



Recreational Consulting & Services

Executive Review and Statement of Findings for AquaClimb Poolside Climbing Walls

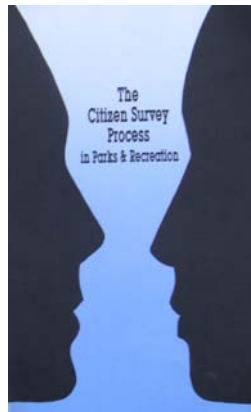
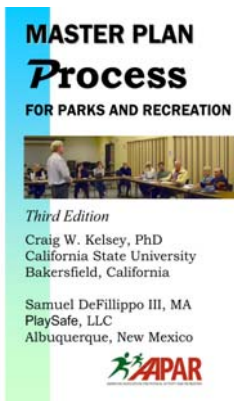
It is always in the best interest of all parties to create and use the safest recreational activity equipment and facilities. Injuries are not conducive to positive fun or learning. AquaClimb stated and provided documents to demonstrate that it uses current safety design industry practices (both aquatic and climbing) in regard to the Poolside Climbing Wall. PlaySafe, LLC reviewed the supplied documents and researched supplementary available pertinent safety documents/guidelines (including those that do not precisely “fit” the Poolside Climbing Wall design, construction, and use).

After a detailed review of the above mentioned documents and contact with agencies it was found by PlaySafe, LLC that all of the above documents/agencies do not include the Poolside Climbing Walls within their scope.

It is PlaySafe, LLC viewpoint that AquaClimb has with an aggressive, pro-active approach in mind, when developing the Poolside Climbing Wall demonstrated a commitment to safety and meeting any (even if they do not precisely “fit”) pertinent safety requirements and guidelines.

Sincerely,
Sam DeFillippo

Sam “Butch” DeFillippo, MA, CPRP, NPSI Playground Inspector
Managing Partner



Examples of the books written by PlaySafe, LLC staff on issues such as Master Plans, Economic Impact Studies, Feasibility Study Process, & Citizen Surveys for the National Recreation & Parks Association, the American Association of Leisure & Recreation, & the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance

Review of AquaClimb Poolside Climbing Walls

It is always in the best interest of all parties to create and use the safest recreational activity equipment and facilities. Injuries are not conducive to positive fun or learning. AquaClimb has expressed a commitment to developing pool climbing equipment in accordance with pertinent safety requirements and guidelines. PlaySafe, LLC reviewed and evaluated a large amount of available pertinent safety documents and guidelines, including those that do not precisely “fit” the Poolside Climbing Wall. AquaClimb stated and provided documents to demonstrate that it uses current safety design industry practices (both aquatic and climbing) in regard to the Poolside Climbing Wall. PlaySafe, LLC was asked to review the AquaClimb Poolside Climbing Walls to safety requirements and guidelines that could be relevant to its design, construction, and use.

The following resources were reviewed and/or agencies contacted:

American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) F1487-07ae1 Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Playground Equipment for Public Use, ASTM F1159-03a Standard Practice for Design and Manufacture of Patron Directed Artificial Climbing Walls, Dry Slide, Coin Operated and Purposeful Water Immersion Amusement Rides and Devices and Air-Supported Structures, ASTM F 1772-99 Standard Specification for Climbing Harnesses, ASTM F1773-97 Standard Terminology Relating to Climbing and Mountaineering Equipment and Practices, ASTM F 1774-99 Standard Specifications of Climbing and Mountaineering Carabineers, ASTM F 1775-97 Standard Specification for Labeling Climbing and Mountaineering Equipment, United States Consumer Product Safety Commissions (CPSC) “Handbook for Public Playground Safety” Publication Number 325, The state of New Jersey Division of Codes and Standards Carnival-Amusement Rides, Standards for the construction and operation of rock walls, N.J.A.C 5:14A-14, National Standards Boy Scouts of America Climbing/Rappelling 2007, Climbing Wall Guide: Building and Operating Indoor Climbing Walls prepared by Lehigh University, European Standard (EN 12572 April 2007) artificial climbing structures, American National Standards Institute (ANSI), The Association for Challenge Course (ACCT) standards, The Association of Pool & Spa Professionals standards, Indoor Climbing Walls and Adventure Courses Standards, Guidelines, and Recommendations for Design, Construction, and Maintenance by VISBIT Mutiline Intermunicipal School Program

