City of Phoenix
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Pool Barrier Materials
Citywide Interpretation

Issue Date	March 10, 2014
Code/Section	IBC 3109 & IRC Appendix G- Suitable Materials for Pool Barriers
Approved:	TRT 3/10/14
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Issue:
In the past mesh fencing, has not been accepted on the grounds of dubious durability and strength. Mesh fencing is sometimes advertised as being removable and reconfigurable.

Interpretation:
Pool barriers have been constructed of wrought iron (tubular steel welded into panels) because of its strength, durability, and permanent placement of its support posts and connections. New materials have been developed that have the requisite strength, modern chemical compositions and the durability to be used as an alternate to wrought iron.

Mesh fences composed of HDPE (High Density Polyethylene) stretched across tubular steel posts are now available. The HDPE mesh has been shown by testing to be of sufficiently high tensile strength to be used as a barrier and has a high degree of resistance to deterioration by sunlight.

Mesh fences may be used as a pool barrier, if they meet all requirements of:

- 2018 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code amended
- ASTM F2286 Standard Design and Performance Specifications for Removable Mesh Fencing for Swimming Pools, Hot Tubs and Spas.
    - Minimum barrier height is 60 in.
    - Positive attachment of all parts, are made with hardware that is appropriate to the performance test requirements and requires a tool to remove.
    - Maximum 1” clearance to deck or grade.
    - Vertical posts need to be tubular steel or equal or part of the listed assembly with spacing of no more than 40 inches apart.

Mesh safety barrier must be labeled “Meets ASTM Standard F2286” and located on the first pole of panel adjacent to either side of the gate.

For more information or for a copy of this publication in an alternate format, contact Planning & Development at (602) 262-7811 voice / (602) 534-5500 TTY.

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