

Sealed Pool Inflatables

Airquee
Inflatables
www.airquee.com



Operating Instructions

Version 2 – January 2023
AQM005

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These are the main operating instructions for Sealed Pool Inflatables



This operation manual needs to be read and understood by the following groups of people before use of any sealed pool inflatable.

Owners/Controllers

Those who have overall control of the equipment and who are responsible for its inspection & maintenance.

Operators

Those persons aged over 18 appointed by the controller/owner to be in charge of the day-to-day operation of the equipment, when intended for public use.

Attendants

Those persons aged over 16 working under the directions of the owner/operator to assist in the operation of the equipment.

If you are in any doubt about anything mentioned in this manual or its suitability for your product or circumstances, please contact us using any of the methods given on our website, www.airquee.com/contact.

This manual is specifically written for sealed inflatables used in swimming pools. It does not provide advice for sealed products on land or open water for all operation manuals please visit www.airquee.com/manuals.



As owner/operator it is your responsibility to write and carry out your own risk assessment before attempting to use this product. This manual, together with any additional operating instructions specific to your product must be read before attempting to setup/use the product.

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IMPORTANT: YOU SHOULD READ THE CONTENTS OF THIS MANUAL THOROUGHLY BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO UNLOAD, MOVE, SITE INFLATE OR USE AN AIRQUEE PRODUCT.

Airquee reserves the right to change the content of this manual without the prior notice to the customer. All pictures and drawings are for illustration purposes only. Nothing in this manual is to be construed in any way as varying the terms of sale of the goods to which it applies. Reasonable care has been taken when preparing contents of this manual. However, Airquee accepts no responsibility for any error or omission or misuse. The most up to date manual can always be found at www.airquee.com/manuals.

References

In compiling this operation manual, the following standards, guides and information has been used. It is highly recommended that you also obtain a copy to ensure you comply with current legislation.

- BS EN ISO 25649 Floating leisure articles for use on and in the water.
- BS EN 14960 Inflatable play equipment – Safety requirements and test methods
- HSE – UK Health and Safety Executive
- PIPA – The Professional Inflatable Play Association
- CIMSPA – The Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity

1 INTRODUCTION

This manual contains Airquee official manufacturer's instructions and safety recommendations for owners and operators of Airquee sealed pool inflatable equipment. It is Airquee's goal to supply accurate and reliable information in this manual. If you discover any discrepancy in this document, please e-mail your comments to info@airquee.com.

These inflatables are safe and fun for all users if they are used in accordance with how they were intended to be used.

Some products may have additional instructions or recommendations. This will be notified to you in the email you receive about your product. It will also be mentioned on the product label. The various legal requirements and guidance notes/codes of practice mentioned in this manual apply to the UK only. You should also familiarise yourself with all relevant regulations and codes of practice/guidance notes under the laws of the country where the inflatable is used. If there is no local equivalent to the UK codes of practice/guidance notes, it is suggested that the UK ones should be consulted for useful advice. As the owner/operator, it is your responsibility to give instruction to all operators and users in the proper safe use of the inflatable. It is strongly recommended that you read this manual before attempting to set up, dismantle or operate the equipment to which it relates, even if you have used similar equipment before. Any misuse or failure to adhere to the instructions and recommendations contained in this manual will render void the warranty.

Airquee has been in the industry of designing and manufacturing inflatable products since 2003, we remain committed to the development of inflatables for the success of our customers in their leisure and commercial activities. This manual is provided for information purposes only.

2 INCLUDED WITH YOUR PRODUCT

The inflatable in its bag	Hand Held Fan**	Anchor Ropes*	Rubber Shock Absorbers*
			

- * The number and type of the supplied inclusions depends on your product
- ** Only included if ordered separately

In addition, you will need a suitable (230v or 110v) power supply to operate the fan.

3 ABOUT OUR PRODUCTS

3.1 Product Quality

Water based inflatables have been in use in swimming pools in the UK and other countries for many years. These inflatables have become so popular with customers that most leisure pools are now using them as attractions. Use of this type of inflatable unit should be programmed into regular sessions. Airquee customer research indicates that when these sessions are correctly marketed the inflatable should soon recover the initial investment.

Airquee produces a vast range of different land and water-based inflatables, they all have the following common traits:

- They are made of PVC coated reinforced flexible polyester or nylon fabric.
- When packed away the volume of space they take up is a fraction of their inflated size.
- An average inflatable can be set up in a matter of minutes and usually packed away within 15 minutes.

Sealed inflatables are just one of the many types of products that Airquee can offer for your needs and entertainment. These units don't require continuous inflation, so they can be used in places and conditions where inflatables with a constant inflation (thus a continuous supply of electricity) are not an option. **Despite the flexibility of positioning a sealed pool inflatable it must never be used on land or open water.**

These sealed products are manufactured through 2 different type of welding techniques: *hot air welding* and *high frequency (or radio frequency) welding* and are inflated/deflated with a handheld electric fan.

3.2 Quality of Design Manufacture

Airquee has invested heavily in the latest Computer Assisted Design and Manufacturing equipment (CAD/CAM). This has enabled Airquee to lead the field by developing the newest designs to capture the imagination of children. This industry leading facility also allow special inflatables to be rapidly made, so that our customers' own concepts are brought into reality. One of the benefits of this high level of computerisation is the accuracy of the fabric cutting. This in turn leads to the most consistent quality of product in the leisure inflatable industry. To maintain its quality at the highest levels, Airquee does not subcontract any of its production. Airquee inflatables are all made in our own factories from the highest quality fire retardant reinforced PVC coated fabric developed by our suppliers to meet our own specifications.