After a detailed review of the above mentioned documents and contact with agencies it was found by PlaySafe, LLC that all of the above documents/agencies do not include the Poolside Climbing Walls within their scope. But, as stated earlier in this document: AquaClimb has expressed a commitment to developing pool climbing equipment in accordance with pertinent safety requirements and guidelines. PlaySafe, LLC evaluated all available pertinent safety documents and guidelines, including those that do not precisely “fit” the Poolside Climbing Wall. It is PlaySafe, LLC

The subsequent information was also reviewed:

Pyramide USA Inc. design, construction, and use documents, web site, and electronic information, AquaClimb provided documents that are downloadable on www.aquaclimb.com. The documents included:

AquaClimb Safety White Paper written by Aquatic Safety Research Group
AquaClimb Design Specifications – Pyramide USA Inc
AquaClimb Safety Guide – Pyramide USA Inc

When made available (they currently are not) the following documents should be reviewed and recommendations considered for the Poolside Climbing Wall. Any appropriate changes should be incorporated into the design of the Poolside Climbing Wall.

ASTM WK 498 New Practices/Guide for Aquatic Play Equipment for Public Use, ASTM WK 1074 New Standard Practices for Manufacture, Construction, Operations, Maintenance, and Water Quality of Interactive Aquatic Play Equipment, The Climbing Wall Association, Inc. (CWA) standards. (AquaClimb is a member).

As we discussed PlaySafe, LLC is not a manufacturer and you may wish to read the whole document of a point we have addressed to better understand the issue. Areas of special interest have been noted. I would again inform you that PlaySafe, LLC is not and has not been an authorized testing facility for the ASTM, CPSC, or IPEMA. PlaySafe, LLC is not an engineering firm and is not able to review sections such as structural integrity. This document is meant to assist your company and provide some guidance and understanding of the requirements as well as our opinions. It is our understanding that your company must contact ASTM, CPSC, and IPEMA to begin the compliance procedure (when and if they are made available).

Sam DeFillippo, Managing Partner, and DR. Nancy White, Planning Team, of PlaySafe, LLC conducted this review:

Samuel “Butch” DeFillippo, III

EDUCATION:

- 1996 Masters Degree in Recreation Administration, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 1988 Bachelor of Arts in Recreation, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

EMPLOYMENT:

Managing Partner: PlaySafe, LLC Recreational Consulting & Services (1997- Present)
PlaySafe, LLC is a national company that works with States, Counties, Municipalities, Private Industries, and School Districts to create the safest and most enjoyable play environment for children of all ages.

Additionally, I worked for government agencies for more than 16 years in the following positions.

Director Park and Recreation, Resource Management Superintendent, Facility Maintenance Supervisor, Special Projects Coordinator Keep Rio Rancho Beautiful Coordinator, Recreation Supervisor, Sports Facility Manager, Athletic Programmer, Aquatics Coordinator, Activities Leader, and Lifeguard

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Workshops, State and National Conference (Ongoing)
- NRPA Accessibility Guidelines for Play Area (2007)
- Attended and passed the training program for the utilization of the TRIAX 2000 Surface Impact Tester in compliance with the ASTM 1292 (2000)
- Playground Safety 1999: An International Conference (1999)
- National Program for Playground Safety Workshop (1998)
- NRPA Congress Seminars (1998 – Present)

- Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and Municipal Open Space Acquisition (1997)
- Covey Eleven Lessons in Self Leadership (1996)
- Deming Institute Total Quality Management (1996)
- Disney Style - Management and Service Workshop (1996)
- Franklin Quest Time Management Course (1995)
- NRPA Certified National Playground Safety Inspector (1994 - Present)
- NRPA Aquatics Facility Operator (AFO) Certification (1994 - 1997)
- NRPA Park Planning and Maintenance and Risk Management School (1994 - 1997)
- CRPA Recreation Facilities Design and Management School (1993)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): Introduction to Emergency Management, Basic Skills 1 & 2, Liability Issues, Decision Making and Problem Solving, Creative Finance, and Public Policy (1992 - 1998)
- NRPA National Executive Development School - Graduate (1992-1995)
- Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP) (1988 - Present)
- Certified Pool Operator (CPO) Certification (1988 - 1998)
- Stranco Public Pool Operator Certification (1986)
- ACEP Coach, Level 1 (1985)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AWARDS, VOLUNTEER AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 2007 Presented at California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS) & Pacific Southwest Recreation & Park Training Conference
- 2007 American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Member
- 2006 Presented at CPRS Administrators Institute
- 2006 Presented at Arizona Parks and Recreation Association Workshop (APRA)
- 2006 Presented at Wyoming Groundskeepers & Growers Association
- 2005 Presented at New Mexico Parks and Recreation Association (NMRPA) Conference
- 2005 Advisory Board Member Albuquerque Technical Vocational Institute Community College
- 2005 Presented at CPRS Region 9 Workshop
- 2005 Presented at Texas Public Pool Council's Aquatics Conference
- 2004 & 2005 Presented at National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) National Executive Development School
- 2004 & 2005 NMRPA - Certification Board Member Chair
- 2003 -2005 Member of the NPSI Playground Maintenance Service Course's Curriculum Task Force
- 2003 Contributed as an interviewee for the Center for Injury Research and Policy at John Hopkins
- 2003 Presented at the Texas Head Start Association Training Conference
- 2002 Contributed as a Stakeholder Reviewer for the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care, Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care Programs
- 2002 Presented at Albuquerque Technical Vocational Institute
- 2002 Presented at CPRS - District 2 Workshop

2001 Presented at the NRPA Congress

2001 Presented at the Texas Recreation and Parks Society (TRAPS) Region 2 & 3 Conference

2001 & 2004 Presented at the NRPA Southwest Park and Recreation Training Institute

2000,2002,2005 Presented at the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority Risk Management Conference

2000, 2006 Presented at the Cooperative Educational Services Facility Manager Training Workshop, New Mexico

2000-Present APRA, CPRS and TRAPS Member

1999 Presented at the NRPA Midwest-Southwest Regional Leadership & Professional Training Institute

1999 Presented at the New Mexico Association of Health, PE, Recreation and Dance Annual Conference

1999- 2007 Presented at the TRAPS/Texas Parks & Wildlife Department Institute (1999,2002,2004,2005,2007)

1998 Presented at the American Society of Safety Engineers New Mexico Annual Health & Safety Conference

1998-Present Youth League Baseball Manager, Cub Scout Leader (1998-2003), Youth Soccer Coach (1998-2004)

1997 NMRPA Park/Trail/Bike Paths Design Award Winner

1995-2002 NRPA National Executive Development School Advisory Board Member

1995-1998 NRPA National Risk Management & Safety School Planning Committee Member

1995 & 1996 NMRPA Outstanding Grounds Maintenance Award Winner

1994-Present NRPA - Member

1994-Present Guest Lecturer at the University of New Mexico

1994 NMRPA Recipient of the Duke Jory Scholarship Award

1994 Developed, wrote and received a grant through Re-Leaf Program

1994 City of Rio Rancho September Employee of the Month

1993-1998 City of Rio Rancho Employee Advisory Committee Member

1993-1995 Developed and awarded grants through NM State Forestry Division

1993 NRPA - PIN Department Program Brochure Recognition

1993 NMRPA - Outstanding Program Award Winner Youth Basketball

1992 NMRPA - Recipient of the Outstanding Young Professional Award

1990-1994 USSSA Area Director

1990-Present NMRPA - Certification Board Member

1989-2005 NMRPA - Board of Directors (1989-1994 & 1997-2000 & 2003-2005)

1988 ASA Deputy Commissioner - Districts 6 & 7

1988 New Mexico Senior Olympics - Volunteer

1988 New Mexico Special Olympics - Head Evaluator of State Games

1985-Present NMRPA Member

1983-1986 Cibola High School Baseball Coach

1979-1980 Junior President, Rio Rancho Volunteer Parks & Recreation Department

Co-Author of *Master Plan Process for Parks and Recreation* – Third Edition (2007)

I have numerous articles published in periodicals such as Parks & Grounds Management, Michigan Municipal Review, Utah Leisure Insights, California Parks and Recreation Society and the Texas Recreation & Park Society Magazines

Nancy B. White, Ph.D.

