



NEW POOL MEETS FINA STANDARDS

18 August, 2008

Broken Hill's Olympic Pool will meet International Swimming Federation (FINA) standards despite some concerns regarding lane width.

Earlier this month, representatives of Council and Crystal Pools met to discuss lane width after the new 50m pool was tiled to provide eight equally spaced lanes each of 2.25m width.

The pool specification called for an eight lane pool with each lane 2.2m wide. This allowed for the installation of outer lane ropes 200mm from each side of the pool.

Council general manager Frank Zaknich said to determine the most appropriate course, Council conducted a review of the intended purpose of the outer lane ropes.

"The review determined that, while there may be some technical advantage to including the lane ropes as an antiwave measure, this advantage is minimal - particularly for a wet deck pool," Mr Zaknich said.

"The review has also identified some practical issues in relation to the use of the outer lane ropes, particularly in relation to patrons entering and leaving the pool with these lane ropes in place. As a result, Council has concluded that swimmers will be better served by having slightly wider lanes rather than any minimal technical advantage offered by including the outer lane ropes," Mr Zaknich said.

Council has instructed that the pool will be constructed with eight lanes of equal width of 2.25m.

Mr Zaknich said that a major requirement for a record to be recognised is the length of the pool and the length of the pool is within FINA guidelines.

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