



CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared

No Mfrs./Prvt. Lbrs. of

Products Identified

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LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: ASTM F8.17 Subcommittee Meeting on Trampolines:
Discuss Revision of F381-95 Consumer Safety Specification for Components, Assembly and Use of a Trampoline.

DATE OF MEETING: December 11, 1997

DATE OF LOG ENTRY: December 23, 1997

SOURCE OF LOG ENTRY: Jean Kennedy, Office of Compliance

LOCATION: San Diego, CA
Sheraton Marina Hotel

CPSC ATTENDEE(S): Jean Kennedy, Office of Compliance

NON-CPSC ATTENDEES:

Murt Feller, AB Regal Trampolines, Chair
Robert Nichols, Pres., Icon Health/Jumpking Trampolines
Lynn Benchley, Esq., Icon Health
Brad Beamson, Esq., Icon Health
John Kuchno, Esq., Neuberger Quinn Gielen
Dr. Chris Wood, Failure Analysis
George Nissan, Gymnast
Lani ?, Gymnast
Cliff Bigelow, Materials Analysis
Joe Burchfield, Baycor Products Group
Gary Reynolds, Century Tube Corp.
Cynthia Argyle, Roadmaster Corp
Pat Welsh, Hedstrom
Francis Pavolko, VP Hedstrom
Andy Adams, Adtec Trampolines
Rick Ayers, ASR Manufacturing
Rick Ayers, Jr., ASR Manufacturing
Doug Freeman, Jumpsport



SUMMARY OF MEETING:

CPSC attended to discuss data and rationale for its proposed revisions, which were balloted July 8, 1997 to August 7, 1997 and received a majority of negative votes. CPSC staff prepared to advocate four issues that would address the greatest number of and the most serious injuries: 1) padding that covers entire surface of suspension system and frame, 2) instructions on package and inside that state "Not recommended for children under 6 years of age," 3) ladders that are prohibited as a component, and 4) Warnings that are placed on the bed for visibility and will include three most important issues, namely no somersaulting, one person jumping, and use with padding.

Voting results were as follows on the 4 issues:

Issue 1: FOR- [and padding must remain securely attached when subject to anticipated use]

Issue 2: FOR

Issue 3: AGAINST ladders being "prohibited" - [task group to provide other wording that allows ladders to be sold separately]

Issue 4: FOR first two warnings. But substituted a different third warning, i.e. "Use trampolines only with mature, knowledgeable supervision"

Ladders: CPSC staff presented a draft memo from Timothy Smith, ESHF on the Age Appropriateness of Trampolines and the Attachment of Ladders to Trampolines. Jumpking/Icon Health presented its counter arguments in a report of consultant, Dr. Chris Wood of Failure Analysis Associates, Menlo Park, CA. Members did not want a ban; they wanted to allow consumers to purchase ladders but as a separate item. There was no data to show that trampolines with ladders [estimated at 18%] have more injuries or fewer injuries or that no ladders would cause injuries to decrease. CPSC staff has recommended consumers not have ladders, as they provide access to children under 6. Human Factors experts believe that most children under 6 years old lack the skills for trampolining and CPSC injury data and pediatrician's hospital studies show a high number of injuries to children under 6 and one death of a 3 year old. Discussion culminated in a vote to not "prohibit" ladders in the standard. A task group was formed to present alternative wording to "prohibit" for the next draft. CPSC staff requested to serve on the task group with Bud Nichols of Jumpking..

Padding: CPSC staff agreed to have CPSC engineering staff discuss with Cliff Bigelow of Materials Analysis a minimum and maximum time interval to use in the Severity Index test for the padding.

Warnings: Liability about many safety issues and agreement that supervision is key to curbing multiple jumpers resulted in an unanimous vote to have the "supervision" warning as the 3rd most important warning on the bed. Many comparisons to backyard pools and parental supervision were given.

Children under 6: Unanimous vote, except for the gymnasts who believe all children benefit.

Issues of weathering, a target in the center of the bed, and testing of padding on the springs were discussed and a decision was made to discuss further if data shows injuries are resulting from these.

CONCLUSION:

New issues voted upon will be incorporated into a new Draft Ballot and sent out for vote by February 13, 1998. Task force with CPSC staff participation will prepare new text for standard requirement concerning ladders not being sold with trampolines.