



City of Phoenix

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Amendment to 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) Chapter 1

Submitted by: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Committee

CHAPTER 1 SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

Notes:

1. For reserved sections herein, refer to the amendments and requirements in Chapter 1 of the International Building Code for these code requirements.
2. For sections that remain unchanged from base code, the term “see this section of the 2024 ISPSC” shall refer to the unchanged base code.

101.1 Title. These regulations shall be known as the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code of as amended by the City of Phoenix, herein after referred to as “this code.” These regulations are one document of the overall Phoenix Building Construction Code as defined by the adopting ordinance.

101.2 Scope. - See this section of the 2024 ISPSC

101.2.1 Appendices. - See this section of the 2024 ISPSC

101.2.2 Flotation tanks. - See this section of the 2024 ISPSC

101.3 Purpose. - See this section of the 2024 ISPSC

101.4 Severability. - Reserved

Section 102 Applicability

102.1 General. - Reserved

102.2 Existing installations. - See this section of the 2024 ISPSC

102.3 Maintenance. - See this section of the 2024 ISPSC

102.4 Alterations or repairs. - See this section of the 2024 ISPSC

102.5 Historic buildings. - See this section of the 2024 ISPSC

102.6 Moved pools and spas. - See this section of the 2024 ISPSC

102.7 Referenced codes and standards. - Reserved.

102.8 Requirements not covered by code. - See this section of the 2024 ISPSC

102.9 Other laws. - Reserved.

102.10 Application of references. - Reserved.

Section 103 Code compliance agency – Reserved

Section 104 Duties and powers of the code official – Reserved

Section 105 Permits - Reserved

Section 106 Temporary structures, equipment and systems - Reserved

Section 107 Construction documents - Reserved

Section 108 Notice of approval - Reserved

Section 109 Fees - Reserved

Section 110 Service utilities - Reserved

Section 111 Inspections - Reserved

Section 112 Means of appeals - Reserved

Section 113 Violations - Reserved

Section 114 Stop work order - Reserved

Justification: All the adopted and amended building code documents taken together are known as the Phoenix Building Construction Code. Each code document is a separate document of the Phoenix Building Construction Code. This document is the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code as Amended by the City of Phoenix. This document is intended to apply where a code or referenced standard identifies the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code as being applicable.

The reserved provisions are contained in the Phoenix Building Construction Code – Administrative Provisions (Chapter 1 of the International Building Code).

Cost Impact: No cost impact

Approved in previous 2018 Code Adoption process: ☐ YES ☒ NO

ACTION TAKEN:

2024 Code Committee Date: 01/15/2025
☒ Approved as submitted ☐ Modified and approved ☐ Denied ☐ No action taken

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City of Phoenix

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Amendment to 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) Chapter 2

Submitted by: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Committee

Section 202 Definitions

RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL (RESIDENTIAL POOL). A pool intended for use, that is accessory to a residential setting and available only to the household and its guests including any structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that contains water over 18 inches (457.2mm) deep. This includes in-ground, above ground and on ground swimming pools, hot tubs, spas, and fixed in place wading pools. All ~~Other~~ pools shall be considered to be public pools for the purpose of this code.

Justification: The added text enhances this important definition and keeps us in line with previous code language. 18 inch depth is in accordance with A.R.S., Section 36-1681.

Cost Impact: No cost impact.

Approved in previous 2018 Code Adoption process: ☒ YES ☐ NO

ACTION TAKEN:

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Amendment to 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) Section 305.1

Submitted by: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Committee

305.1 General.

The provisions of this section shall apply to the design of barriers for restricting entry into areas having pools and spas. Where spas or hot tubs are equipped with a lockable safety cover complying with ASTM F1346 and swimming pools are equipped with a powered safety cover that complies with ASTM F1346, the areas where those spas, hot tubs or pools are located shall not be required to comply with Sections 305.2 through 305.7.

It is the responsibility of the property owner and any other person in responsible charge of a swimming pool to ensure that the required swimming pool barrier, including all gates, doors, locks, latches, and other portions of the barrier are maintained safe and in good working order at all times. No person shall alter or remove any portion of a swimming pool barrier except to repair, reconstruct, or replace the barrier in compliance with the provisions of this section. All barriers shall be installed, inspected, and approved prior to plastering or filling with water.

Justification: This paragraph was located in section AG105.2 of the IRC Appendix G. It provides important information for the pool owner and should be included in the new ISPSC.

Cost Impact: No cost impact.

Approved in previous 2018 Code Adoption process: ☒ YES ☐ NO

ACTION TAKEN:

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Amendment to 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) Section 305.2.1

Submitted by: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Committee

305.2.1. (1) Barrier height and clearances.

