

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, MD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

July 23, 2020

Certified Number: 9590 9402 4594 8278 5785 11

Gator Swim Club
Robert Pinter, Head Coach and Owner
4420 Northwest 19th Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32605

RE: Swimming Pool/Bathing Place Variance Request, Application #3471 (Revision)
Gator Swim Club Special Purpose Pool, 7010 Northwest 23rd Way B, Gainesville, Florida

Dear Mr. Pinter:

The Advisory Review Board for Swimming Pools and Bathing Places reviewed your application for variance on May 13, 2020. When a variance is requested, the Advisory Review Board considers whether the hardship was caused intentionally, whether a reasonable alternative exists, and whether the health and safety of pool patrons are at risk.

The Board recommended to approve your variance application to install indoors a prefabricated SwimEx 600T 'Endless Pool' brand swim spa, which is a special purpose pool that has the following Florida building code violations:

- No handrail is mounted on the prefabricated set of steps. This is a violation of section 454.1.8.4.1 of the Florida Building Code: Handrails shall be provided for all sets of steps and shall be anchored in the bottom step and in the deck.
- The fan/paddlewheel propulsion system drafts directly from the special purpose pool. This is a violation of section 454.1.8.6.2: Therapy or jet pumps shall take suction from the collector tank.
- The proposed special purpose pool does not have a floor slope. This is a violation of section 454.1.2.2.3.1: Floor slope shall be uniform. The floor slope shall be a maximum 1-unit vertical in 10 units horizontal and a minimum of 1-unit vertical in 60 units horizontal in areas 5 feet deep or less.
- The applicant is requesting to operate the special purpose pool with a turnover rate of 42 minutes. This is a violation of section 454.1.8.8: Spa-type pools shall have a minimum of one turnover every 30 minutes.
- The special purpose pool is prefabricated with corners that have a less than 2-inch radius. This is a violation of section 454.1.2.2.2: The corner intersections of walls which protrude or angle into the pool water area shall be rounded with a minimum radius of 2 inches.

Florida Department of Health

Division of Disease Control & Health Protection • Bureau of Environmental Health
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FloridaHealth.gov



Accredited Health Department
Public Health Accreditation Board

July 23, 2020

- This special purpose pool has multiple floor levels for training purposes. This is a violation of section 454.1.2.2.3: Multiple floor levels in pools are prohibited...
- The recess treads are not flush with the special purpose pool wall. This is a violation of section 454.1.2.5.2: Recessed treads shall be installed flush with the wall and shall be a minimum 5 inches wide, 10 inches long, with a maximum vertical distance of 12 inches between treads.
- The benches are in an area of the special purpose pool that is 5 feet deep. This is a violation of section 454.1.2.6(2): Underwater seat benches may be installed in areas less than 5 feet deep.
- The existing restroom does not have a urinal or a floor drain. This is a violation of sections 454.1.6.1: Pools with 0 – 2,500 square foot surface require at least one urinal, and 454.1.6.1.3: Floors of sanitary facilities shall be constructed of concrete or other nonabsorbent materials, shall have a smooth, slip-resistant finish, and shall slope to floor drains.
- The skimmer does not have a wall inlet directly across from it. This is a violation of section 454.1.6.5.3.2.4: A wall-inlet fitting shall be provided directly across from each skimmer.
- The special purpose pool floors and walls are marked for training purposes and are not white or light in color. This is a violation of sections 454.1.2.1(a) and 454.1.2.4- Floors and walls shall be white or light pastel and have the characteristics of reflecting rather than absorbing light...

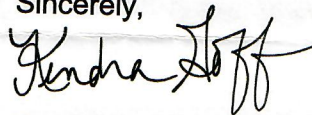
Based upon the information submitted, I concur with the Advisory Review Board recommendation to approve the above variance with the following proviso:

Due to the numerous deviations from the safety aspects of the Florida Building Code and Chapter 64E-9 Florida Administrative Code, the swim spa trainee shall be supervised by a Florida Department of Health (DOH) pool-code-certified swimming instructor at all times when the special purpose pool is in use by a trainee.

This variance, as approved, applies only to the section(s) of the Florida Building Code for which the variance was requested. This variance in no way exempts compliance with other state and local regulations.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call August Ursin at 850-901-6517.

Sincerely,



Kendra F. Goff, PhD, DABT, CPM, CEHP
State Toxicologist & Chief

KFG/jt

Enclosure

cc: Anthony Dennis, DOH-Alachua County
Kent Kimes, P.E., Kimes Engineering