

# ICC 300-2017

## Standard for Bleachers, Folding and Telescopic Seating, and Grandstands

American National Standard



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American National Standard

International Code Council  
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Washington, D.C. 20001

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# American National Standard

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# FOREWORD

## Introduction

In March 2000 the ICC Board of Directors, responding to a need highlighted by the Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) Roundtable in December 1999 on Bleachers and Grandstands, appointed a consensus committee to develop a standard to cover new and existing installations of all types of bleachers and bleacher-type seating, including fixed and folding bleachers intended for indoor, outdoor, temporary and permanent use. This followed the submission of a bill to the U.S. House of Representatives entitled the Bleacher Safety Act of 1999 (H.R. 836), which authorized the CPSC to issue a standard for bleacher safety.

## Development

ICC 300—2017 has been developed utilizing a consensus process under the provisions of the ICC Consensus Procedures. The ICC Consensus Committee on Bleacher Safety (IS-BLE) was established. The meetings of the IS-BLE Consensus Committee were open to the public. Interested individuals and organizations from across the country participated. Views and objections were solicited through public proposal and comment periods. All views and objections were considered by the consensus committee and an effort was made toward their resolution. A vote by the consensus committee approved this publication.

The requirements in ICC 300—2017 are based on the intent to establish: provisions consistent with the scope of the ICC family of codes and standards that adequately protect public health, safety and welfare; provisions that do not necessarily increase construction costs; provisions that do not restrict the use of new materials, products or methods of construction; and, provisions that do not give preferential treatment to particular types or classes of materials, products or methods of construction.

## Adoption

The ICC 300—2017 edition will be made available for adoption and use by jurisdictions internationally. Its use within a governmental jurisdiction is intended to be accomplished through adoption by reference in accordance with proceedings establishing the jurisdiction's laws.

## International Code Council Consensus Committee on Bleacher Safety (IS-BLE)

Consensus Committee SCOPE: The ICC Consensus Committee on Bleacher Safety (IS-BLE) shall have primary responsibility for safety provisions for new and existing installations of all types of bleachers and bleacher-type seating, including fixed and folding bleachers intended for indoor, outdoor, temporary and permanent use.

This standard was processed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the ICC Consensus Committee on Bleacher Safety (ISBLE). Committee approval of the standard does not necessarily imply that all committee members voted for its approval.

Representatives on the Consensus Committee are classified in one of three voting interest categories. The committee has been formed in order to achieve consensus as required by ANSI Essential Requirements. At the time it approved this standard, the IS-BLE Consensus Committee consisted of the following members:

General Interest (G)—User Interest (U)—Producer Interest (P)

**Amber DellAngelo, SE, PE** (U) Larson Engineering, Inc., Naperville, IL

**Ida F. Dugas, PE** (P) Hussey Seating Company, North Berwick, ME

**Ali M. Fattah, PE** (G) City of San Diego Development Services Department, San Diego, CA

**Nicholas J. Sitzman** (G) Johnson County, KS, Olathe, KS

**Michael W. Tantala, PE** (U) Tantala Associates, LLC, Engineers and Architects, Philadelphia, PA

**Kevin Warapius, PE** (P) Sturdisteel, Waco, TX

Committee Secretary: **Kimberly Paarlberg, RA**, Senior Staff Architect, Codes & Standards, International Code Council

### Voting Membership in Each Category

Category	Number
General (G)	2
User (U)	2
Producer (P)	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	6

### Interest Categories

**General Interest:** Individuals assigned to the General Interest category are those who represent the interests of an entity, including an association of such entities, representing the general public, or entities that promulgate or enforce the provisions within the committee scope. These entities include consumers and government regulatory agencies.

**User Interest:** Individuals assigned to the User Interest category are those who represent the interests of an entity, including an association of such entities, which is subject to the provisions or voluntarily utilizes provisions within the committee scope. These entities include academia, applied research laboratory, building owner, design professional, government nonregulatory agency, insurance company, private inspection agency, and product certification/evaluation agency.

