



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

**Risk Management**

PO Box 163500  
Orlando, FL 32816

## Dunk Tank Guidelines

The use and operation of dunk tanks pose unique hazards. The following guidelines have been developed to assist event organizers in mitigating those hazards while maintaining the integrity of the ride. Failure to comply with these guidelines could result in denial of the SAFE form, or at least the portion in which dunk tank use is planned. Please contact Risk Management at 407-823-0206 or 407-823-0648 with any questions or concerns.

1. Before approval of your SAFE form, a layout showing the placement of the dunk tank must be submitted to EH&S for review. Because large amounts of water will spill out of the tank during its operation, the dunk tank must be placed in a location that provides quick drainage of the water, and away from people and any electrical source. Given the likelihood that a participant could strike the bottom of the tank during dunking, placing the dunk tank on a soft surface, such as grass, is recommended.
2. In addition to a layout showing dunk tank placement, EH&S requires a copy of the manufacturer's manual for review (this would have been provided to the vendor when the dunk tank was purchased). In the event that the vendor does not have a copy of the manufacturer's manual, the name of the manufacturer must be submitted to EH&S.
3. Per UCF-4.0292, a Certificate of Insurance from the vendor is required, indicating a minimum General Liability limit of \$1 million per occurrence. The Certificate needs to list "University of Central Florida Board of Trustees" as an Additional Insured and the "UCF Insurance Coordinator" as the Certificate Holder. A sample Certificate of Insurance is provided with the required sections highlighted in red. If the Certificate of Insurance requires an endorsement for Additional Insured status, then that endorsement will need to be supplied with the Certificate of Insurance.
4. To prevent possible injuries from a slip and fall, event organizers must keep the splash area around the dunk tank clear of observers and participants. The area where the ladder is located must also be clear to allow quick entry into the tank, in the event of an accident or injury.
5. Once setup of the dunk tank is complete, both the event organizer and operator of the ride must thoroughly inspect the tank for any hazards or damage that could be present, such as sharp edges, loose screws or bolts, or unsteady frame, and both must approve of the safety of the ride before operation begins. If possible, a test operation is recommended before the ride opens to participants.



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6. Below are general rules that must be followed during the operation of the dunk tank. Please familiarize participants with these rules:
  - a. The water level in the tank should be kept at least 6 inches from the top.
  - b. Dunkees (participants who will be getting into the tank) must be 18 years or older, at least five (5) feet tall, and able to swim. If under 18 years of age, dunkers (participants throwing the ball) must have approval from a parent or guardian.
  - c. All sharp objects on the participant, such as glasses, jewelry, and watches, should be removed prior to getting into the tank
  - d. Observers and participants should keep food and drinks away from the dunk tank.
  - e. Only one person is allowed on the seat or in the tank at one time.
  - f. The dunkee should never stand on the seat.
  - g. The dunkee should be sitting up straight, with hands on lap or knees.
  - h. Observers or participants are not allowed to hold onto the bars or put themselves or any object through the bars.
  - i. Only the operator or event organizer is permitted behind the tank or target area.
  - j. Participants under the influence of alcohol or drugs are not permitted in the tank.
  - k. Only participants under 250 pounds or the manufacturer's maximum weight limit are permitted in the tank.
  - l. Participants with physical or mental impairments should not be permitted in the tank, unless they or their guardian confirm they are fit to participate.
  - m. Participants with chronic knee or other joint conditions; previous back or neck injuries; respiratory conditions; heart or circulatory conditions; and those who are pregnant are encouraged to consult with their doctor before participating in the dunk tank.
  - n. Only balls provided by the dunk tank manufacturer are to be used.
  - o. When unattended by an adult, the dunk tank must be drained completely.
  - p. The ride must not be operated during inclement weather, which includes rain, lightning, wind exceeding 15 miles per hour, hail, or temperatures below 40 degrees.