


Sauna Fire Safety Guidelines

Properly installed, operated and maintained, saunas provide a relaxing environment for your club members and guests. You can help reduce chances of a sauna electric heater-related fire by following these guidelines that will contribute to the safety of your sauna facilities.

- Heater installation and any subsequent maintenance should be done by a licensed, qualified electrician, following manufacturer requirements. The unit must be grounded and proper clearances to combustible materials maintained. Electrical equipment used in wet areas such as saunas should be equipped with ground fault protection.
 - Check the sauna at regular intervals, including opening and closing, for materials that may have been left on the heater.
 - A steel mesh guard should be in place on top of the unit. Replace immediately if missing or damaged. The sauna should not be used without this guard in place.
 - Placement of towels or other combustibles over the heater should be prohibited by signs and instructions to members/guests from your staff.
 - Heater rocks that surround the heating elements should be replaced at least annually. Rocks will crumble with repetitive heating/cooling, reducing airflow and increasing heater temperature.
 - Sauna heating systems should be separated from all other areas by a onehour fire rated barrier. The use of open flame heating devices inside saunas should be prohibited.
 - Never install additional benches or shelving over the heater.
 - Never install locking or latching devices on doors leading into saunas.
 - Heaters need to be equipped with an automatic high temperature shutoff switch to prevent overheating of the unit. The switch should never be bypassed or removed.
 - Check on sauna air inlets and outlets to verify they are clear and unblocked.
 - If you have a sprinkler system in your facility, consider having a licensed sprinkler contractor extend the sprinkler system to include the sauna interior. Sprinkler head designs for normal sauna temperatures are available.
-  **To learn more about Hanover Risk Solutions, visit hanoverrisksolutions.com**

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