

## Best Practices for the Safe Set-up and Operation of an Inflatable Amusement Device

### Safe Set-up

- Situate the inflatable device away from tree branches, fences, walls and overhead cables
- Make sure that the selected site has adequate space for anchorage
- Clear the grounds of large stones and sharp objects, and/or place an appropriate tarp on the ground to protect the bottom of the unit
- Set-up/position the anchoring system and mechanical equipment so that they will not trip anyone entering or exiting the device
- Plug the blower into a GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter)
- Make sure that the generator is CSA approved and that wires are properly secured in order to avoid a tripping hazard
- Make sure that the inflatable device is fully inflated and not sagging
- Check for rips or tears when the device is fully inflated
- Make sure that the operating area is clear of onlookers, so that the operator(s) will have a clear view of the jumping surface and of users mounting and dismounting the inflatable
- Cover hard surfaces adjacent to the inflatable's open sides and entrances/exits with non-inflatable mats (e.g. gym mats) to a depth of at least 1.2 metres (4 feet)

### Safe Operation

- Appoint at least one adult – and preferably two – to supervise children at all times when they are on an inflatable device
- Make sure that operators/attendants are familiar with what users **are not permitted to do** in or on the device
- Post safety rules in clearly visible areas so that users are aware of them before they are allowed to use the device
- Do not exceed manufacturer's specifications for the capacity of the inflatable
- Make sure that riders remove shoes, loose-fitting clothing, jewelry and other personal items before using the device
- Do not allow riders to take food, drink or sharp objects onto an inflatable amusement device
- Do not allow riders to attempt any kind of stunt — e.g. somersaults or wrestling — on an inflatable amusement device
- Make sure that only children of approximately the same size are permitted to play on an inflatable structure at the same time
- Do not allow children to sit or lie down on an inflatable's jumping surface while others are bouncing around them
- If the device has an inflatable slide, make sure that only one child at a time is using it
- Ensure that the inflatable is properly anchored and secured to the tether points in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines
- Discontinue use of an inflatable amusement device in the event of rain or winds in excess of 24 km/hr (15 mph)
- If an inflatable unit deflates, remove occupants immediately

The above checklist is a sample only, intended to help with the set-up and operation of an inflatable amusement device. There may be specific circumstances that affect a particular property and additional information may be needed in such instances. The checklist is not intended to be an assessment of what is required for a specific property.

For more risk control information, please consult an Ecclesiastical Risk Control Specialist in your region or visit [www.ecclesiastical.ca](http://www.ecclesiastical.ca)

*This advice or information is provided in good faith and is based upon our understanding of current law and practice. Neither Ecclesiastical Insurance Office PLC nor its subsidiaries accepts any liability whatsoever for any errors or omissions which may result in injury, loss or damage, including consequential or financial loss. It is the responsibility of the Insured or any other person to ensure that they comply with their statutory obligations and any interpretation or implementation of the above is at the sole discretion of the Insured or other party who may read these notes.*