



MEETING LOG

SUBJECT: ASTM F15.29 F1487 Playground Equipment for Public Use - Play Mound Task Group Meeting

FY 24 OP PLAN ENTRY: Playground Equipment (Public)

DATE OF MEETING: 02/21/2024

LOCATION OF MEETING: Teleconference (Webex)

CPSC STAFF FILING MEETING LOG: Andy Newens (ESMC)

FILING DATE: 03/01/2024

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Andy Newens (ESMC) & Khalisa Phillips (ESHF)

NON-CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Contact ASTM for the full attendee list

Summary of Meeting:

The task group (TG) met to continue developing performance requirements for play mounds (document WK84464). They have proposed new language under ASTM F1487-21, *Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Playground Equipment for Public Use*, that they are preparing to send to subcommittee ballot in the first half of CY2024. By “play mound,” members mean surfacing features that have been introduced to add play value such as embankment, mound, and bump.

The discussion centered around the handling of professional judgment and legal liability when designing and installing play mounds on public playgrounds. One group member active in the field stated that many people have recently been installing playground features resembling play mounds, but since there is no language in the current standard F1487-21 defining “play mounds,” the only part of the standard that would apply is Section 1.6.1, leaving the hazard analysis up to the designer or manufacturer’s professional judgment. The group member’s concern is that play mounds are currently being installed without much consideration of all the design issues needed to mitigate safety hazards. Another concern is that designers may resort to following the requirements of an incorrect category of equipment.

This led to the discussion of whether the current draft language to address the new playground category of play mounds is ready for subcommittee ballot. The TG consensus was to ballot the proposed language in its current state, even though members anticipate numerous comments.

Next Steps:

The TG chair will prepare the proposed ballot material for submission within the next month so that feedback from subcommittee members can be received ahead of the next F15.29 subcommittee meetings in Philadelphia in May 2024.