Approval of Swimming Pool Plans

**Background:** Local Order No. 61/1991 & 11/2003 covers Regulations for the planning, construction, maintenance and safety of swimming pools.

In compliance with the Local Orders, all applications for the construction of a Swimming Pool shall be submitted to the Public Health and Safety Departmental - Public Safety Section in the prescribed manner together with all relevant information and detailed plans of the Swimming Pool.

The Public Health and Safety Departmental – Public Safety Section, upon verification that all safety aspects have been incorporated, approves the construction of the swimming pool. This guideline further explains the application procedure and salient features to be considered in swimming pool designs.

**Guidelines:**

**General**

1. Required to register in the Dubai Municipality electronic services of (swimming pools design approvals Service) to submit the application and plans electronically.
2. The category / type of swimming pool shall be indicated clearly.

**Type:**

- **Private:**
  - Single Dwelling
- **Public:**
  - Multi dwelling (Indicate the number of villas or flats)
  - Hotel
  - Club

3. Fees shall be paid for the approval of the swimming pool plans which will be advised by the Public Health and Safety Departmental – Public Safety Section. By one of the following methods:

  - Cash in Dubai Municipality Treasury
  - Electronically throw the swimming pool design approval system via credit cards or E- Dirham
4. In order to check compliance to Local Orders 61/1991 & 11/2003 the Public Health And Safety Department - Public Safety Section requires the applicant to submit drawings electronic (online) MULTI-SHEET DWF FORMAT and should be showing:

1. Site plan/location plan (affection plane).
2. Copy from Occupational License
3. First Page with owner signature
4. Site setting plan.
5. Swimming Pool detail plan.
6. Cross section of the pool to show slope of bottom.
7. Plumbing layout.
8. Electrical layout.
9. Details of filtration system.
10. Outlet drains details.
11. Detail of ladder.
12. Detail of skimmer, lint and hair strainer.
13. Detail of diving board.

5. The design of the swimming pool shall incorporate the safety and hygiene aspects in accordance with Local Order 61/1991 and its executive regulations. The design shall cover:

   i. Filtration system and recirculation of pool water
   ii. Disinfection of pool water
   iii. Other control measures for safety and hygiene to be taken at design stage and operational time.

Functional Equipment

1. Ladders, Recessed Steps, Stairs and steps

   - Steps and ladders shall be provided if depth exceeds 0.6 m.

   - At least one ladder shall be provided for each 30 m of the pool perimeter. The pool ladders shall be corrosion resistant and equipped with non-slip treads. There shall be clearance of 90 mm from the wall.

   If recessed steps are provided they shall be of non-slip surface, self draining, minimum tread of 150 mm and minimum rise of 350 mm to be provided.
Side handrails extending above and returning to the horizontal surface of the pool deck shall be provided at each side of each ladder or recessed steps.

- Pools with steps may only be permitted in shallow pools not exceeding 1m.

2. **Showers and Foot Baths**

Showers and foot baths should be provided at 25 m intervals around the perimeter of the pool. Signs must be posted asking bathers to shower before using the pool.

3. **Toilets and Changing Room Facilities**

All swimming pool shall be provided with toilet and changing room facilities.

4. **Diving Towers, Platforms and Boards**

1. At least 5 m of unobstructed headroom above the diving boards or towers shall be provided.

2. Diving boards or platforms shall be entirely covered with non-slip materials.

3. The minimum depth of water for any diving board placed 1m or less above the water shall be 2.5 m. The diving depth for boards above 1 m shall be increased 0.3 for each meter or fraction thereof above 1 m.

   Horizontal separation of 3 m shall be provided between adjacent diving boards and between any diving board and the side wall.

5. **Lighting**

Pools, designed for use at night shall be illuminated either by underwater or overhead lighting or both to ensure that all areas of the bottom of the pool as well as the entire volume of the pool are well illuminated without creating any reflections, glare, burns, electrical shock or mechanical injury to both the swimmers and life guards.

   Electrical circuits shall have earth leakage circuit breaker and be shown in the drawing.

6. **Depth Marking**

Depth of water shall be plainly marked on the edge of the deck or pool wall at maximum points, at points of break in slope.
7. **Deck**

A deck equal to or more than the pool area shall be provided. The deck should have a non slip surface, sloped so that surface water cannot enter and contaminate pool.

The decks shall be sloped 1 in 40 minimum away from the pool side. Sufficient deck drains shall be provided to prevent puddles.

**Pool Filtration**

PURPOSE: TO REMOVE DIRT & DEBRIS FROM POOL SURFACE, WALLS & FLOOR

1. **Outlet Drain**

Outlet drain is to be located at the bottom base of the pool to drain of accumulated dirt. It also facilities to completely drain the pool for maintenance purpose.

2. **Skimmers:**

Purpose: To remove floating dust, debries, leaves and oil films.

3. **Hair and Lint Strainers**

Purpose: They catch hair and large particles which could otherwise accumulate inside the system to clog pump, piping or filter.

Hair and lint strainers shall be cleaned daily to make efficient operation of recirculation system.

4. **Filter**

The filter removes insoluble, suspended matter from the recirculated water. After the repeated recirculation of swimming pool water through filter, its media voids get filled up with dirt resulting in increased resistance to flow. The filter then requires backwash operation. three principle types of filters for swimming pool are:

1. Diatomaceous earth filter
2. Rapid sand filter
3. High rate sand filter.

Complete filter details showing position of different valves, access opening, air release valve, pressure guages, sight glass, sampling taps at inlet, outlet pipes of filter, chemical tank details shall be shown in drawing.
Disinfecting Equipment

The pool shall be equipped with suitable equipment capable of feeding disinfectants, coagulants and chemicals.

Safety Equipment and Life Guards

1. Adequate number of safety Equipment for persons using the swimming pool shall be provided.
2. Resuscitation equipment using ordinary air shall be provided at all type 3 or type 4 pools.
3. First aid box with medicines and equipment shall be provided at swimming pool.
4. A qualified life guard is necessary at a public swimming pool. Such a person must be on duty when people are swimming.
5. Life guard must be trained in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and in approved techniques for life saving.
6. Life ring and lift shall be provided.
7. Safety precautions against the potential hazards of chlorine gas leak shall be taken.
8. A gas mask used for the chlorine atmosphere shall be kept in an unlocked cabinet outside the chlorine cylinder room.

FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FROM
PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY DEPARTMENT
Tel: 2064244 FAX: 270160