EDUCATION:

- 2004 Ph.D. in Health, Physical Education and Recreation, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 1998 Master of Arts Degree in Parks and Recreation Administration, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 1993 Master of Public Administration, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 1981 Bachelor of Arts in Recreation Administration, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

EMPLOYMENT:

- Physical Education Instructor/Aquatic Facility Director, Albuquerque Academy (2007-Present)
- Assistant Professor, California State University, Northridge (2004-2007)
- Planning Division Team Member, PlaySafe, LLC (1999-present)
- Aquatic Risk Management Team Member, City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation (1997-present)
- Assistant Professor/Lecturer, California State University, Fresno (2002-2004)
- Instructor, Albuquerque T.V.I. Community College (2001-2002)
- Aquatic Director and Faculty, Santa Fe Community College (2000-2001)
- Program Coordinator, University of New Mexico Recreational Services (16 years)
- Planner and Program Coordinator, City of Rio Rancho, NM (2 years)
- Coordinator of Aquatics, Assistant Director/Counselor for Children's Programs, Mountainside YMCA (4 years)

Nancy B. White, Ph.D., has over twenty years of professional recreation experience working with campus recreation, municipalities, and non-profits. Her expertise includes aquatics, risk management, and planning. Nancy has been responsible for coordination and management of programs including educational classes, safety training, outdoor experiences and adventures, aquatics, fitness and wellness, and special events.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- NRPA Certified National Playground Safety Inspector (2005 - Present)
- Attended and passed the training program for the utilization of the TRIAX 2000 Surface Impact Tester in compliance with the ASTM 1292-99 (2000)
- National Recreation and Park Association, Certified Park and Recreation Professional
- National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association, Certified Recreational Sports Specialist
- American Red Cross

- Basic: CPR for the Professional Rescuer, Community First Aid, and Emergency Response
- Instructor: CPR for the Professional Rescuer, Workplace First Aid, Water Safety, and Lifeguarding
- Instructor Trainer: Water Safety and Lifeguarding
- Aquatic Exercise Association, Certified Aquatic Exercise Instructor
- American Council on Exercise, Certified Group Fitness Instructor
- Certified Pool Operator, National Swimming Pool Foundation
- NRPA Annual Congress for Recreation and Parks (1996-2003)
- Challenge Course Facilitation, 40-Hour Training Course, CSUF (2003)
- California and Pacific Southwest Park and Recreation Conference (2002, 2003)
- Council on Education Policy Conference (2003)
- American Red Cross Instructor Trainer Course (2003)
- New Mexico Higher Education Assessment and Retention Conference (2002)
- UNM Recreational Services, Low Ropes Facilitator Training (1996, 1997, 2000)
- Franklin Covey, 7 Habits of Highly Effective People (2000)
- Coalition of Americans to Protect Sports, Risk Management Training (2000)
- American Sport Education Program, Sportsmanship/Coaching Principles (1998, 1999)
- NRPA Youth-at-Risk Institute (1998)
- NIRSA Executive Institute (1998)
- New Mexico Recreation and Park Association Annual Conference (1993-1997)
- NRPA Revenue and Management School (1997)
- Ken Blanchard's Situational Leadership I and II (1991 and 1996)
- Character Counts Facilitator Training (1996)
- National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association Annual Conference (1989, 1995, 1996)
- Disney Keys to Customer Service Excellence (1996)
- Quality New Mexico Conference (1996)
- NRPA National Aquatic Management School and Conference (1996)
- Lessons in Leadership, Stephen Covey's Principle-Centered Leadership (1995)
- NRPA Executive Development School (1993-1995)
- NRPA Facility Design and Management School (1995)
- The Grantsmanship Center, Proposal Writing Workshop (1994)
- Leadership Sandoval County (1993-1994)
- The Mediation Center, Basic Mediation Training (1992)

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AWARDS, VOLUNTEER AND EXTRACURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES**

- 2006 Presented at National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) National Executive Development School
- 2005 - Present New Mexico Recreation and Parks Association (NMRPA) - Certification Board Member
- 2005 Presented at California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS) Region 9 Workshop
- 2005 Presented at the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority Risk Management Conference
- 2004 White, N. (2004). *Profiles, Career Paths and Perceived Job Competencies of Female Higher Education Recreation Directors*. Doctoral dissertation, University of New Mexico.
- 2004-Present Secretary, California Society for Parks and Recreation Educators Board of Directors
- 1994-2003 American Red Cross Health and Safety Committee
- 2001 Presentation, "How to Create a Professional Image". NRPA National Executive Development School, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- 1995-1997 & 1999-2001 NRPA National Executive Development School Advisory Committee
- 1994-1996 Treasurer and Treasurer-Elect, New Mexico Recreation and Park Association Board of Director

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