



Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987 (FOSP Act) & NZS 8500:2006

The FOSP Act requires that, in the absence of a specific exemption, every spa pool be fenced and property owners must obtain a building consent from their Council to install a spa pool. In 2006, New Zealand Standards released NZS 8500:2006 with the intention that it will replace the current schedule in the FOSP Act. This standard specifies that under certain conditions spa pools need not be fenced. However, until Parliament enacts the change to the FOSP Act, the responsibility for granting exemptions still rests with each Council. Councils may use NZS8500:2006 as a guideline. South Pacific covers confirms that, with respect to its Lockable Spa Cover, all the requirements of NZS8500:2006 that are to be met by it, as manufacturer and distributor, are complied with. The only other requirements are those that the spa owner / property owner must meet. All these are set out below. Property owners may use this information in their negotiation with their Council.

The cover is:

- 1/ Manufactured with a commercial grade vinyl and UVR thread that meets ASTM F1346-91
- 2/ Tapered from the centre line to the outside, 90mm to 40mm, to allow water runoff
- 3/ Strengthened by the addition of rigid E bars to the foam billets at the centre fold point
- 4/ Capable of holding a 20Kg weight
- 5/ Fitted with four evenly spaced lockable catches that may be locked with the supplied keys
- 6/ Not able to be lifted, once latched, to give a clearance of 100mm
- 7/ Stamped with the words "WARNING This cover must be kept locked except when under adult supervision" together with the approved warning logo on the handle

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- 1/ Believe that a child aged under six will not be able to open the catches once locked
- 2/ Believe that a cover properly maintained will have a life of at least five years
- 3/ Recommend that children do not jump on the cover
- 4/ Recommend that the cover is cleaned twice yearly with a vinyl cleaner that does not contain petroleum solvents and that the lockable catches are washed twice yearly

The property owner is responsible to ensure that:

- 1/ The tub is set down in such a way that a minimum height of 760mm is maintained at all points
- 2/ Removable steps or objects that may allow a child to climb up are stowed at least 1.2m from the tub
- 3/ When not in use or supervised the cover will be kept locked
- 4/ The cover and lockable catches are maintained in a good working order
- 5/ At all times the provisions of NZS 8500:2006 are met

South Pacific Covers

Email: sales@southpacificcovers.co.nz

Website www.southpacificcovers.co.nz

Phone: 09 420 7705 Fax: 09 420 7578

7 West Street Helensville