

Guideline IO-5.0: Public Swimming Pools (Health requirements only)

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1.0 Purpose:

- To ensure compliance of all swimming pools with the public health requirements norms, as set by PCFC-EHS.
- To ensure the implementation of unified health requirement in all Public Swimming Pools in the jurisdiction of **EHS - Ports, Customs & Free zone Corporation, Dubai.**

2.0 Scope:

The Health Requirement is applicable in all public Swimming Pools operating in the jurisdiction of **EHS - Ports, Customs & Free zone Corporation, Dubai.**

3.0 Responsibility:

- Senior Officer, EHS-Operation
- Officer, EHS- Operation

4.0 Details of Implementation:

4.1. Operational:

- 4.1.1 Staff list with all relevant and required data should be kept in the premises. An updated list must be available at all times.
- 4.1.2 Staff members must have valid Work Permit and Occupational Health Card (OHC) issued by Trakhees.
- 4.1.3 Relevant permit of the life guard responsible for swimming pool.
- 4.1.4 EHS file must be provided with all the required documents for verification during inspection.

4.2 Life Safety Equipment:

- 4.2.1 Resuscitation equipment using ordinary air shall be provided at all commercial and public pools.
- 4.2.2 Life ring and lift shall be provided.
- 4.2.3 A gas mask used for the chlorine atmosphere shall be kept in an unlocked cabinet outside the chlorine-cylinder room.

4.2.4 Disinfecting Equipment - The pool shall be equipped with suitable equipment capable of feeding disinfectants, coagulants, chemicals, etc. Chlorine/Bromine tablets, due to its high acidity value, as well as any other chemicals shall not be placed in a skimmer.

4.3 Facility:

4.3.1 Hand Wash basins:

Hand wash basins should be provided with liquid soap and tissue paper/hand drier.

4.3.2 Garbage:

Proper large plastic foot operated, covered waste\garbage containers with plastic bags should be available. No carton containers or loose plastic bags are allowed for collection of waste. Bins should be emptied as necessary and the garbage bag or bin liners should be used.

4.4 Hygiene / Sanitation:

4.4.1 **Towels:** It is mandatory to wash & clean the towels after each use. A specific area must be designated for this purpose and must always remain clean, hygienic and regularly disinfected. Also, a separate suitable storage facility e.g. cupboards\shelves must be available for the proper storage of clean and used towels.

4.4.2 All patrons (including infants) should be required to wear bathing briefs. Persons detected with open wounds, sores and rashes, infected eyes, or wearing bandages should be requested not to swim in the pool.

4.4.3 The swimming pool shall be vacuumed, cleaned and disinfected on regular basis. It should be free from any floating debris, sediments and/or undesirable materials.

4.4.4 Walls, floors, and scum gutters should be kept free from debris, body grease and algal blooms.

4.4.5 All cleaning, maintenance and repair tools\materials must be placed inside a designated wooden cupboard\cabin and appropriately labelled.

4.4.6 Entry of any kind of animals into the swimming pool is strictly prohibited.

4.4.7 Filtration system should be provided and used\ maintained\ cleaned as required.

4.5 Testing:

- 4.5.1 There should be daily supervision for water quality and taking samples for checking chlorine, pH, and temperature levels. These readings should be registered in a logbook. Samples should be taken once in 15 days for calcium hardness, alkalinity and cyanuric acid and these readings should also be entered in the log book. There should be a responsible person for carrying out maintenance of the swimming pool and the filtration & disinfectant system. (Swimming pool test kit should be available)
- 4.5.2 The Swimming pool water should be tested for microbiological parameters every two months and records should be maintained.

4.6 General Notes:

- 4.6.1 The facility should be approved by EHS.
- 4.6.2 Building Completion Certificate / Activity Verification or Operation fitness Certificate should be obtained from Trakhees CED and EHS-Operation respectively.
- 4.6.3 No smoking sign should be displayed in the entrance.
- 4.6.4 Emergency contact numbers must be displayed conspicuously inside the facility to enable prompt action in case of an emergency.
- 4.6.5 Emergency contact details and contact person should be posted and visible to everyone to provide guidance in case of emergency.