The useful working life of a swimming pool inflatable will vary depending on usage and exposure to the chemically aggressive environment in which the pool inflatables are used. The chemicals used in water treatment, other contaminants that may be present, solvents and proprietary cleaning agents, can all have a detrimental effect on the coated fabrics and their seams. They can also cause applied painted or screen-printed artwork to degrade.

3.3 Sealed Inflatables

Constructed from polyester weave thickly coated on both sides with PVC, it is a heavy-duty tensile material made with a gloss finish to resist dirt. It is nontoxic, certified fire retardant to BS 5438 and BS 5867 and has a nominal weight of 1125 gms/sq meter. The coated fabric is welded together by using hot air or high

frequency welding techniques, giving an airtight seam. The inflatable is fitted with an inflation/deflation valve and the fan used to inflate the product can also be used for quick deflation.



CAUTION: NEVER INFLATE AN AIRQUEE SEALED PRODUCT WITH ANYTHING ELSE OTHER THAN AIR!

For safety reasons, it is vital to use the correct fan specified for the inflatable. If the inflatable starts to show signs of loss of air pressure and starts to sag noticeably, play should be suspended immediately, and the cause of the pressure loss investigated before users are allowed back onto the inflatable or play is resumed. A common cause of pressure loss is physical damage to the inflatable. However, do check the valve is closed properly.

4 HAZARDS

4.1 Electrical Equipment

Electric equipment is inherently hazardous in a swimming pool or associated environment where moisture is present. The main hazard arises from the use of electrical appliances in wet areas. **THIS CANNOT BE OVER-EMPHASISED.** Therefore, stringent precautions must be taken to eliminate the risk of electric shock or burns.

The electric fan supplied for the inflatable should only be used with the electricity supply specified for that fan. Connecting the fan to a non-specified electricity supply is very dangerous and will render the warranty void. Each fan is fitted with a motor which operates at the nominal mains electricity voltage in the country in which it was supplied for. In the UK and Europe, it is 220-240 volts 50hz A/C. Where necessary, Airquee will supply fans to any other electrical specification too.

Fans should be supplied from an earthed socket with an RCD (residual current device) attached or fed from an earthed supply with a built in residual current breaker. The rated trip setting should not exceed 30mA (in accordance with BS 4294). Extension cables should be used inside the plant room only, never next to the pool or in the pool room and should be capable of carrying 13amps. The extension cable should **NEVER BE ROLLED UP** during use since it may overheat.

There are legal requirements covering the use and maintenance of portable and transportable electrical equipment, which includes a fan supplied by Airquee. The unit should be PAT tested (Portable Appliance Testing) by a qualified electrician based on the risk assessment prepared by the owner of the fan. Airquee can arrange for testing in the UK if required. Please remember it is best practice to inspect your fans **BEFORE** and **AFTER EVERY USE** for damage to the inlet and outlet guards and the electrical connections and power cables.

4.2 Outdoor Swimming Pools

Another hazard that closely relates to the electrical safety mentioned above is when the product is being used in outdoor conditions. If this is the case, particular care needs to be taken regarding anchoring, electrical safety and supervision.

In outdoor pools, there is a risk of strong winds or gusts, affecting the stability of the inflatable structure. This hazard associated with outdoor use of pool inflatables must be always assessed before starting a session.

Consideration needs to be given to weather conditions before the start of each outdoor session and to any changes in weather conditions, actual or predicted. In the event of, or imminent possibility or suggestion of, thunder and lightning, the session should be stopped immediately.

4.3 Manual Handling Operation

Because of their weight, large constant flow inflatables require an assessment under the for manual handling to prevent injuries to staff occurring during its transportation, set up, operation and break down.

Inflatables can be heavy, especially if wet. It is vital to have enough able-bodied trained helpers to carry out loading, unloading, setting up/assembly, and dismantling without individuals hurting themselves unintentionally. Airquee inflatable equipment is designed to be erected and dismantled quickly and safely if the recommendations in this manual are followed.

4.4 Cold Storage

The fabric from which the unit is made can be easily damaged if the unit is unrolled or inflated whilst in a very cold or frozen state. This may occur if the unit is subjected to low or freezing temperatures whilst in storage or transit. The coated fabric loses its flexible characteristics at 3 degrees celsius or below. In that very cold state, the fabric may crack during movement or inflation. Any resulting damage is not covered by Airquee's warranty. If the unit is found to be too cold for use, it must be left and allowed to warm up gradually and progressively until the fabric regains its normal flexible characteristics.

5 SETTING UP

The surface area where the inflatable is to be inflated should be non-abrasive and clear of any protrusions or objects that might damage the inflatable.

5.1 Safe Handling

Before attempting to unload, move, site, inflate or use Airquee inflatable equipment you should read the contents of this manual and any additional operating instructions thoroughly. Free advice is also available by telephone from the company's after sales support team on +44 (0)1179 414 918 who will be happy to answer any technical or health and safety questions you may have.

