OEHA
Dustin Ratliff, Warren Co. HD
Duane Stansbury, Warren Co. HD
Brian Miller, Quality Pools
Kelly Thiel, Commerce
Chuck Kunsman, University of Akron
Tyler Pigman, Marion Public Health
Steven Truax, Astro Pool Co, Inc.
Bill Plessinger, City of Westerville
Peter Jen, ODH
Corey Schwab, ODH
Mary Clifton, ODH
Chip Hanawalt, OCOA
Phone - Art Daniels, Art Daniels Pool Service
Robert Romeyne, OCOA
Phone - Eric Roberts, ODH/NEDO
Phone - Tim Patterson, Patterson Pools
Phone - Pam Bauer

Meeting called to order at 9:00am by Corey Schwab.

I. Reviewed suggested changes/additions to rules from parent's group – email from Donald Kenny.

- a. **(Suggestion)** Change 3701-31-04 (B) (2) to read: *An authorized representative of the licensee who is certified in pool operations shall be either on site or within 30 minutes of the site whenever the pool is open for use to respond to requests for information or assistance by patrons of the pool, the licensor, or the director.*
 - i. **Answer:** The requirement to have a certified pool operator has been brought up and discussed in previous rule advisory committees. The legality of requiring an operator to obtain a certification need to be looked at by legal staff as to whether Revised Code authority is required.

- b. **(Question)** 3701-31-04 (B) (4) (a) (iii): Why is pH testing pushed every 12 hours? It should be tested every 4 hours along with the Cl levels since the effectiveness of the disinfecting power of the Cl is linked to pH as stated in 3701-31-04 (B) (2) (a) (i)

- i. **Answer:** The ph testing every 12 hours is only for those facilities that have an approved automatic chemical controller installed to electronically monitor water quality. If an approved controller is not installed, the requirements for testing is every 4 hours. The same requirements are in place for chlorine as well.

- c. **(Question)** 3701-31-04 (B) (4) (a) (iii): Can we have the results posted for the public (Ci, pH, alkalinity, water temp, and air temp)? Ex: on an erasable white board or chalk board.
 - i. **Answer:** This would be up to the facility's management. Posting in writing is not required by ODH.

- d. **(Question)** 3701-31-04 (B) (4) (a) (iv): Should alkalinity be tested on a daily basis?
 - i. **Answer:** This proposal has been already incorporated into the proposed rule changes.

- e. **(Question)** 3701-31-04 (B) (5): Can the records be open to the members/public as well as to the licenser and/or director? Doesn't the paying members/public have a right to the information as to the current water quality and the water quality history?
 - i. **Answer:** This is another management decision.

- f. **(Suggestion)** 3701-31-04 (C) (6): Change water and air temperature requirements. The licensee shall ensure that the water temperature does not exceed 86 degrees Fahrenheit and indoor air temps are to be maintained at 6 degrees Fahrenheit below the water temperature.
 - i. **Committee Thoughts:** To reduce from 90 degrees to 86 degrees the definition of a public swimming pool will change. It will skew everything that revolves around that. The general rule should not be specific to competitive swimming pools. The temps will range due to what the pool is being used for.

- g. **(Suggestion)** 3701-31-04 (D) (6): The table should have upper limits for public swimming pools – recommend 3 ppm for chlorine.
 - i. **Committee Thoughts:**
 1. 3ppm is a small window. Outdoor pools (Ex: camps) can have a residual. 3ppm would kill that in 15 minutes. 5 is too low.
 2. A suggestion would be 10ppm. The maximum of 10 would be in line with the Model of Aquatic Health Code. Above 10ppm would cause bleaching out of clothing, burning of body hair, and other issues due to sensitivity of chlorine.
 3. Having an upper limit would give you a measurement for what is a normal operating range.
 4. Majority of committee agrees to raise the limit.
 5. Look at test kits and add ceiling based on test kit parameters for the next meeting.

6. Pool water is supposed to be able to be used as drinking water in an emergency. Look at EPA's maximum for drinking water. 4ppm is the annual average. What is the ceiling amount?
- h. **(Suggestion)** 3701-31-05 (R) add between (1) and (2) the following: *Maintain an indoor air temperature so it is 6 degrees Fahrenheit below the swimming pool water temperatures.*
- i. **Committee Thoughts:**
 1. This is not possible if you have different types of pools in the same area.
 2. Committee doesn't feel that they should not put competitive swimming standards towards general swimming pool standards.

II. Public Pool & Spa Injury Accident Report Form

- a. Explanation of updated form to committee by Leigh Nelson. Committee is to review and get back any suggestions to her.
- b. **(Concern):** Accident forms are already in use by facilities. Can these still be used? Or can we simplify this form and also make electronic?
- c. Could this be included in the food inspection reports?
- d. Make local health departments responsible for filling this out then report information back to the state?
- e. Collect data once every 6 months or once a year? How often?
- f. When are these to be completed? What data do we really need to gather?
- g. **3701-31-04 (B) (4) (x):** *All injuries shall be recorded as they happen.*
 - i. Is 72 hours fast enough? Too long?
 - ii. Committee needs to figure out what correct language will better define time frames.

III. 3701-31-04 (D) (6) (c)

The minimum acceptable ORP reading for Indoor pools and pools not using cyanuric acid is 650 Millivolts. Pools using cyanuric acid must have a minimum ORP reading of 650 Millivolts or maintain a minimum of 2.0 ppm of free chlorine residual.

- a. This was removed because any new or changed automatic chemical controller is to be NSF certified. This allows for ORP or ppm as long as it meets with the code.
- b. All automatic chemical controllers must have an appropriate display.
- c. **(Suggestion)** Do we need to list these parameters for existing automatic chemical controller units?
- d. The purpose of having the list is to show who is NSF certified.

IV. 3701-31-04 (D) (7) (a-e)

a. **Committee Thoughts**

- i. Is the committee ok with removing some of the parameters?
- ii. Leave (d) in because it's good for reinforcement, checking, and reinstating.
- iii. Keep as much as possible. It is easier to refer to this than the NSF standards.
- iv. Make a modified shortened version for the next meeting.

V. **3701-31-04 (E) (4) (d) (i):** *Any public swimming pool with diving boards/platforms shall have a lifeguard to supervise the diving area whenever the board(s) or platform(s) are in use [O16].*

a. **Committee Thoughts**

- i. Change/add language to make it clearer.

*Next meeting scheduled for March 10, 2015 – 9am-12pm
Any comments/suggestions contact Corey.