

# POOL OWNERS MANUAL

Congratulations on the best family investment you could make. Your pool should be more fun and less work. Listed below are a few steps to make your summer more enjoyable.

## Opening Your Pool

- Clear pool cover from leaves or debris that might have collected over the winter
- Pump water off of the cover
- Clean cover while it's on the pool
- Remove pool cover and clean cover for storage
- Remove all plugs and replace with return jets
- Fill pool to the middle of the skimmer opening
- Place ladders, don't forget the rubber stoppers
- Diving boards and any other equipment removed for the winter
- Remove any debris with leaf net
- Check that the filtration system is working (Start system with filter handle in "waste" position)
- "Backwash" system to ensure it is clean
- Manually vacuum the pool (First time in the season on "waste" to get rid of debris)
- Add shock treatment (chlorine) -- this will remove matter that can not be removed through filtration
- Add algaecide -- helps to safe guard against algae growth
- Bring in sample of water to dealer to be tested
- Balance chemistry of water -- check chlorine level, pH level, alkalinity level, stabilizer level, and calcium level



## How to Operate the Filtration System

The valve control at the top of the filter has seven positions:

### **FILTER:**

The most commonly used, allows water to be cleaned and returns it back to the pool

### **BACKWASH:**

The procedure cleans the sand in the filter and flushes all the dirt and debris out through the waste port at the back of the valve

### **RINSE:**

After backwashing the rinse cycle is a must. This settles the sand down to its normal position and you are able to return the filter

### **CLOSED:**

This stops the flow of water through the filter head

**RECIRCULATE:**

This bypasses the sand, the water goes in the valve head and directly out the valve head

**WASTE:**

When the pool has a lot of dirt and debris at the bottom, turn the valve to waste when vacuuming. This bypasses the sand and directs the water out the waste port. It can also lower the water level in the pool if it is too full.

**WINTERIZING:**

This port may or may not be marked on your valve head. Place the handle between any two positions for the winter. This allows any water that may be trapped to drain through; this avoids freezing and cracking of the valve head.

**When to Backwash**

- Watch the pressure gauge on the side of the valve head
- When the pressure gauge is 6-8 pounds higher than the starting pressure, it is time to backwash.
- Example: starting pressure 12 pounds "Backwash" at 18-20 pounds.

**To Backwash**

- Make sure the hose is hooked up to the waste port on the filter
- Shut off pump and turn handle to "Backwash"
- Turn on pump and run for 2 minutes
- Shut pump off and turn to "Rinse"
- Turn on pump and run for 30/25 seconds
- Shut off pump, put valve in filter position and turn pump back on

**Starting the Pump**

- Place the 3 way valve in full skimmer position
- Turn the filter handle to "Waste"
- Turn the pump on and let it run in this position for approximately 2 minutes.

- If you are having problems, you may want to add a bucket of water to the front part of the pump (Strainer housing - this is called "priming the pump").
- Remember to check the pump basket at least once a week.
- Water levels should be at the middle of the skimmer.

Hand skimmers should be used to remove any floating debris in the pool.

Check all baskets at least once a week and before vacuuming

## **Daily & Weekly Chemistry**

- Maintain chlorine level between 2-4 PPM on test kit (depending on the chemical you use, we can tell you the proper amount for your daily use)
- Maintain pH level between 7.2-7.6 on test kit.
- Maintain alkalinity as close to ideal as possible. It is your most important chemical balance. This "governs" your chlorine and pH levels.
- Shock pool once a week under normal conditions and twice a week during extreme weather

## **Automatic Chlorine Feeder**

- This unit automatically dispensed chlorine to your pool.
- There is a dial to regulate the rate of chlorine entering the pool. Adjust the dial when needed.
- Only add slow dissolving tablets or sticks.
- Check once a week to make sure the chamber is full.
- Chlorinators can be added to any pool, new or old.
- CAUTION: Chlorine has a strong odor. Never mix with any other chemicals. DON'T ENHALE!

## **Manual**

Keep a file of all manuals in case of future problems concerning your pool.

## **Warranty Procedures**

Any questions on warranty items, consult your dealer & follow their recommendations.

## Bylaws

Consult your local town hall in regards to building codes, permits and fencing bylaws. They will have the most current information available. NOTE: each municipality may vary.

## Normal Operating Positions

- Filter handle on filter position
- 3 way valve 3/4 suction on skimmer port and 1/4 on drain port
- 3 way valve out of heater 3/4 on pool jet port and 1/4 on stair jet port (where applicable)
- The 3 way valve may also be used on the return side of the filter system to operate other accessories.

## Heaters

- Set thermostat at desired temp
- Follow manufacturer's instructions
- Water chemistry must be in balance at all times. The long term effects can be costly and are not covered under warranty (example: corroded heat exchanger).
- Solar blankets or solar fish help to maintain desired water temperature.
- Gas codes must be adhered to at all times.
- Turn switch off when not in use for long periods of time.
- For more information on how to operate your heater, see dealer and owners manual.

## Closing Your Pool

- Clean and inspect all parts of the pool.
- Remove any "bath tub ring" with vinyl liner cleaner.
- Apply closing chemicals and allow them to circulate for 24 hours.
- Clean and vacuum pool thoroughly and make sure no algae is present. Vacuum in the "Waste" or "Drain" position. This allows you to pump the pool down at the time.
- In grounds should be drained 4"-5" below the skimmer.
- Remove ladders, hoses, pumps and baskets. They should be stored indoors. The filter tank should be drained and the valve should be left in a mid position.
- Use a good quality pool cover. Protect it against any sharp edges. It should have a generous amount of slack.
- Ice damage caused by leaks, poor maintenance or improper assembly is NOT covered by you pool warranty.
- Any sharp blow to your pool can cause permanent damage. NEVER take all the water out of your pool -- the liner will shrink. If you take proper care in the fall, you can be sure of a smooth spring opening.