

2026 Diving Board and Equipment Safety and Maintenance

Safe diving equipment, including the management, inspection, maintenance, and safe operation of diving boards and related equipment is the responsibility of individual pools and should be handled locally by the pool management company. NVSL publishes rules and general safety reminders, and may encourage team representatives, coaches, and referees to check equipment for safety, but responsibility for maintaining safe equipment and safe pool conditions rests with the organizations operating and maintaining each pool.

Safety and Maintenance Emphasis Items

Taking Care of Worn-out Board Surfaces: When boards are removed from storage, cleaned, and prepared for installation, the pool management company should inspect them carefully. If a board has a smooth or worn diving surface, or shows extensive surface cracking, crazing, or peeling, it should be taken out of service immediately. The pool should purchase a replacement board of the exact same model or arrange for the board to be returned to Duraflex for resurfacing, following the manufacturer's inspection criteria.

Cleaning Slippery Diving Boards: Preventing slippery board conditions is an ongoing local maintenance responsibility. The pool management company should ensure that diving board surfaces are regularly inspected for algae, mold, mildew, stains, and other conditions that reduce traction. Weather conditions such as heat, rain, and high humidity can quickly create unsafe surfaces. Frequent cleaning is therefore essential to maintain safe conditions for divers, pool members, and guests. Duraflex guidance should be followed for routine care, including daily rinsing with fresh water and periodic scrubbing with detergent or chlorine, hot water, and bristle brushes. Hard bristle brushes may be used if needed to remove buildup. Muriatic acid may be used for hard-to-remove algae or stains if handled appropriately. After cleaning, the board surface should be inspected again to confirm it still has adequate texture and is not worn out.

IMPORTANT: Do not use power washers to clean a board. Otherwise, board surfaces will be damaged necessitating replacement of the board.

Tightening Nuts/Bolts on Diving Boards during Installation: Proper installation is a local responsibility and should be verified by the pool management company before the board is placed into service. Coaches should also report any visible looseness or unusual board movement immediately. Bolts securing the board to the stand must be tightened to factory specifications using the installation procedures provided by Duraflex.

Many pools and pool management companies do not follow proper guidelines for tightening. Team reps should specifically inquire with pool board and/or management companies to ensure this has been done correctly.

Routine Maintenance: During the season, the board apparatus should be greased regularly to ensure the fulcrum can be adjusted smoothly. The hinges that hold the board to the stand need 2 drops of oil every two weeks. **Storage of Diving Boards:** Proper off-season storage should be managed by the pool management company as part of responsible equipment stewardship. Boards should be stored bottom-side up, supported at two points such as sawhorses or table surfaces, in a chemical-free environment or outdoors only if protected from rain, freezing rain, and snow.

Replacement

Diving boards require periodic upkeep and eventual replacement based on usage, storage conditions, and maintenance practices. Pool management companies should plan and budget for this lifecycle as part of their safety responsibilities. At pools with average dive team activity, board surfaces typically last 6 to 7 years. Very active dive team pools may see a surface lifetime of 3 to 4 years, while less active pools may see 7 to 10 years or more.

Other Things to Pay Attention to

- Metal contact between board and roller can damage diving equipment; replace shredded rubber runners to prevent damage to the dive stand.
- Creaking noises when the board is flexed by a heavy diver can indicate hard to visualize structural damage, i.e. cracks, requiring board replacement.
- Broken, ready-to-break, and missing bolts on dive stands must be replaced; use stainless steel nuts, bolts, and washers.
- Corroded channel at mounting end of the board might mean the board requires replacement. See pictures on the Duraflex website.
- When boards are replaced, the new board must be the same make and model as the old board to remain compliant with County Health Department codes. Go to the Duraflex website to compare with pictures of boards to identify correct make and model.

Other Helpful Information

If outside technical support is needed for dive stand maintenance, board installation, or stand installation, the pool management company or pool board should engage qualified service providers and request references to assess quality and customer satisfaction before selection. Manufacturer guidance and qualified service support should

supplement, not replace, the local responsibility to ensure equipment is safe and properly maintained.

Information validated May 26, 2026