**Producer Interest:** Individuals assigned to the Producer Interest category are those who represent the interests of an entity, including an association of such entities, which produces, installs, or maintains a product, assembly, or system subject to the provisions within the committee scope. These entities include builder, contractor, distributor, labor, manufacturer, material association, standards promulgator, testing laboratory and utility.

**NOTE—Multiple Interests:** Individuals representing entities in more than one of the above interest categories, one of which is a Producer Interest, are assigned to the Producer Interest. Individuals representing entities in the General Interest and User Interest categories are assigned to the User Interest.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<p><b>CHAPTER 1 APPLICATION AND ADMINISTRATION..... 1</b></p> <p>Section</p> <p>101 General ..... 1</p> <p>102 Applicability ..... 1</p> <p>103 Compliance Alternatives ..... 1</p> <p>104 Conventions ..... 1</p> <p>105 Inspection ..... 1</p> <p>106 Referenced Documents ..... 1</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS..... 3</b></p> <p>Section</p> <p>201 General ..... 3</p> <p>202 Defined Terms ..... 3</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 3 CONSTRUCTION ..... 5</b></p> <p>Section</p> <p>301 General ..... 5</p> <p>302 Permitted Materials ..... 5</p> <p>303 Structural Design ..... 5</p> <p>304 Interior Installations ..... 6</p> <p>305 Spaces Beneath Seats ..... 6</p> <p>306 Clear Height ..... 6</p> <p>307 Roof Height ..... 6</p> <p>308 Electrical ..... 6</p> <p>309 Fire Protection ..... 6</p> <p>310 Accessibility ..... 7</p> <p>311 Open Spaces Beneath Footboards and Seatboards ..... 7</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 4 EGRESS..... 9</b></p> <p>Section</p> <p>401 General ..... 9</p> <p>402 Travel ..... 9</p> <p>403 Occupant Load ..... 9</p> <p>404 General Means of Egress ..... 9</p> <p>405 Aisles ..... 10</p> <p>406 Stairs and Stepped Aisles ..... 11</p> <p>407 Aisle Accessways ..... 12</p> <p>408 Guards ..... 13</p> <p>409 Handrails ..... 14</p>	<p><b>CHAPTER 5 EXISTING BLEACHERS, FOLDING AND TELESCOPIC SEATING, AND GRANDSTANDS ..... 15</b></p> <p>Section</p> <p>501 Application and Administration ..... 15</p> <p>502 Maintenance and Repairs ..... 15</p> <p>503 Guards ..... 16</p> <p>504 Open Spaces at Footboards and Seatboards ..... 16</p> <p>505 Seating Relocation ..... 16</p> <p><b>CHAPTER 6 REFERENCED STANDARDS ..... 17</b></p>
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## CHAPTER 1

# APPLICATION AND ADMINISTRATION

### SECTION 101 GENERAL

**101.1 Purpose.** The purpose of this standard is to establish the minimum requirements to safeguard public health, safety and general welfare through structural strength, means of egress facilities, stability, and safety to life and property relative to the construction, alteration, repair, operation and maintenance of new and existing temporary and permanent bench bleachers, folding and telescopic seating and grandstands. This standard is intended for adoption by government agencies and organizations setting model codes to achieve uniformity in technical design criteria in building codes and other regulations.

### SECTION 102 APPLICABILITY

**102.1 Applicability.** The construction of new temporary and permanent bleachers, folding and telescopic seating and grandstands shall comply with Chapters 1 through 4. Existing temporary and permanent installations shall comply with Chapters 1, 2 and 5. Temporary installations are those that are erected for a period of less than 180 days in a calendar year.

