

MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: Subcommittee meeting for ANSI PHTA-4 Above and On Ground Pools

OP Plan Product: Pools, Portable Unprotected (Child Drowning)

LOCATION: Teleconference call

DATE: August 24, 2022

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Susan Bathalon

ENTRY DATE: October 7, 2022

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Susan Bathalon, EXHR

Other ASTM MEETING ATTENDEES:

Genevieve Lynn, PHTA Administration,

Alan Taverof, Engineering Consultant

Matthew (Chip) Whalen, Intertex Corp., and Chairman of PHTA-4

Contact PHTA/ANSI for a full list of attendees.

MEETING SUMMARY:

The standard writing committee (SWC) discussed the proposal for ladder width expansion from 12 to 16 inches in detail. The proposal is based on the comfort of larger-bodied users climbing a ladder. One of the SWC participants provided pages of anthropometric child, women, and men body data provided. The European standard for pool step widths were discussed as at least 12 inches in width or larger. The ANSI/PHTA -4 and European standard has a similar dimension width of at least 12 inches. The proposal to support adults negotiating the steps in and out of the pool was agreed by the SWC to be a potential hazard. Several participants in the SWC, including CPSC staff, voiced their safety-related concerns with widening the pool ladder step width as many removable ladders secure the barrier and low weight is needed. Some of the manufacturers stated that their ladder weight is designed to accommodate youth and some disabled persons. CPSC staff and others expressed that with more material to accommodate the width, the ladder will be heavier.

To accommodate the climbability of a larger person on the ladder, some of the SWC stated the ladder rung's width only needs to accommodate the user's foot width. The SWC also agreed handrails are most integral for adult climbing and an unobstructed handrail width is typically at least as wide or wider than the foot tread.

The discussion will resume after CPSC staff provides the 'above ground pool ladder injury' spreadsheet and is reviewed by the SWC. There was discussion that barrier safety should preside over the width proposal.

Next steps:

CPSC staff will provide the 'above ground pool ladder injury' spreadsheet. A doodle poll will be provided to the SWC members to determine the next meeting date, which is expected in mid-September 2022.