

# Part 5

## Safe Hospitality



**Safety, Health & Welfare in Hotels,  
Restaurants, Catering & Bars**

**Part 5 - Leisure Areas**



**SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION  
WITH Part 1 - General**

# Contents

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WITH Part 1 - General

## Part 5 - Leisure Areas

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## 5.1 Groundskeeping

Hazards associated with groundskeeping, include slips, trips and falls and manual handling. Other hazards arise from the use of equipment and pesticides.

### Safeguards

- ✓ Take proper precautions in relation to chemicals – ensure proper PPE is issued and used. Ensure safety data sheets are kept easily available
- ✓ Portable electrical equipment must be maintained fit for safe use
- ✓ RCD's fitted to circuits supplying portable equipment above 125 volts A.C.
- ✓ Portable equipment exposed to deterioration liable to result in danger and exceeding 125 volts A.C.
  - ✓ visually checked by the user before use
  - ✓ periodically inspected
  - ✓ and where appropriate, tested and certified by a competent person
- ✓ Battery powered equipment may be a safer option in many instances
- ✓ Training on the storage and use of pesticides should be given



- ✓ Control access to, and use of, vehicles and equipment
- ✓ The risks of grass and tree cutting merit particular consideration
- ✓ People using hazardous equipment, e.g. chainsaws, must be properly trained and instructed
- ✓ Precautions must be taken to protect against the dangers with working in direct sunlight

### Checklist

Use the various checklists in the Safety Toolkit and Short Guide to General Application Regulations 2007 - Small Business Edition at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)



### For Further Information

Safe use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)  
 Essential Health & Safety Guide for Horticulture at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)  
 Code of Practice for Managing Safety in Forestry at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)  
 See the Workplace Transport Safety section at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)  
 Workplace Transport Safety Management - Information Sheet at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)  
 Use Chemicals Safely at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)  
 Risk Assessment of Chemical Hazards at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)  
 See the other relevant sections of *“Health and Safety in Hotels, Restaurants, Catering and Bars”* (this document), e.g. machinery/ equipment

## 5.2 Leisure Water, Pools

Hazards associated with leisure water areas include slips, trips and falls and the use of equipment and chemicals. Great care must be taken at the design stage to avoid problems with slips, trips and falls. Staff using these facilities may also be exposed to infectious agents.



### Safeguards

- ✓ Trade association guides provide detailed advice
- ✓ Mobile phones and personal electronic devices could be a dangerous distraction. Consider prohibiting them if necessary
- ✓ Staff should not use the facilities unless someone else is present to assist if needed
- ✓ Proper safety footwear with high slip resistance must be provided and used. If used, overshoes should provide adequate slip resistance
- ✓ Ensure floors are slip resistant under normal conditions

- ✓ Ensure staff have received proper training and instruction and are properly qualified, e.g. Pool Lifeguard qualification from Irish Water Safety, Royal Life Saving Society UK, National Swimming and Spa Pool Operators Certificate from [www.ilam.ie](http://www.ilam.ie)
- ✓ Ensure an adequate number of properly trained lifeguards are on duty. (Details can be found in IWS & ILAM Pool Safety Guidelines)
- ✓ Ensure electrical equipment is safe in regard to exposure to wet conditions
- ✓ Training on the storage and use of pool chemicals should be given
- ✓ Take proper precautions in relation to chemicals – ensure proper PPE is issued and used. Ensure safety data sheets are kept easily available
- ✓ There must be detailed procedures for times when the pool has to be emptied
- ✓ Pool covers must be properly designed and used



## 5.2 Leisure Water, Pools Cont'd

- ✓ Health and fitness screening may be required for staff
- ✓ Water quality must be maintained to prevent transmission of infection
- ✓ Portable electrical equipment must be maintained fit for safe use
- ✓ RCD's fitted to circuits supplying portable equipment above 125 volts A.C.
- ✓ Portable equipment exposed to deterioration liable to result in danger and exceeding 125 volts A.C.
  - ✓ Visually checked by the user before use
  - ✓ Periodically inspected
  - ✓ And where appropriate, tested and certified by a competent person
- ✓ A competent person tests and certifies portable equipment exposed to deterioration and exceeding 125 volts alternating current
- ✓ Portable equipment, other than transformers and generators, exceeding 125 volts A.C. not used in damp or confined locations, unless its rating exceeds 2 kilovolt amperes
- ✓ Proper covers must be provided over underwater inlets and outlets in pools and spas to remove the risk of entrapment

- ✓ Battery powered equipment may be a safer option in many instances

### Checklist

Use the various checklists in the Safety Toolkit and Short Guide to General Application Regulations 2007 - Small Business Edition at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

### For Further Information

Use Chemicals Safely at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

Risk Assessment of Chemical Hazards at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

IWS & ILAM Pool Safety Guidelines can be ordered at [www.ilam.ie](http://www.ilam.ie)

National Swimming and Spa Pool Operations Manual from [www.ilam.ie](http://www.ilam.ie)

Leisure Management training courses including health and safety from [www.ilam.ie](http://www.ilam.ie)

See the other relevant sections of *"Health and Safety in Hotels, Restaurants, Catering and Bars"* (this document), e.g. machinery/ equipment



## 5.3 Health Suites, Treatment Areas

Hazards associated with health suites and treatment areas include slips, trips and falls and manual handling. Other hazards may include exposure to infectious agents.

