Instructions for Sundance Pools

240610

WATER LEVEL of POOL

The water level of the pool should be maintained at approximately half way up the skimmer aperture. If 'gurgling' noises are heard coming from the the skimmer unit this indicates that either the round plate used for vacuuming has been left in the skimmer (see vacuuming) or that the water level is too low.

POOL MAINTENANCE

In order to maintain a "healthy" pool, there are 3 aspects which need to be controlled.

1. The physical cleanliness of the pool i.e. the removal of leaves, dust, etc. by leaf net, vacuuming etc

2. Maintenance of correct acidity/alkalinity ï the pH level.

3. Correct sanitization of the water by the use of a Salt Chlorinator or addition of chlorine.

1.Vacuuming the Pool

This can be done either by hand or with an automatic pool cleaner (subject to the available suction on the circulation system).

Hand Vacuuming

The pool is supplied with a hand vacuuming kit consisting of a telescopic handle, vacuum hose and vacuum head. Also supplied is a leaf net and brush which can be fixed to the end of the telescopic handle when required.

Before assembling the kit, switch off the filter pump and locate the vacuum plate (round disc with hole in centre) in the top of the skimmer above the basket, this should be removed when vacuuming is completed. Leave the basket in the skimmer so that larger of debris are caught in the basket and are not sucked down the pipe to the pump. There is also a basket in the pump which needs checking for debris periodically.

To hand vacuum the pool, first fit the vacuum head onto the end of the telescopic handle, then fit the vacuum pipe onto the vacuum head. Lower the vacuum head on the end of the pole into the water feeding the pipe through your hand into the water as the pipe is submerged. This ensures that the pipe is filled with water (and not air!). Once the free end of the pipe is at the water surface level insert this end into the vacuum plate in the skimmer or, if fitted, to the vacuum point in the pool wall.

If a separate vacuum point is fitted to the pool it will be necessary to switch off the suction to the skimmers in the Plant Room and switch on the suction to

the vacuum point prior to restarting the pump. Vacuuming the pool should be carried out with slow movements across the pool floor so that debris is not stirred up off the bottom but is sucked up the vacuum pipe as the vac head passes over it.

Automatic Pool Cleaner

This unit works by suction from the skimmer and has a valve in the unit which flaps and propels the cleaner in random directions around the pool. There are various types of cleaners and each is supplied with their own hose attachments and full instructions which should be followed for the unit to work at its optimum efficiency.

2.Water Acidity/Alkalinity

Fibreglass pools should be run with a pH of around **7.0** to **7.2.**

The pool is supplied with a test kit and readings should be taken regularly to check the water quality.

It is very important to maintain the pH at 7 to 7.2 in order to avoid problems which then may take a few days to clear. Running the C-Salt chlorinator tends to push up the pH so needs watching if the chlorinator is on for a long period. High pH can cause staining on Fibreglass pools but this can be eradicated by lowering the pH.

Maintaining the correct pH level

This is achieved with the use of pH Plus and pH Minus granules. These should be mixed in a bucket before adding to the pool water, following the instructions on the carton/tub **carefully** particularly when using the pH Minus as it is **acid!** The pool is supplied with a tub of pH Minus as this is generally required more often than the pH Plus.

3.Sanitization

The water can be sanitized in a number of ways and we tend to recommend Salt Chlorination or Chlorine.

Most of our pools are run using a Salt Water Chlorinator. Pure Dried Vacuum (PDV) salt (Available from Salt Direct 0845 6030444 who deliver) is added to the pool water to produce a 0.7% salinity level. The C-Salt Cell and Control Box produce chlorine gas which cleans the water as it goes through the cell and is then reabsorbed into the water. When testing for chlorine with the test kit it is sufficient to have a slight pink tinge to the test water. The time the
C-Salt unit is run for each day is governed by a number of different factors

Pool usage
Weather conditions ï particularly with an outside pool as UV breaks down chlorine
Amount of topping up carried out.
Indoor or Outdoor pool

Initially when a pool is commissioned and the salt has been added* to the water the C-Salt unit should be run continuously on high until the correct reading is achieved on the test kit. It is even possible to return a ógreenô pool back to crystal clear water by running the C-Salt unit.