It is vital to have enough trained helpers to carry out loading, unloading, setting up/assembly and dismantling to prevent individuals hurting themselves unintentionally. You have a legal duty to assess and eliminate or reduce the risk of injury to employees which can result from manual handling operations. This applies to all operations involving transporting, loading, unloading, setting up, dismantling, packing or moving inflatables.

Inflatables can be very heavy, especially if allowed to become wet and require some care in their handling to avoid injuries. The first requirement for safe handling is that the inflatable is folded and rolled properly after use. A good, hard roll, flat at both ends, is so much more easily handled than a poorly rolled and floppy inflatable. It can be handled and moved on a 2- wheeled sack barrow and easily bowled over onto a truck or trailer.

Do not try to lift a complete inflatable. Lift only one end at a time. When the rolled inflatable is lying down, take up a squat position, lean a shoulder into the end and push with the legs. Your leg muscles are the strongest you have and will lift the inflatable onto its end. It can then be easily moved using the sack truck. When loading the inflatable onto a truck or trailer, stand it up on its end close to the truck or trailer, lean the top onto the edge of the platform and then lift the bottom end and bowl it over.

5.2 Inflation/Deflation

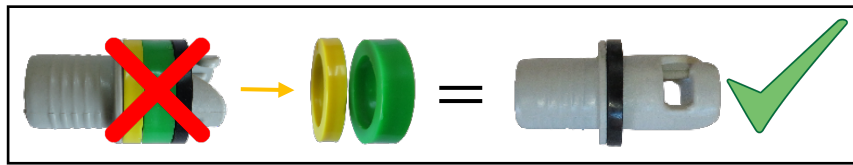


PLEASE READ THE USER MANUAL OF THE FAN AND PART 4.1 "HAZARDS RELATING TO ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT" OF THIS MANUAL BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO USE THE FAN!

All sealed inflatables use a handheld fan. For safety reasons it is vital to **USE THE FAN INCLUDED WITH YOUR PRODUCT** (or one with similar specifications) when inflating your product. Since not all pool

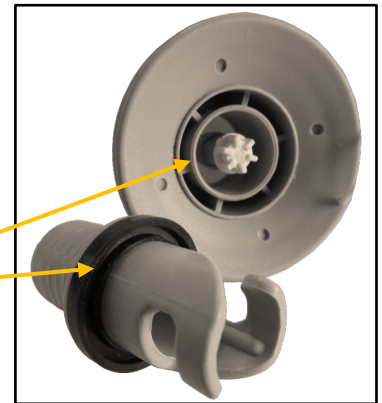
inflatables have an overpressure valve, a fan with a higher pressure capacity than the one supplied by Airquee can damage your inflatable.

The hand fan comes with an extra adaptor. This adaptor has 2 extra plastic pieces (green and yellow) they may need to be removed, depending on the exact valve type. They are there to provide a tight fit but if the connector doesn't fit into the valve fully one or both will need to be removed.

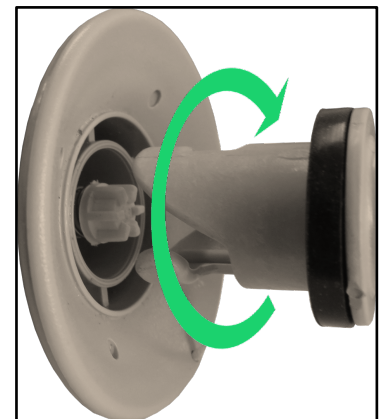


The **recess of the black rubber must face outwards**. This way it surrounds the edge of the valve and creates an airtight connection.

THE RECESS OF THE BLACK RUBBER WASHER SURROUNDS THE EDGE OF THE VALVE

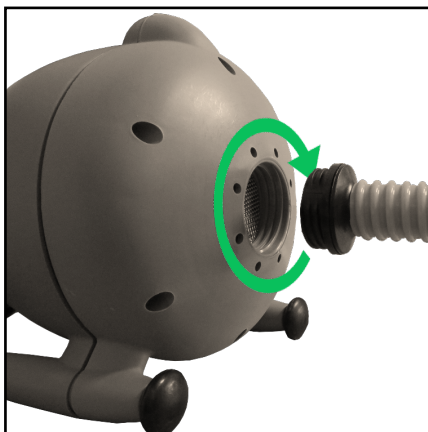


When connecting the adaptor to the valve you must insert and **twist**.

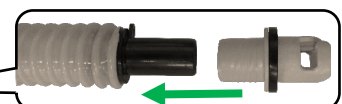


The supplied fan is **1000 watt** and capable of delivering **1700 litres** of air per minute.

It is extremely important not to use a fan that can deliver air faster than this or with more power. When the inflatable reaches its maximum pressure the over pressure valve will open and start to release air. The fan specification ensures the air going in does not exceed the air leaving through the over pressure valve. While the operator should never allow this situation, it is a safety mechanism to prevent over inflation.



ON/OFF BUTTON



Inflation Process:

1. Remove the red cap on the overpressure valve
2. Locate the valve and remove the cap.
3. Connect the pipe to the fan using the hole marked with "OUT".
4. Connect the adaptor to the valve.
5. Switch ON the fan and begin inflation
6. Once the inflatable has taken shape, but is not yet too firm, turn off the fan and remove.
7. Turn on the manometer and push it firmly into the valve, take note of the reading.