### Safeguards

- ✓ Staff must be aware of hot surfaces
- ✓ It may be helpful to remind people of safeguards using posters
- ✓ Ensure staff are aware of safety issues around heat stress
- ✓ Health and fitness screening may be required for staff
- ✓ Proper safety footwear with high slip resistance must be provided and used
- ✓ Ensure floors are slip resistant under normal conditions
- ✓ Ensure staff have received proper training and instruction
- ✓ Take proper precautions in relation to chemicals – ensure proper PPE is issued and used
- ✓ Portable electrical equipment must be maintained fit for safe use
  - ✓ RCD's fitted to circuits supplying portable equipment above 125 volts A.C.
  - ✓ Portable equipment exposed to deterioration liable to result in danger and exceeding 125 volts A.C.
- ✓ Visually checked by the user before use
- ✓ Periodically inspected
- ✓ And where appropriate, tested and certified by a competent person
- ✓ A competent person tests and certifies portable equipment exposed to deterioration and exceeding 125 volts alternating current
- ✓ Battery powered equipment may be a safer option in many instances
- ✓ Training on the storage and use of chemicals should be given

### Checklist

Use the various checklists in the Safety Toolkit and Short Guide to General Application Regulations 2007 - Small Business Edition at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

### For Further Information

Use Chemicals Safely at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

Risk Assessment of Chemical Hazards at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

[www.ilam.ie](http://www.ilam.ie)

See the other relevant sections of *“Health and Safety in Hotels, Restaurants, Catering and Bars”* (this document), e.g. machinery/ equipment



## 5.4 Gyms, Fitness Rooms

Slips, trips and falls are causes of concern in gyms or fitness rooms. Manual handling may also be an issue. Proper design and installation of equipment may help to avoid a lot of the potential problems.

### Safeguards

- ✓ Trailing cables should be avoided through proper design and location of equipment
- ✓ Precautions should be taken to avoid slips, e.g. use of anti-slip mats at water dispensers
- ✓ Staff should receive proper training, including manual handling training
- ✓ Staff should not use equipment unless someone else is present to assist if needed
- ✓ Staff must take particular care when using treadmills. Treadmills should be fitted with an automatic emergency stop mechanism, e.g. a cord connected to the user
- ✓ Ensure staff have received proper training and instruction and are properly qualified



See [www.repsireland.ie](http://www.repsireland.ie)

- ✓ Health and fitness screening may be required for staff
- ✓ Take proper precautions in relation to chemicals – ensure proper PPE is issued and used
- ✓ Portable electrical equipment must be maintained fit for safe use
- ✓ RCD's fitted to circuits supplying portable equipment above 125 volts A.C.
- ✓ Portable equipment exposed to deterioration liable to result in danger and exceeding 125 volts A.C.
  - ✓ Visually checked by the user before use
  - ✓ Periodically inspected
  - ✓ And where appropriate, tested and certified by a competent person
- ✓ A competent person tests and certifies portable equipment exposed to deterioration and exceeding 125 volts alternating current
- ✓ Training on the storage and use of chemicals should be given



## 5.4 Gyms, Fitness Rooms Cont'd

### Gym, Fitness Room Checklist

Use the checklist in the Safety toolkit and short guide to workplace regulations at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

### For Further Information

[www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

[www.ilam.ie](http://www.ilam.ie)

[www.repsireland.ie](http://www.repsireland.ie)

See the other relevant sections of *“Health and Safety in Hotels, Restaurants, Catering and Bars”* (this document), e.g. machinery/ equipment



## 5.5 Children's Play Area

Children's play areas are becoming more common in Accommodation and Food Services Activities premises. Slips, trips and falls and manual handling would be the two biggest areas of concern.



### Children's Play Area Safeguards

- ✓ Precautions should be taken to avoid slips, e.g. use of anti-slip mats at water dispensers
- ✓ Staff should receive proper training, including manual handling training
- ✓ Safety crash mats or shock absorbing flooring must be provided where required

### Children's Play Area Checklist

Use the checklist in the Safety toolkit and short guide to work equipment regulations at [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

### For Further Information

[www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

[www.ilam.ie](http://www.ilam.ie)

[www.repsireland.ie](http://www.repsireland.ie)

ISO Standard on inspection of playgrounds