The time required may be anywhere from 1 to 5 days but it is important to check the Cl levels initially **at least on a daily basis**.

Once the correct chlorine level has been achieved it may well be necessary to run the C-Salt unit for only a few hours a day. On an indoor pool you may have to run it for even less time. This will depend upon the factors listed above. Ideally the C-Salt unit should be run through a separate time clock to give maximum flexibility. **It is imperative that the C-Salt unit is only operated when the circulation pump is running.**

If your pool water is slightly cloudy or fine particles can be seen in the water it may be necessary to use some FLOC tablets. These are placed in the skimmer basket and coagulate the very fine particles together so that they get trapped in the sand filter.

If you use Chlorine follow the manufacturerôs instructions on the container.

The Multiport Valve (on the sand filter)

This is used to select the operation which will occur when the pump is turned on. The multiport valve lever should only be turned when the pump is switched off. The labelling of the valve is fairly self-explanatory with the exception of óBACKWASHô and óRINSEô.

Backwashing your pool filter

From time to time it is necessary to backwash your filter. The necessity to backwash is indicated by the pressure on the gauge on the filter approaching the red zone on the dial. Backwashing is pumping water backwards through your filter (sand) to clean it. As water is being pumped to waste ensure that there is sufficient water in the pool to allow for this.

To start a backwash switch off the pump and turn the multiport lever to óBACKWASHô. Turn on the pump and run for a short period whilst looking at the sight glass on the side of the multiport valve. This will go quite cloudy as dirty water is pumped to waste. When the water in the sight glass begins to

clear switch off the pump and turn the multiport to óRINSEô. Switch on the pump and again watch the sight glass. Run the pump until the water in the sight glass looks pretty clean. Switch off the pump and return the multiport lever to óFILTERô position. Filtering may now be started again once you have checked the level of water in the pool and topped up if necessary. Indoor pools need backwashing a lot less than outdoor pools.

4.Winterising your outdoor pool

Remove the bubble cover from the pool, do not leave in on the pool as this will tend to warm up the water which the algae will like! Store the bubble cover on the roller in a dry vermin free environment for the winter. Check the pH of the pool and ensure that it is at 7.0 ï 7.2. Adjust if necessary and run the pump for at least an hour if you have added chemicals to ensure they have been well circulated. Ensure that the water level in the pool is correct. If it is a little low this does not matter as rain during the winter will inevitably raise the pool water level. Fit the winter cover to the pool.

If your pool is running on a salt water chlorinisation system, the salt in the pool will act as a reasonable antifreeze and also keep the pool fairly algae free over the winter. If very cold weather is expected drain down the pump, heater, filter system etc to ensure no frost damage.

If you run your pool on chlorine take advice from your supplier but remember to get the pH correct before closing the pool down and draining the filter, pump etc.

If the pool water level rises too high during the winter the level may be reduced using the filter pump and pumping to waste using the waste setting on the multiport valve on the filter or by dropping a submersible pump into the pool if the filter pump has been disconnected.
Do not let the water get to a level where it is overflowing over the edge of the pool as the water may get between the pool shell and the backfill which may damage the pool.

Check the level of the water in the external sump at regular intervals throughout the winter and pump out water with a submersible pump if the level is high**.**

It is essential that if the water table is prone to be high fit a submersible pump with an automatic float valve in the sump chamber and pump the water as far as possible away from the pool. This should be permanently connected. We recommend submersible pump type Stuart Turner VA300 or VA600. DAMAGE WILL OCCUR TO YOUR POOL IF THIS IS NOT CARRIED OUT. Check the pump regularly.

If in any doubt please call Sundance Pools - 01296 715071

DO NOT EMPTY A POOL WITHOUT FIRST REFERRING TO SUNDANCE POOLS