

Selected IBC Requirements for Bleachers 3/1/2008

Design & Submittal

- Comm 61.03(9) requires that the current code applies to replacement bleachers.
- Comm 61.30(2) Plan Submittal or registration is required for:
 - Exterior bleachers over five rows (if a flat platform is used for assembly seating, it would be subject to plan submittal if over 40" in height and over 20' in depth based on IBC 1008.9.2, the maximum allowable riser height is 8", so $5 \times 8" = 40"$. and the typical spacing of seating from back to back is 3' to 4'. So the platform depth would need to be $5 \times 4' = 20'$ after which submittal would be required unless another seating layout is shown.)
 - Interior bleachers in buildings - Interior bleachers could be registered if the bldg they are installed in qualifies for registration, otherwise submittal is required.
- Comm 61.20(2) requires a Wisconsin-registered architect or engineer for bleachers in buildings over 50,000 cubic feet or any exterior bleacher. A designer is required for the bleachers themselves as well as other related building code issues such as anchorage, sanitary facilities, egress, handicap accessibility, building fire protection and ventilation.
- Comm 61.40 Supervising professional is required when a registered architect or engineer is required for design.

Application & Fees:

- Separate bleachers are separate bleacher objects if they are 10' or more apart
- Bleachers fees are a \$100 submittal fee, plus \$200 miscellaneous fee per bleacher when exterior or if not submitted with or as a followup to a building submittal.
- A bleacher is either type IIB if non-combustible or VB if it has combustible decking.
- Unless a firewall separation is provided, enter the worst class of construction for the bleachers and any pressbox, concession stand or storage area.
- If a pressbox or storage building is submitted with and attached to the bleachers, it is all a single bleacher object.

General Code Compliance—Per IBC 1025.1.1, the bleachers themselves shall comply with ICC 300-02 Standard for Bleachers.

Construction & Fire Protection:

- Bleachers without a roof or without sidewalls are a A-5 occupancies which are allowed unlimited area or stories.
- Enclosed skyboxes are A-3 occupancies if serving more than 50 people.
- Table 602 – apply setbacks to buildings, not bleachers, measuring the setback between the structures, rather than to an imaginary line.
- Storage underneath open bleachers (note that per IBC 508.2.1, storage areas may not be considered accessory per 508.3.1 since they are considered incidental).
 - Would typically be considered creating just a one-story structure since the bleachers are not considered a story of themselves since they have no roof.
 - Is allowed per the following options:
 - Per IBC 508.2 up to 100 square feet with no special protection.

- Per IBC 508.2 as an incidental area over 100 square feet with either fire suppression or 1 hour separation (Per IBC 508.2.1, a storage area may not be considered an accessory area since it is a listed incidental area).
- Per IBC 508.3.3 as a separated mixed-use with the proper fire barrier between it and the bleachers with the storage occupancy size limited per type of construction, frontage and whether sprinklers are provided.
- Per IBC 508.3.1.1 as a non-separated mixed-use with the more restrictive IBC 503 S occupancy building area and IBC 903 S occupancy sprinkler limits applicable to the combined bleacher and storage area, although no sprinkling of open bleachers is required. Note that vehicle storage is S-2 and that vehicle storage beneath another occupancy shall be sprinklered per IBC 903.2.9.
 - Minor lawnmower storage is permitted without creating a storage garage occupancy.
 - Headroom requirements of IBC 1003.2 1208.2 are applicable. Areas of less than 7'-6" height are acceptable with a proper barrier per IBC 1003.3.1. or per the sloped roof provisions of IBC 1208.2 Ex.2.
- IBC 903.2.1.5 sprinkler accessory areas of >1000 sf if serving A-5 occupancies – measure spaces individually with just solid construction between required.
- IBC 1025.6.2 Item 2 – smoke-protected assembly seating, including bleacher seating taking credit for smoke-protection, requires pressboxes and storage facilities over 1000 sf aggregate to be sprinklered.

Accessibility & Egress:

- IBC 1104.4 - Pressboxes shall be accessible if over 500 square feet including the area of occupied roofs and porches
- See IBC 1108.2 regarding accessible assembly seating
- IBC 1009.1 Ex. 3. would permit bleacher aisle stairs per IBC 1025 to serve a press box.
- See IBC 1025 for bleacher egress requirements
- IBC 1009.5.3 requires one hour separations between enclosed or unenclosed stairs and storage underneath.

Sanitary Requirements - IBC 2902.4.1 Toilet facilities shall be provided within 500'

Maintenance - Comm 61.03(13) requires bleachers to comply with ICC 300-02 which includes a requirement for an annual maintenance inspection in s. 105.2.