INSTALLATION
AND OPERATING
INSTRUCTIONS

AUTOMATIC
SKIM-VAC
PLATE

Covered by the following patents:
4,729,406 (USA), 4,776,953 (USA), 4,823,837 (USA)
585347 (Australia), 589058 (Australia), 1274745 (Canada),
other foreign patents pending
The Arneson Skim-Vac Plates are designed to enhance the operation of the Pool Vac and other suction type cleaners when they are installed through the pool's skimmer. Most through skimmer installations allow simultaneous skimmer/cleaner operation during the normal filter cycle. However, the installation of an Arneson Skim-Vac Plate allows not only a simultaneous skimmer/cleaner operation but also a skimmer only mode. This combination provides for the best cleaning and also increases the life of the cleaner — because the cleaner can be set to operate just long enough to clean the pool, and not run the entire filter cycle. The Arneson Automatic Skim-Vac Plate is the only accessory that can accomplish this automatically.

To insure trouble free operation of the Arneson Automatic Skim-Vac Plate, proper installation is essential. Prepare your system and install the Skim-Vac Plate by following the easy steps listed below:

1. Turn filter pump off.

2. Remove skimmer lid and skimmer basket. If the pool has more than one skimmer, use the skimmer closest to the middle of the pool for your Skim-Vac Plate installation.

3. Turn off all other skimmers and other suction lines — such as the main drain or “deep suction” fitting. If there is a main drain port in the skimmer, it will be necessary to plug that port using an appropriate plug (see Fig. 1). If the skimmer has a control/diverter valve to regulate skimmer/main drain flow, the valve should be turned to the full skim position.

4. Reinstall the skimmer basket, using either the original basket or a new basket. Some Arneson Skim-Vac Plates are packed with a basket and others are packed without a basket depending on the Arneson Skim-Vac model number. If a new basket is supplied and does not fit your skimmer, the basket should be discarded.

5. Install the Skim-Vac Plate into the skimmer with the words ↓ TOWARD POOL ↓ facing the skimmer throat (see Fig. 2). Adjust the stand pipe so that it is lined up with ↓ TOWARD POOL ↓ (see Fig. 2) and level with the top of the inside of the skimmer throat (see Fig. 3). This is necessary to allow the skimmer weir to function and prevent the Skim-Vac Plate from tipping in the skimmer. Also, this will assure that the vacuum gauge is not submerged.

6. Remove the Skim-Vac Plate and the basket. Place the Skim-Vac Plate on the basket and note the distance between the bottom of the stand pipe and the bottom of the skimmer basket (see Fig. 3). If this distance is less than 2", it will be necessary to trim the stand pipe by cutting it with a hacksaw.

7. Replace the basket and Skim-Vac Plate into the Skimmer, and position as in Step 5.

8. Remove all air from cleaner hose. Insert the cleaner hose through the skimmer throat and into the opening in the stand pipe — checking to make sure that the hose does not interfere with the skimmer weir (see Fig. 3). If the cleaner hose does not fit into the opening in the stand pipe, it might be necessary to purchase an optional V092 Hose Adapter from your dealer. If there is no weir in the skimmer throat, consult your dealer.
Check the Skim-Vac Plate to make sure that it is centered in the skimmer and seated properly, that the vacuum gauge is above the water, and that the water level in the pool is correct (middle of the tile line or mid-way in the skimmer throat is normal). If the system is operated with the water level too low, the Skim-Vac Plate will not cycle properly, and the filter system might draw air.

Turn filter pump on.

Observe the cleaner. If the cleaner is not moving, the system has started in the skim cycle, and the pump must be turned off and then on again to change to the vacuum or cleaner cycle. With the cleaner operating, adjust the black knob on the regulator valve (see Figs. 3 & 4) on the Skim-Vac Plate so that the vacuum gauge reading corresponds to the cleaner manufacturer's recommendations in the cleaner instruction manual. Fig. 5 is a table for the convenience of Pool Vac owners.

If the vacuum reading on the gauge does not meet the vacuum requirements listed in the installation instructions, turn the black knob on the regulator valve slowly — clockwise to increase and counter clockwise to decrease — until the required reading is reached or the resistance on the handle becomes noticeable. When obvious resistance is noticed, stop turning the handle. Continuing to turn the handle will cause damage to the regulator valve and void the warranty of the Skim-Vac Plate, and will not increase the vacuum reading. For help in correcting a low vacuum condition, consult your dealer.

When the Skim-Vac Plate is in the vac mode, the cleaner will operate until the pump is turned off. When the pump is turned on again the system will start in the skim mode. The system will alternate between the two modes each time the pump is cycled on/off. This can be done manually using the on/off switch, or by adding an additional set of trippers to your time clock, it will change automatically (See Fig. 6). If an electronic timing/control device is in use, it can be reprogrammed accordingly.

There is a definite advantage to splitting the cycle, because it allows for vacuuming and full skimming during the same day filter cycle, rather than every other day.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE ON THE SKIM-VAC PLATE**

1. The Pressure Relief Valve is pre-set at the factory and cannot be adjusted. **DO NOT** attempt to adjust, as damage to the valve will result.

2. Should the Pressure Relief Valve need replacing, insert a screwdriver blade or other tool through the top openings on the valve body and turn counter clockwise until it releases (see Fig. 7). Then simply pull the valve out of the hole in the plate.

3. To replace the Pressure Relief Valve, align the locking tabs on the body of the valve with the two slots in the access hole located in the skimmer plate and push the valve into the hole until the body is flush with the plate. Then insert a screwdriver through the top openings in the valve body and turn it clockwise until the valve "clicks into place. (See Fig. 8).
### Do’s & Don’ts

**Do** monitor debris in the skimmer, skimmer basket and the in-line debris canister, and clean on a regular basis. — This is critical to the operation of the Arneson Skim-Vac Plate and your cleaner.

**Do** monitor and maintain the proper vacuum reading on the vacuum gauge. — This is critical to the operation of the Arneson Skim-Vac Plate and your cleaner.

**Do** maintain the correct water level in the swimming pool. — This is critical to the operation of the Arneson Skim-Vac Plate and your cleaner.

**Don’t** operate the Arneson Skim-Vac Plate with the vacuum gauge below water level. — This will void the warranty!

**Don’t** use the skimmer or the skimmer basket as a chemical dispenser. — This will void the warranty!

**Don’t** over tighten the black knob on the regulator valve. — This will void the warranty!

**Don’t** attempt to adjust the pressure relief valve. — It is factory set!

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### MAINTENANCE TIPS

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION — PLEASE READ!**

The Arneson Skim-Vac Plate is designed to alternate between skimming and vacuuming automatically. This alternation occurs each time the filter pump is turned on, and the automation is achieved by adding on/off trippers to the time clock or by reprogramming electronic timing/control devices. (See installation instructions Step 12 and Fig. 6).

From time to time it might be necessary to remove debris from the poppet assembly to insure proper operation of the Arneson Skim-Vac Plate (See Figs. 9 & 10). This is normal, as the skimmer is specifically designed to trap floating debris and must be cleaned and maintained on a regular basis — whether or not the Arneson Skim-Vac Plate is installed. The specific maintenance schedule for your pool will be determined by the debris load at any given time.

Also, use of the skimmer as a chemical dispenser is not recommended when using the Arneson Skim-Vac Plate. The high chlorine or other chemical residual can cause damage and corrosion to the Skim-Vac Plate and will void the warranty.