Operating Pressure should be 30 – 50 millibar (0.45 – 0.75 PSI)

8. Based on the reading, switch back to the fan and continue inflation if needed.
9. If the reading is more than 50 millibar (0.75 PSI) remove the manometer and press the centre of the valve to release some air.

Maximum achievable pressure using the supplied fan should not be more than 60 millibar (0.9 PSI). At this point the over pressure valve will open.



IMPORTANT: DO NOT LEAVE THE PRODUCT UNATTENDED WHILE INFLATING/DEFLATING AND DO NOT TRY TO OVERINFLATE THE PRODUCT.

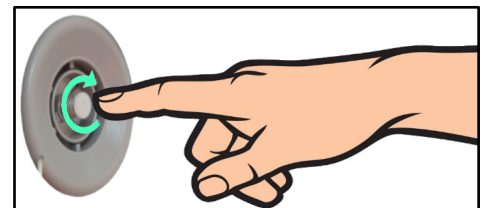
Deflation Process:

1. Locate the valve and remove the cap.
2. Connect the adaptor to the valve.
3. Connect the pipe to the hole marked "IN".
4. Switch on the fan and deflation will begin.
5. Once all the air has been withdrawn from the inflatable disconnect the fan.
6. Do not leave the fan running when all air has been withdrawn as this will overheat the fan.



Manual Deflation:

1. Locate the valve and remove the cap.
2. Locate and depress the centre stem of the inflation/ deflation valve turning it 90 degrees to lock into the depressed position.
3. Leave the inflatable for 5 - 10 minutes to allow the air to escape.



5.3 Overpressure Valve

An overpressure valve is designed to open and relieve excess pressure from the equipment and to reclose and prevent the further release of air after normal conditions have been restored. An overpressure valve is a safety device, not a process valve or pressure regulator, and should not be misused as such. It should be used for overpressure only, and it cannot be used to inflate the unit.



The lid of the overpressure valve should be opened during inflation process and can be closed once this process is complete, since it has a small hole on the top to let minor air adjustments escape.

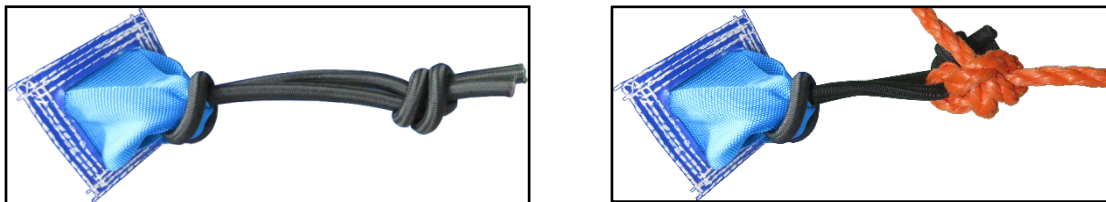


If there are large changes of pressure for any reason, a lot of air will be expelled through the over pressure valve. Once the cause of the over pressure, most likely temperature or external pressure, is removed the inflatable will become soft and will need to be tested and adjusted as required.

5.4 Positioning and Anchoring

Every Airquee pool inflatable is equipped with webbing anchor points. To minimize the hazards related to inadequately secured inflatables, the inflatable should be anchored prior to starting the play session.

The rubber shock absorbers must be looped through each of the webbing anchors and the anchor ropes are to be attached to the shock absorbers.



5.4.1 Cutting the Ropes

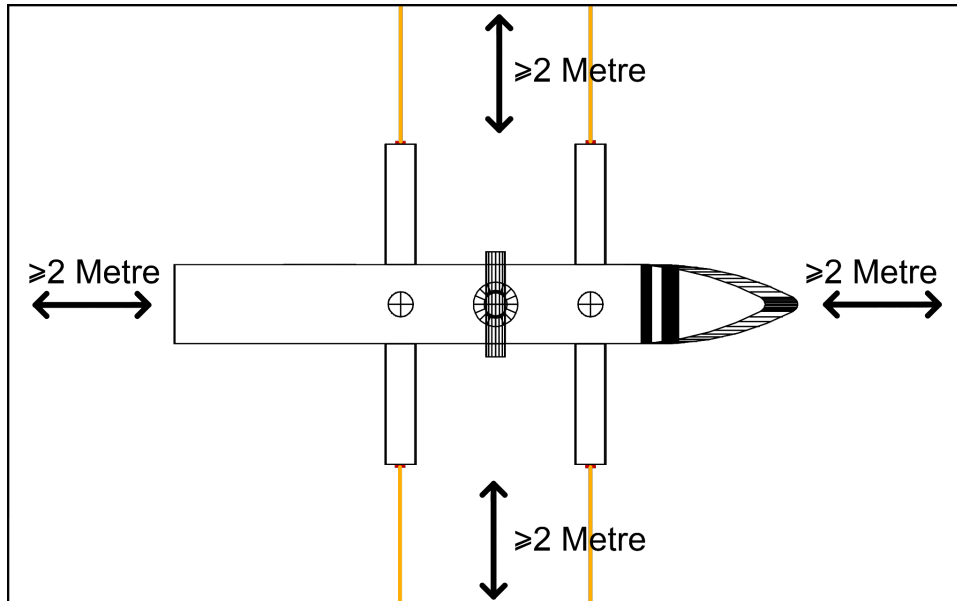
Whilst being set up for the first time it is advisable to have a member of staff in the pool to ensure that the lengths of rope used to secure the anchor points to the sides of the pool are cut to the correct length. It is not advisable to pre-cut the length of ropes as each site is different and we supply a 25m length polypropylene rope. You will need sharp scissors and a lighter when cutting the rope lengths as they will need to be burned at the ends to prevent fraying.