Barrier heights and clearances shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. The top of the barrier shall be not less than ~~48 inches (1219 mm)~~ 60 inches (1524 mm) above grade where measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the pool or spa. Such height shall exist around the entire perimeter of the barrier and for a distance of 3 feet (914 mm) measured horizontally from the outside of the required barrier.

Justification: The provision for the required pool barrier fence height was set at five feet in the previous 2012 IRC, Appendix G. This is in accordance with A.R.S. § 36-1681 and City of Phoenix Ordinance G 3316, adopted on May 4, 1990.

Cost Impact: No cost impact.

Approved in previous 2018 Code Adoption process: ☒ YES ☐ NO

ACTION TAKEN:

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City of Phoenix

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Amendment to 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) Section 305.2.8

Submitted by: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Committee

305.2.8 Chain link dimensions.

The maximum opening formed by a chain link fence shall be not more than 1 ¾ inches (44 mm). Where the fence is provided with slats fastened at the top and bottom that reduce the openings, such openings shall be not greater than 1 ¾ inches (44 mm). The mesh shall not be less than 11 wire gauge.

Justification: The provision for chain link wire gauge was in the 2012 IRC Appendix G.

Cost Impact: No cost impact.

Approved in previous 2018 Code Adoption process: ☒ YES ☐ NO

ACTION TAKEN:

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BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Amendment to 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC)

Section 305.3.2

Submitted by: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Committee

305.3.2 Double or multiple doors and gates.

~~Double Doors and gates or multiple doors and gates.~~ If a set of double doors and gates or multiple doors and gates are the only access to the yard where the pool is located, they shall have not fewer than one leaf secured in place and the adjacent leaf shall be self-closing and be secured with a self-latching device.

The gate and barrier shall not have openings larger than 1 /2 inch (12.7 mm) within 18 inches (457 mm) of the latch release mechanism. The self-latching device shall comply with the requirements of Section 305.3 If a pedestrian gate is present in conjunction with the double or multiple gates, the double or multiple gates need not be self-closing or self-latching and shall be equipped with a padlock or similar locking device. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches (1372 mm) from the bottom of the gate, the release mechanism and openings shall comply with the following:

- A. The release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the gate at least 3 inches (76 mm) below the top of the gate, and
- B. The gate and barrier shall have no opening greater than 0.5 inch (12.7 mm) within 18 inches (457 mm) of the release mechanism.

Justification: The 2012 IRC, Appendix G, section AG 105.2.8 did not address RV type double gates as being required to meet section AG 105.2 (1) through (7). (Self-closing, self-latching, etc.) This clarifies that it is necessary if it is the only gate to the yard area with the pool. The second paragraph is taken from the 2012 IRC, Appendix G with added clarification to exclude RV type gates if there is also a pedestrian gate present that meets the 2024 ISPSC section 305.3.

Cost Impact: Minimal cost impact. Some cost may be realized to properly equip an RV type gate if required.

Approved in previous 2018 Code Adoption process: ☒ YES ☐ NO

ACTION TAKEN:

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BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Amendment to 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC)

Section 305.4

Submitted by: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Committee

305.4 Structure wall as a barrier.

Where a wall of a dwelling or structure serves as part of the barrier and where doors, gates or windows provide direct access to the pool or spa through that wall, one of the following shall be required:

- ~~1. Operable windows having a sill height of less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the indoor finished floor, doors and gates shall have an alarm that produces an audible warning when the window, door or their screens are opened. The alarm shall be listed and labeled as a water hazard entrance alarm in accordance with UL 2017.~~
1. The pool shall be equipped with a key operated powered safety cover in compliance with ASTM F1346. The keyed pool cover switch shall be located not less than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the floor adjacent ground level and where the entire pool cover can be visually inspected; or
- ~~2. In dwellings not required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located at not less than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the finished floor.~~
2. All doors leading from the dwelling unit or guest room, directly into a yard with a swimming pool, shall swing away from the pool, shall be self-closing and self-latching, and shall be equipped with a locking device. The release mechanism for the latch or a secondary locking device, shall be located not less than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the floor. A locking latch which uses a key, electronic opener, or integral combination lock may be located at any height on the door. Sliding doors shall not form any part of a required barrier unless the self-closing and self-latching mechanism is specifically approved.
- ~~3. In dwellings that are required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located not greater than 54 inches (1372 mm) and not less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the finished floor.~~
3. Multi panel sliding doors or walls shall meet the requirements of ISPSC 305.4.2. or shall be secured in place by a permanent fastening method that requires a tool to remove. If a sliding door or panel is the only door to the pool area it shall meet the requirements of ISPSC 305.4.2.
- ~~4. In structures other than dwellings, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located not greater than 54 inches (1372 mm) and not less than 48 inches (1220 mm) above the finished floor.~~
4. Windows used for emergency escape or rescue which face into a yard with a swimming pool shall be equipped with a latching device located not less than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the floor. All other operable dwelling unit windows facing into a yard with a swimming pool shall be equipped with a screwed in place wire mesh screen, a keyed lock that prevents opening the window more than 4 inches (102 mm), or a latching device not less than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the floor.

