

## ***Removal and Winterizing Procedures***

We recommend that steps and ladders be removed from the pool for the winter months in cold climates. Leaving them in the pool could cause damage to the product or to the pool.

**Step -1 (single):** If your steps are attached to a deck remove the screws that are holding it to the deck and tip the steps slightly sideways to allow some of the water to empty from the treads and make the steps buoyant. Carefully lift and pull the steps out of the water and onto the deck. Lay the steps down on one side so that the water can drain out of the steps. Turn steps over and repeat for other side. Once they are drained the steps can be left outside for the winter. If desired keep them clean by covering them with a tarp.

**Step Enclosure System (two steps):** Remove the screws that are holding the handrails to the upper (long) posts on both the inside and outside step units. Remove the screws that hold the connecting rails to the long posts. Remove the handrails from the posts and slide the connecting rail/connecting step assembly up and off the long handrail posts so that the two step units are separated. Remove the inside step unit by rolling it over onto its side to drain some of the water and make it buoyant. With at least an additional person to help carefully lift the steps up and out of the pool. Drain all water out of the step units by laying them on their side. Turn steps over and repeat for other side. Once they are drained the steps can be left outside for the winter. If desired keep them clean by covering them with a tarp.

**PES – Pool Entry System (single):** Remove the large fill plugs at the top of each panel. If your steps are attached to a deck remove the screws that are holding it to the deck and tip the steps slightly sideways to allow some of the water to empty from the treads and make the steps buoyant. Tip the unit onto its side far enough to be able to reach under and remove the screw on caps on the bottom of each panel. Carefully lift the steps (a second person is helpful) while allowing the water to drain out of the panels. The step unit can be left standing or lying down on the deck for the winter months. Be sure to put the caps/plugs in a safe spot where you will remember them when they are needed. If desired keep them clean by covering them with a tarp.

**PES-DBL Double Pool Entry System:** CAUTION: This unit is the most difficult to remove from the pool and requires at least two additional people to assist. Care must be taken to try to empty the water from the inside step unit and to not damage the top of the pool when removing from the water. Separate the two PES step units by removing the bolts that secure them together. Move the step unit on the outside of the pool out of the way. Remove the large fill plugs at the top of each panel of the step unit in the water. Tip and spin the step unit so that you can access the bottom of the panels and remove the screw caps. This should allow most of the water to empty from the panels. It may be necessary to spin the step unit around to empty the water from the panels and the treads and make it buoyant. Once the majority of the water is emptied the step unit can be carefully lifted up and out of the pool.

**Ladders:** To winterize the ladder drain the water by laying it down on its side. Turn the ladder over and allow the water to drain from that side also. The ladder can be left outside or taken indoors for winter storage.