Once the unit has been inflated and checked, it can be floated into the correct position in the pool. The unit can be positioned in the pool using the anchor ropes.

Anchorage points at the side of the pool is preferred. The ropes should be left slack and lying along the surface of the water. If a slide is present at the end of the inflatable, the anchor lines should be at an angle of at least 30° to the line of the inflatable.

5.4.2 Clearance Zone

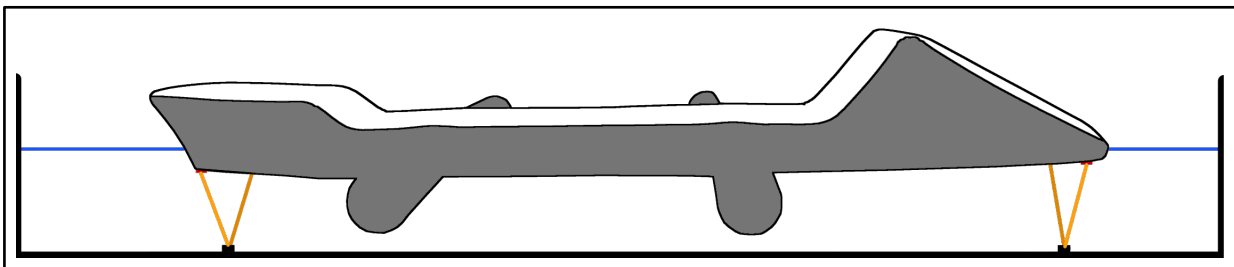
The inflatable should be positioned with a clearance zone of at least 2 metres from all sides/edges of the pool.



Clearance zone means **NOTHING TO BE IN THE WATER**: no lane separating ropes/safety plastic floaters, no swimmers or spectators in the water around the inflatable.

5.4.3 Bottom Anchoring Method

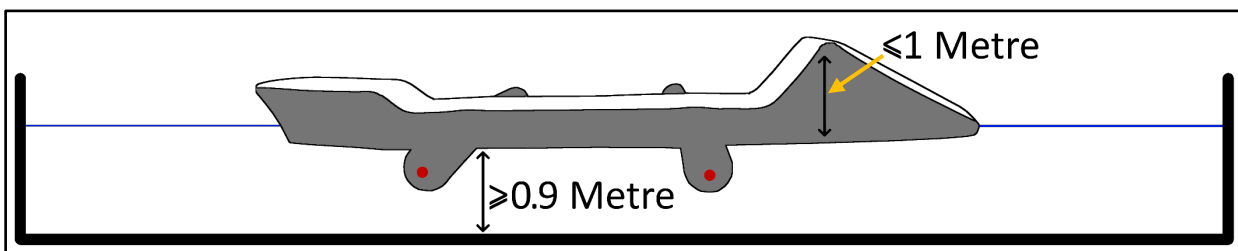
If your pool is equipped with bottom anchoring points, you can anchor your inflatable to it.



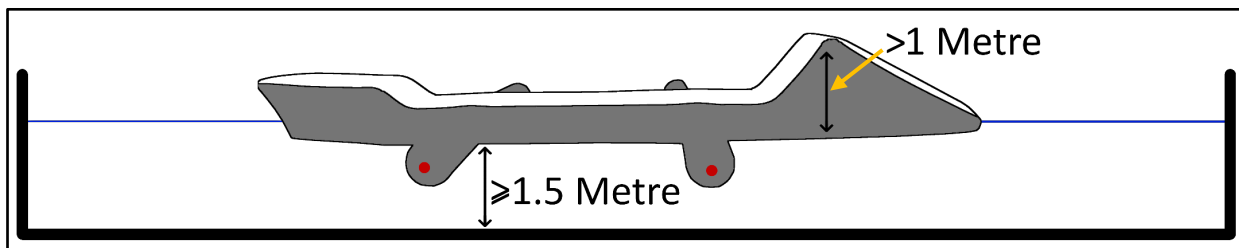
5.4.4 Water Depth

The definition of a platform: any surface on the inflatable on which a user may stand.

If the height of any platform on the unit is 1m or less, the minimum pool depth is 0.9m or more.



If the height of any platform on the inflatable is more than 1m, the minimum pool depth is 1.5m or more.