<p>5. A safety cover that is listed and labeled in accordance with ASTM F1346 is installed for the pools and spas.</p> <p>6. An approved means of protection, such as self-closing doors with self-latching devices, is provided. Such means of protection shall provide a degree of protection that is not less than the protection afforded by Item 1 or 2.</p>
<p>Justification: The ISPSC allows audible alarms as part of the barrier system which was not acceptable in the previously adopted 2012 IRC Appendix G. This provision for house barriers was in the previous Appendix G.</p>
<p>Cost Impact: Minimal cost impact. Some cost may be realized to properly equip and RV type gate, if required.</p>
<p>Approved in previous 2018 Code Adoption process: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>
<p>ACTION TAKEN:</p>
<p>2024 Code Committee Date: 01/23/2025 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved as submitted <input type="checkbox"/> Modified and approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied <input type="checkbox"/> No action taken</p>
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City of Phoenix

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Amendment to 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) Section 305.9

Submitted by: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Committee

305.9 Barrier exceptions.

1. For portable spas and or hot tubs with a safety cover which complies with ASTM F 1346, as listed in Section 305.4.2 shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.
2. For spas and hot tubs, a hard safety cover which is latched or locked may be used provided the spa or hot tub is not more than 8 feet (2.44 m) in width at any point.
3. Existing swimming pools located on a one-family dwelling property on or before May 4, 1990, need not be retroactively fitted with a barrier between the dwelling and the pool provided all occupants of the dwelling are at least six years of age or older. All other portions of the swimming pool barrier separating properties shall be installed and maintained as required by Section 105.2.

Exception:

1. This exception does not eliminate an owner's responsibility for providing a temporary barrier or otherwise physically restricting visiting children's direct access from the dwelling to the swimming pool.
2. This exception shall expire and the required permanent barrier shall be retroactively installed between the dwelling and the swimming pool whenever:
 - a. One or more children under six years of age become occupants of the property.
 - b. There is a change of use or character to the primary building occupancy on the property.
 - c. A new pool or spa is being installed on the same property including spa additions to the existing swimming pool or alterations to the existing pool that change size or shape.
 - d. Alterations to existing buildings: New work that changes an existing element of the pool barrier (whether the barrier is compliant or not) shall meet the current barrier requirements of Section 305.

Justification: This section is not included in the 2018 ISPSC, however it was part of Appendix G in the 2012 IRC. A new section 305.8 is added to the 2018 ISPSC to allow for this text. This language is added to provide an exception to barriers for pools constructed prior to May 4, 1990, in accordance with City of Phoenix Ordinance G-3316.

Cost Impact: Minimal cost impact. There could be a minor increase in cost for homes that do not have barriers present, depending on barrier type affected.

Approved in previous 2018 Code Adoption process: ☒ YES ☐ NO

ACTION TAKEN:

2024 Code Committee

Date: 01/23/2025

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Amendment to 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) Section 307.2.2

Submitted by: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Committee

307.2.2 Materials and structural design.

Pools and spas shall conform to one or more of the standards indicated in Table 307.2.2. The structural design of pools and spas shall be in accordance with the International Building Code or the International Residential Code, as applicable in accordance with Section 102.7.1 of this code.

Exception: ~~Pools and spas constructed with reinforced concrete or reinforced shotcrete with a A minimum compressive strength of 2,500 pounds per square inch (175.8 kg/cm²) shall be permitted for all reinforced concrete and reinforced shotcrete pools and spas when as designed by a design professional registered design professional and approved by the building official. shall be permitted.~~

Justification:

This amendment clarifies that concrete shall be designed to comply with ACI 318 but allows an exception for a reduced minimum required compressive strength for pools and spas.

Cost Impact: Minimal cost impact.

Approved in previous 2018 Code Adoption process: ☐ YES ☒ NO

ACTION TAKEN:

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Amendment to 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code (ISPSC) Section 411.1.4

Submitted by: International Swimming Pool and Spa Code Committee

411.1.4 Pools greater than ~~30~~ 20 feet wide.

Swimming pools greater than ~~30 (9144mm)~~ 20 feet (6096 mm) in width shall be provided with entries and exits on each side of the deep area of the pool. The entries and exits on the sides of the deep area of a pool shall be located not more than 82 feet (25 m) apart.

Justification: This change maintains consistency with the Maricopa County Environmental Health Code, Chapter VI, Section 6: Public Swimming Pools.

Cost Impact: Minimal cost impact. For some pools, this may increase cost by the addition of a ladder for egress.

Approved in previous 2018 Code Adoption process: ☒ YES ☐ NO

ACTION TAKEN:

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