### SECTION 103 COMPLIANCE ALTERNATIVES

**103.1 Compliance alternatives.** Nothing in this standard is intended to prevent the use of designs, products or technologies as alternatives to those prescribed by this standard, where equivalence is provided, and such equivalence is approved by the administrative authority adopting this standard.

### SECTION 104 CONVENTIONS

**104.1 Dimensions.** Dimensions that are not stated as “maximum” or “minimum” are absolute. All dimensions are subject to conventional industry tolerances.

### SECTION 105 INSPECTION

**105.1 Required installation and construction inspection.** After construction or installation, an inspection shall be performed to evaluate compliance with this standard.

**105.2 Yearly inspection required.** The owner shall cause all bleachers, folding and telescopic seating, and grandstands to be inspected at least once a year in order to verify that the structure is maintained in compliance with the provisions of this standard. All folding and telescopic seating shall also be inspected to evaluate compliance with the manufacturer’s

installation and operational instructions, including an inspection during the opening and closing of such seating.

**Exception:** Existing installations shall be inspected in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 5.

### SECTION 106 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

**106.1 Reference documents.** The codes and standards referenced in this standard shall be considered part of the requirements of this standard to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Chapter 6 contains a complete list of all referenced standards.

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## CHAPTER 2

# DEFINITIONS

### SECTION 201 GENERAL

**201.1 General.** For the purpose of this standard, the terms listed in Section 202 have the indicated meaning.

**201.2 Undefined terms.** The meaning of terms not specifically defined in this document or in referenced standards shall have ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context implies.

**201.3 Interchangeability.** Words, terms and phrases used in the singular include the plural and the plural the singular.

### SECTION 202 DEFINED TERMS

**AISLE.** An exit access component that defines and provides a path of egress travel.

**AISLE ACCESSWAY.** That portion of an exit access that leads to an aisle.

**BLEACHERS.** Tiered seating supported on a dedicated structural system and two or more rows high (see "Grandstands").

**BUILDING CODE.** The locally adopted building code.

**CODE OFFICIAL** The officer or other designated authority charged with the administration and enforcement of this standard, or a duly authorized representative.

**ELECTRICAL CODE.** The locally adopted electrical code.

**EXIT ACCESS.** That portion of a means of egress system that leads to an exit. For the purposes of this standard, aisle accessways, aisles and cross aisles are considered components of exit access.

**FIRE CODE.** The locally adopted fire code.

**FOLDING AND TELESCOPIC SEATING.** Tiered seating capable of being reduced in overall size and shape for purposes of moving or storing.

**GRANDSTAND.** Tiered seating supported on a dedicated structural system and two or more rows high (see "Bleachers").

**GUARD.** A building component or a system of building components located at or near the open sides of elevated walking surfaces that minimizes the possibility of a fall from the walking surface to a lower level.

**HANDRAIL.** A horizontal or sloping rail intended for grasping by the hand for guidance or support.

**MEANS OF EGRESS.** A continuous and unobstructed path of vertical and horizontal egress travel from any point on a bleacher, folding and telescopic seating, and grandstand to a public way. A means of egress consists of three separate and distinct parts: exit access, exit and exit discharge.

**OPEN-AIR ASSEMBLY SEATING.** Seating served by *means of egress* that is not subject to smoke accumulation within or under a structure and is open to the atmosphere.

**PRESS BOX.** A limited-size structure attached to tiered seating intended for limited use.

**QUALIFIED PERSON.** A professional trained in the proper and safe use, operation and repair of bleachers, folding and telescopic seating and grandstands and is knowledgeable in the requirements of this standard.

**RAMP.** A walking surface that has a running slope steeper than one unit vertical in 20 units horizontal.

**SMOKE-PROTECTED ASSEMBLY SEATING.** Seating served by a means of egress that is not subject to smoke accumulation within or under a structure for a specified design time by means of passive design or by mechanical ventilation.

**TRANSITION AREA.** Changes in slope of tiered seating sections or access to a platform or balcony from tiered seating.