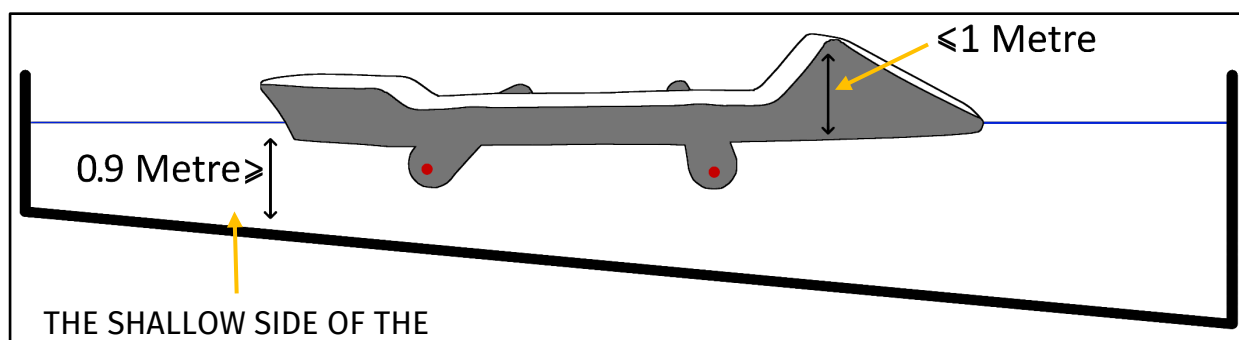


5.4.5 Pools with Variable Depth

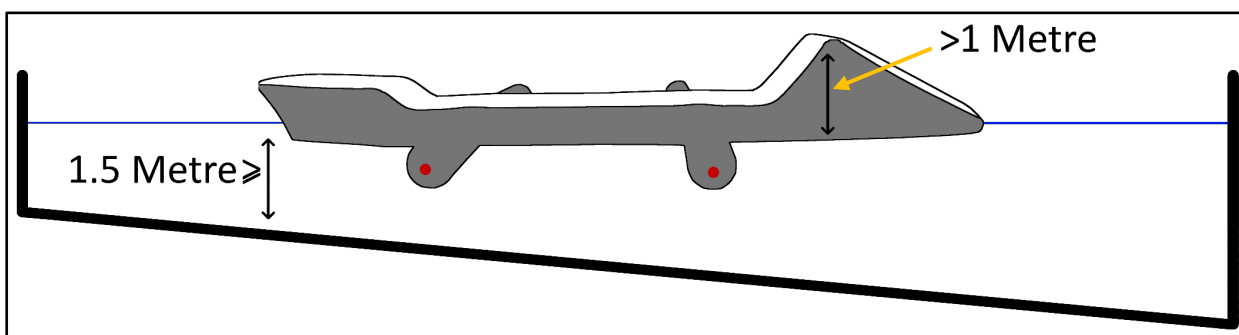
Sealed inflatables should be used in pools with consistent depth on all sides. The varying depths around the inflatable may cause users to dive off into shallow water or they could find themselves in water deeper than they are comfortable in and thus in difficulties.

With variable depth pools the depth requirements are similar:

If the height of any platform on the unit is 1m or less, the minimum pool depth is 0.9m or more.



If the height of any platform on the inflatable is more than 1m, the minimum pool depth is 1.5m or more.



Under no circumstances should any users be allowed to climb on the inflatable whilst it is not anchored correctly.

You must use every anchorage point on the inflatable, because their number and positioning has been calculated for each individual inflatable.

At the end of the session, staff must ensure that all users are safely off the inflatable before releasing the anchor ropes and getting the inflatable out of water.

6 OPERATING GUIDELINES (operators/attendants)

These guidelines enumerate some of the hazards that may arise when using an Airquee pool inflatable, but it will be up to the individual pool operator to assess these hazards and risks in light of their own circumstances. Since the risks are site specific, the list below does not exhaust all the possible risk factors and we would like to remind you, it is your legal duty to prepare a detailed risk assessment and to train your employees according to that risk assessment, before allowing the members of the public to use the inflatable.

- Inflatables are not suitable for non-swimmers and weak swimmers.
- The attendant(s)/operator must be able to ensure that rules of play are being observed and adhered to at all times.
- **THE POOL INFLATABLE MUST NOT BE USED IN OPEN WATERS OR ANYTHING ELSE OTHER THAN WATER.**
- Players should not approach the inflatable until given permission to do so.
- For players not to collide while sliding, the run-out, and an area of 2m surrounding the run-out should be clear before sliding.
- The slide will not function correctly under excessive loads.
- Boisterous, careless or reckless behaviour or rough play which might put themselves or others at risk is to be stopped (e.g. recklessly colliding with other players, pushing others off the inflatable or lifting the inflatable in an attempt to dislodge others, interference with anchor ropes, air pipes or fans, or repeated disregard of operator's directions etc.)
- If the unit starts to show signs of loss of air pressure e.g. if it starts to sag noticeably, play should be suspended immediately and the cause of the pressure loss investigated before players are allowed back onto the unit and play is resumed. Common causes of pressure loss include someone opened the deflation valve or physical damage to the inflatable itself.
- Ensure that the unit does not become overcrowded.
- The 2m clearance zone refers to nearby swimmers as well. Do not allow anyone to swim next (or under) the inflatable while being used.
- Players who have failed to complete an obstacle course should not be allowed to climb back onto the inflatable. If anyone falls off then they must move away safely and go to the back of the queue at the beginning.
- Ensure that players using the inflatable at the same time are all of a similar age group, size and ability, especially players competing against each other on dual lane obstacle courses.
- Under no circumstances should the players be allowed to climb on the structure whilst it is out of the water or not correctly anchored.
- Do not leave the inflatable without supervision whilst inflated in the pool.
- Always use the supplied fan or one with similar specifications approved by the manufacturer.
- Water the top surfaces of the inflatable before granting players access on it.

Ideally the attendant(s) should be equipped with a whistle to attract the attention of a particular player or group of players. In the case of water obstacle courses (aquaruns) the system of work should ensure that the players are admitted to the inflatable in a controlled and safe manner.

