



ESSENTIAL PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT SPA POOL USERS

Spa pools (also known as hot spas, hot tubs or Jacuzzis), if not correctly used can provide the conditions for germs to breed and cause illness. Some of these illnesses can be serious.

RUNNING THE POOL

- **Follow the maintenance procedures.** The water needs to be filtered, disinfected and changed regularly (as per the manufacturer's maintenance guidelines)
- **Don't assume clarity equals safety.** Test the water prior to use. There should be 3-5 parts per million of bromine or 4-6 parts per million of chlorine. PH should be between 7.2 and 7.8
- **Regularly clean the filter.** A clogged filter slows flow and impedes disinfection.
- **Cover the pool when not in use to prevent contamination with soil or bird /animal droppings.**
- **Don't use a contaminated pool.** Remove all solid material, allow time for the filter to strain the water (see the manufacturer's instructions), back wash to clean (or change the cartridge filter) Check the disinfectant levels before using the pool again.
- **Drain the pool weekly and thoroughly clean and disinfect** all surfaces including channels, grilles and strainers using a chlorine based product at the recommended dilution. Wear suitable protective gloves whilst doing this. Hose the pool down with tap water before refilling and run for 1 hour, with the recommended disinfection levels, before using.

USER RULES

- **Wash off deodorants and creams before using the pool,** as these can interfere with the disinfection process
- **Go to the toilet before using the pool.**
- **Don't use the pool if you have diarrhoea, nausea or a weeping skin condition.**
- **Don't be in the pool for more than 15 minutes at a time**
- **Do not swallow the water**
- **Do not put your head under the water**
- **Do not allow children under 4 to use your spa pool because young children are highly vulnerable to infection**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION contact: The Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group www.pwtag.org, The Institute of Sport and Recreation management www.isrm.co.uk, The Swimming Pool and Allied Trades Association www.spata.co.uk and The Health Protection Agency www.hpa.org.uk.