

Dunk tanks are a popular attraction for end of the year celebrations. However, ensuring the safety of both the “dunkee” and the participants is crucial to prevent accidents and injuries.



Below are a few things to consider before you get a dunk tank for your end of year celebration.

- Hire a rental company that is insured and has an endorsement to assure coverage and a contract that spells out responsibilities. We recommend requesting the rental company set up the dunk tank.
- The tank should be filled with clean, fresh water and deep enough to safely cushion the fall of the dunkee. The water depth should be kept at a level recommended by the rental company.

- The tank should be positioned so that overthrown balls do not hit anyone behind it.
- The tank should have barriers around it to keep people from walking in front when people are throwing balls.
- Use tennis balls instead of baseball or softballs.
- The dunk tank needs to have a supervisor present at all times, even when not in use, due to water being in the tank. This will help prevent the potential for drowning.
- Only adults or staff members should be allowed in the dunk tank.
- Clear instructions should be provided to participants, especially children, on how to use the throwing mechanism properly.
- The dunkee should wear appropriate swimwear and avoid loose clothing that could entangle or pose a risk. A ladder or sturdy steps should be available to facilitate safe entry and exit from the tank.
- Emergency protocols should be in place. This may include having a first aid kit available and communication devices for anyone supervising the area.

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**By following these safety guidelines, your district can ensure the dunk tank remains a fun and enjoyable activity for everyone involved. If you have any questions regarding dunk tanks, please contact the risk management department at [riskmanagement@sdao.com](mailto:riskmanagement@sdao.com).**