7 RULES OF PLAY

Owners, operators and swimming pool managers should display their rules of play in a manner which can be seen and read by all players before they are allowed onto the inflatable, e.g. a prominent sign-board or poster. The signage is also a useful reminder for staff. For detailed information regarding the safety signs please consult the relevant national standard/guidance/legislation in your country of use.

Considerations include:

- Running or jumping on the inflatable from the poolside **IS FORBIDDEN**.
- Only one person should go down the slide at any one time per lane.
- The slide is designed for players to go down **FEET FIRST** only whilst in a seated position.

- Players should only slide when the landing area is clear.
 - Diving off from the top of the slide into the pool is dangerous and thus forbidden.
 - Players should not weigh more than about 11 stone or 80kg. – This is a recommendation and your own risk assessments may suggest a larger or smaller number. Heavier users will depress the bed more and cause obstacles and walls to bend easier. This will not damage the inflatable but will make it less stable.
 - Do not swim underneath the inflatable.
 - When in water, try to distance yourself from the inflatable by swimming away from it as quick as you can. Do not try to reach, grab, impede or pull players that are still on the inflatable.
-

8 CHECKLIST

The inflatable and its accessories must be checked before each session to ensure that:

- The fan, all the used electric plugs, sockets and switches are not damaged in any way and the electric fan is connected to an earthed main supply via an RCD.
- There are no holes or rips in the surface or welding lines of the product.
- When fully inflated, the structure is sufficiently firm and within the stated tolerances of pressure
- All anchor points are intact and not damaged.
- The inflatable is clean. No mildew, bacteria or any other contamination can be seen on its surface.
- Anchor ropes and their poolside mooring locations remain sound for continued use.
- After inflation the lid of the inflation valve and over pressure valve is attached and is not hanging freely.

This checklist is not exhaustive and should be added to as necessary to suit the requirements of the individual owner or operator of the inflatable, or the swimming pool manager.

An annual safety inspection is necessary, at intervals of no longer than 12 months. Airquee can carry this out at its repair/testing facility or on site. A certificate will be issued confirming the result of the safety inspection and test. If repair or replacement should be deemed necessary, you will be advised accordingly.

9 PACKING

At the end of the session, all players **MUST** have exited the pool prior to the removal of the inflatable. **DO NOT DEFLATE THE INFLATABLE WHILE IT IS IN THE POOL**, as the water may enter in its interior chambers, increasing its weight thus making it harder to take it out of the pool, and making the cleaning, drying process much more difficult.

At the end of the session, staff must ensure that all players are safely off the inflatable and out of the pool. If applicable, the anchor ropes should be untied. The inflatable can then be carefully taken out of the water and carried (not dragged) to the area where it was originally unpacked. It should be rinsed off with clean, untreated, fresh water to remove the chlorine water and then allowed to dry on the poolside before deflation and packing away. Towel drying is advised. Adequate supervision should be provided to ensure members of the public do not climb on the inflatable when out of the water.

Packing is the reverse of unpacking. It is strongly recommended that the inflatable is only packed when it is completely dry. To help prevent damage, if an inflatable has had to be packed when still damp, it should be unrolled again at the first opportunity and allowed to dry out thoroughly before packing it up. To help to keep the inflatable in good condition, it should never be stored for any length of time unless it is completely dry.

The best shape for the packed inflatable is obtained by rolling the inflatable from one end to the other, depending on the width of the inflatable it may be necessary to fold the inflatable in half so that when rolled it is not too wide.

- After deflation, fold the inflatable to the desired width.
- Starting from the end of the inflatable furthest away from the inflation/deflation valve, using your feet (without shoes) walking in a shuffling motion push the air towards the inflation/deflation valve until all the air has been expelled.
- Start rolling from the opposite end of the inflation/deflation valve, keeping it as tight as possible.
- Once you have reached the end, wrap a rope around the rolled inflatable and tie off so preventing the unrolling of the roll.
- Place it into the protective bag and store away.

If the rolled unit is a bit loose or floppy unroll and do it again. When the unit is properly rolled up, tie it with the rope or strap provided.

The inflatable when packed can be rolled or tumbled onto a trolley. Particularly with big inflatables, never try to lift them. Use a sack truck, a sack barrow or trolley.

Never allow any member of staff to take avoidable personal risks or take risks yourself in the course of moving or lifting the inflatable. Make sure that you have enough trained help available when handling an inflatable.

10 STORAGE

The equipment must be stored away clean and dry particularly if it is to be stored for any length of time. Failure to do this will cause mildew to form. This will stain and damage the fabric and may cause unpleasant smells or will raise health concerns at the next play session. We advise a cool, dry environment for storage and poolside should be avoided, especially for long periods.

Store the pallet somewhere safe as this will be needed to ship the unit back to Airquee for its annual safety inspection and also if and when any repairs are needed as our third-party shippers will not collect without it being securely wrapped and on a pallet.

11 STAFFING AND SUPERVISION

A suitable number of trained and qualified staff should be on duty to safely supervise the session.

The number of attendants needed to supervise a pool inflatable session depends on the circumstances and is a matter of judgement for the owner or operator. The owner or operator is responsible for determining the minimum number of staff needed to operate and supervise the inflatable and ensure safety at all times.

12 SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

The public must be prevented at all times from having access to fans, electricity supply cables and outlets, generators or motorised fans and their fuel, exhausts, air inlet and outlet pipes, safety equipment, anchor ropes.

