

## MEETING LOG

**SUBJECT:** ASTM F15.60 Portable Pools Subcommittee (SC)

**LOCATION:** Teleconference call

**DATE:** November 26, 2019

**ENTRY DATE:** December 3, 2019

**LOG ENTRY SOURCE:** Susan Bathalon

**COMMISSION ATTENDEES:**

Sharon White, ESHF,

Susan Bathalon, EXHR

**Other ASTM ATTENDEES:**

Don Huber, Consumer Reports

Sean Oberle, PSA

Dotty Drago, HF consultant

Al Kaufman, Toy Industry Association

Zoran Madzar, Intex

Matthew Walen, Intex

David Dick, BV labs

Natalie Boody SGS

Susan Hilanski, UL labs

Joey Ruffin, Anchor it

Racheal Weintraub, Consumer Federation of America

Molly Lynyak, ASTM

Contact ASTM for additional conference call attendees.

**MEETING SUMMARY:**

The ASTM F15.60 draft meeting minutes for October 3, 2019 was distributed and approved. The agenda for the November 26, 2019 meeting was approved. Approval of new member's classification in voting and non-voting members were reviewed.

An overview of previous SC discussions concerning child resistant (CR) ladder information was reviewed. In these previous SC meetings, CPSC staff presented suggested requirements for portable pool CR ladders to address incidents involving children between the ages of 12 months to three years. The suggested CR requirements are related to openings, indents, and protrusions to prevent hand holds/foot holds, potential grab points on the exterior/sides/top of the ladder.

The SC continued discussion in CR ladders features into the ladder degree of incline. To discuss this degree of incline, the SC participants prepared several documents for review in the meeting: These documents included:

1. Reference examples of self-supporting A-frame pool ladders which are thought to be typical in market ladders and depicted in both the ANSI/APSP-4 and ASTM F2666 portable pool standards,
2. CPSC staff provided combined input from the 2015 Public playground Safety Handbook, which has recommendations for children's age appropriate access step ladders, and various ANSI standards for preferred no more than 75 degree angle of incline for safety self-supporting ladders. These two documents combine the aspect of safe angle of steps for adults and young children with the maximum preferred safe slope angle.
3. International standard, BS EN 16582-1 Revision 2015 for above ground pool standards recommends ladder incline range of 65 to 75 degree for accessibility of all ages of users.

The SC discussion on the three documents concluded that there is good agreeability in the three documents supporting both inaccessibility with child resistant feature and step accessibility when the CR feature is not being used. The SC chair discussed an angle of incline meeting both criteria was thought

to be 75 degrees. The SC chair will reach out to other vendors to develop a range/ tolerance around this degree of incline

There was a discussion about the outdoor terrain in actual consumer use of the ladders and how it could change the angle of incline. The terrain near the above ground pools is generally level to support the water, and was not thought to be much influence on the ladder angle. In addition, it was believed that testing for any of the CR features would occur in a lab setting and not necessarily outdoors.

One of the SC members expressed that there is a tradeoff between the ease of ladder removal from pool side, which is thought to be a typical feature with ASTM F15.66 ladders and the CR features being currently discussed in the SC, as the CR panel will add weight when the reach width and height dimensions are incorporated into the CR design. The SC Chair proposed to draft a visual CAD drawing of the barrier/ladder that incorporates all the proposed CR requirements. The CAD drawing will also consider the backside of the CR barrier and the steps. The SC Chair also indicated that a ladder could be built to the proposed CR requirements and tested on the ages of children mostly involved in drownings. The SC Chair indicated that the general dimensions for the above ground pools covered in this standard have an outer pool wall height of 40 inches and pool ladders with 3 steps.

**Next Steps:**

The next ASTM F15.66 SC meeting is TBD. There will be review of the CAD CR design on the pool ladder.