If for any reason the electrical supply fails or if the fan needs to be turned off, use of the inflatable **MUST BE STOPPED IMMEDIATELY**, and it should be cleared of players.

In a well-managed swimming pool, all steps will have been taken to prevent the possibility of accidents. However, in the unfortunate event of an accident happening, the staff should follow established

procedures and take appropriate action promptly and prepare a full report after the situation has been brought under control.

Airquee recognises that the outcome of any in water emergency depends on a previously prepared suitable risk assessment. Professional water rescue and first aid training is advised for all the attendants, lifeguards and operators.

13 INSURANCE (Public Liability and Employer's Liability)

Although accidents leading to injury are rare, it is strongly recommended by Airquee that every operator of play equipment should have all necessary insurances against the risk of claims from any incidents associated with operation of the play equipment, or incidents which may occur.

In the UK it is mandatory for every employer to take out employer's liability insurance cover against claims by employees for accidents connected with work. Other countries may have different legal requirements regarding insurance. It is recommended you obtain advice from your local insurance broker.

14 TRAINING

The owner or operator of the inflatable, or the swimming pool manager, is also responsible for ensuring that each attendant receives adequate training in all aspects of the safe setting up, daily checks, dismantling, packing, cleaning, maintenance, supervision and operation of the inflatable.

This should include knowledge of applicable guidance notes or codes of practice.

The Codes of Practice should be considered in assessing and fulfilling the requirement for adequate supervision at all times. Normal pool supervision duties must not be neglected, and it may not be appropriate for the same members of staff to attempt to do both sets of duties simultaneously. The number of staff required will depend on the size of the inflatable unit and the age range, responsible behaviour and swimming abilities of the players.

Given the restricted visibility under the inflatable, staff must be alert to the possibility of a player experiencing difficulties in an obscured part of the pool, either underneath the structure or on the pool bottom. They must ensure that all potential blind spots and sides of the inflatable are covered. If necessary, an attendant should also be in the pool itself. The use of purpose-built underwater surveillance equipment should be considered.

The attendants must also keep players clear of the unit, except during sessions when it is declared open for use.

15 CLEANING/HYGIENE

IMPORTANT: IF YOUR INFLATABLE HAS ARTWORK IT MUST BE COMPLETELY DRY BEFORE PACKING IT AWAY. DAMAGE CAUSED TO ARTWORK DUE TO NON-DRYING WILL NOT BE COVERED UNDER THE AIRQUEE WARRANTY.

It is vital that children's play equipment be cleaned thoroughly at regular intervals and that the highest standards of hygiene are maintained. Good hygiene is of course a vital requirement of every pool. You should clean the PVC surface as necessary with a non-corrosive antibacterial cleaning solution, or as a temporary measure, a suitable non-abrasive cleaner.

Pseudomonas aeruginosa is a bacterium commonly associated with bad swimming pool hygiene practices. Using a proper antibacterial solution when cleaning your inflatable, the risk of any infections can be considerably reduced. Inflatables which have been stored wet/damp provide an ideal environment

for pseudomonas to grow to levels which then infect the skin follicles of children who subsequently use them, particularly if there is a water slide element to the inflatable.

Airquee can supply an inflatable cleaning solution on request. Using some household cleaners can remove applied artwork, damage the PVC or rot the stitching. Before using unfamiliar cleaners always apply first on a small test area of fabric and/or artwork preferably one, which will not be noticeable during normal use.

Care should be taken when cleaning applied artwork (especially when wet) as the paint may be damaged if rubbed hard or if chemically aggressive cleaning agents are used on painted areas.

You should take account of the requirements of the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) (or similar regulations in your country of use) when selecting cleaning agents, for foreseeable risks to players and employees.

16 12-MONTH WARRANTY - what it covers

Airquee has the option either to repair the unit or replace it with a new unit free of charge, or refund the price paid for it. The owner must return it to Airquee for inspection and the choice of repair, replacement or refund is entirely at Airquee's discretion.

Wear and tear or damage resulting from neglect, abuse, or failure to comply with Airquee's instructions, modifications or unapproved repairs will void the warranty. For the full details of the warranty refer to the Airquee Standard Conditions of Sale and Warranty, a copy of which is available on request or by visiting www.airquee.com/terms

17 DISPOSAL

Airquee recommends that inflatables should be replaced after the third season, even though they may still be useable.

The end of its useful working life can occur in as little as 18 – 24 months. Land based inflatables such as bouncy castles generally have a significantly longer useful working life than swimming pool inflatables, although both types of inflatable are made from similar materials using similar manufacturing methods and design details. The economic life of all inflatables depends on the degree of volume and frequency of actual usage.

It is also evident that some swimming pools cause faster deterioration of inflatable product than others. However, there are examples of pool inflatables, which have lasted for several years. One possible explanation is that this is due to the differences in water treatment regimes and general attitudes towards looking after equipment which can vary from one swimming pool to another.

When it eventually becomes due for disposal, in no event should the unit be disposed of by burning it, as the PVC coated fabric will give off toxic smoke and gases during combustion. In many countries including the UK this contravenes environmental protection legislation, including waste disposal regulations and burning the unit will be an offence. The proper authority or official agency responsible for regulating waste disposal should be contacted for advice regarding the best means of disposal in your area. Some agencies will provide a list of licensed contractors.

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