

Safety Standards for Bleachers, Folding and Telescopic Seating

A Code Compliance Guide



TOADVINE

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What You Need To Know

1. Owners of bleachers and telescopic seating systems are responsible for annual inspections to comply with governmental jurisdiction codes.
2. Owners of bleachers and telescopic seating systems are also responsible for required maintenance and proper operation to ensure safe conditions
3. Inspection and maintenance of bleachers and telescopic seating systems should be included in all building preventative maintenance plans
4. More than 9,000 bleacher/telescopic seating injuries occur each year
5. Proper inspection could reduce the chance of collapse, injury, and liability exposures

TOADVINE CAN HELP

- Manufacturer trained and certified service technicians
- Full service inspections, preventive maintenance, and expert repairs
- Comprehensive offering of life cycle seating services and genuine parts and service

Toadvine Enterprises
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Industry Standards & Governance

Two standards apply to bleachers, folding and telescopic seating:



International Code Council: ICC 300



National Fire Protection Association:
NFPA 102



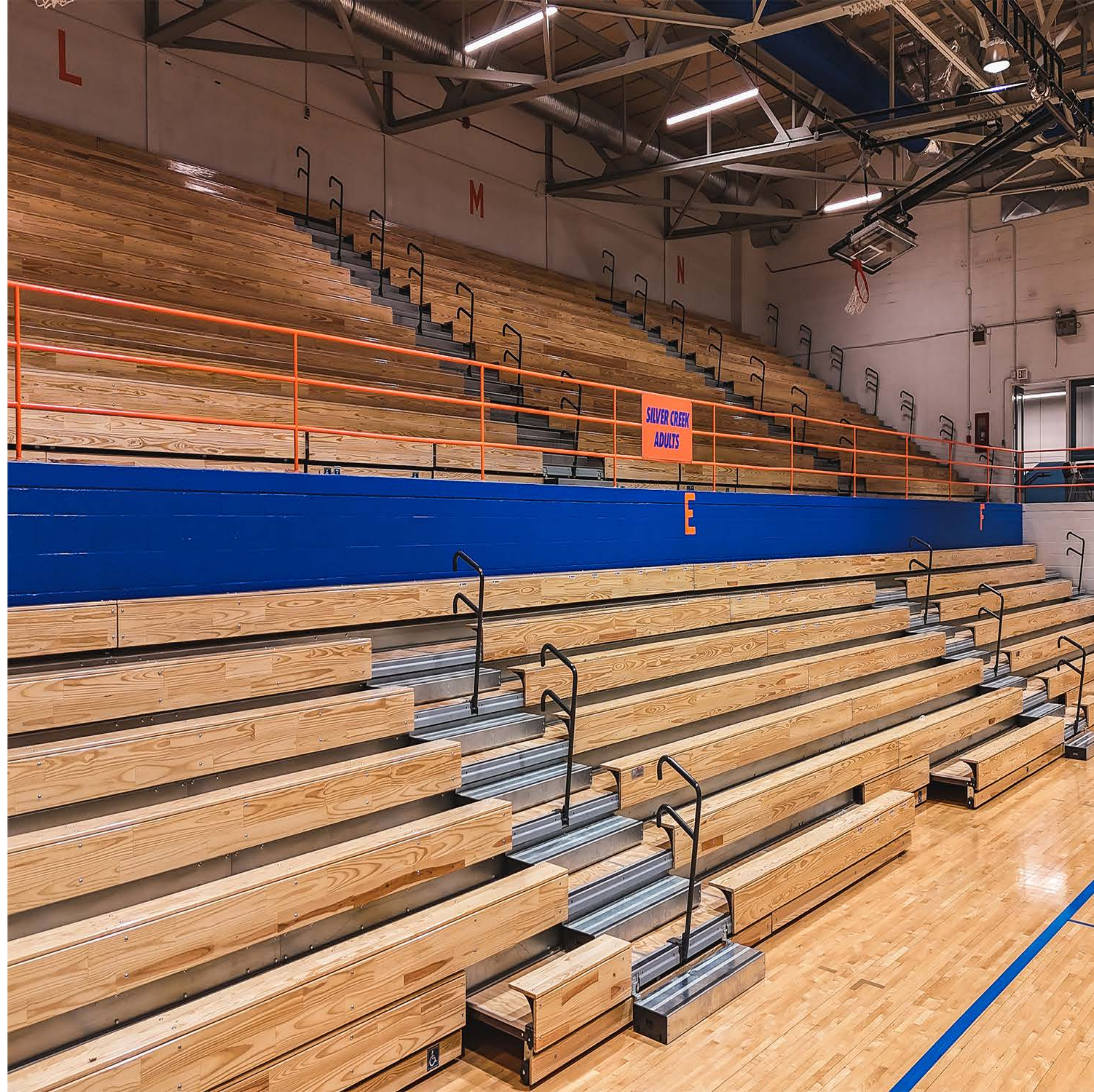
International Code Council: ICC 300

Purpose:

- Standard for bleachers, folding and telescopic seating, and grandstands
- Minimum requirements to safeguard public health, safety, and general welfare for new and existing installations (temporary or permanent, indoor and outdoor)
- Adoption by government agencies to achieve uniformity in technical design

Application:

- Construction, alteration, repair, operation and maintenance



International Code Council: ICC 300

Measures:

- Structural strength and stability
- Means of egress facilities
- Safety to life and property

Definitions:

- Bleachers / Grandstands: tiered seating supported on a dedicated structural system and two or more rows high
- Folding and Telescopic Seating: tiered seating capable of being reduced in overall size and shape for purposes of moving and storing
- Temporary Installations: structures that were erected for a period of less than 180 days in a calendar year

Related Standards:

- IBC 2018: International Building Code
- NFPA 2018: NFPA 101 - Life Safety Code
- NFPA 2016: NFPA 102 - Standard for Bleachers, Folding and Telescopic Seating



Section 105: Inspection

105.1	Inspection required after installation and construction
105.2	Yearly inspection required including evaluation of compliance with manufacturer's installation and operation instructions, and inspection during the opening and closing of seating

Section 501: Application & Administration

501.1	Existing installation must comply
501.2	All existing seating shall be inspected at least once a year by qualified person to evaluate compliance with manufacturer's installation and operation instructions, and inspection during the opening and closing of seating

Section 502: Maintenance & Repairs

502.1	Existing seating shall be maintained structurally sound with all components or fasteners in proper working condition
502.2.1	Equipment must be maintained in good repair and structurally sound so not to pose a threat to public safety, health, or welfare

ICC 300-2023

Standard for Bleachers, Folding and Telescopic Seating, and Grandstands

American National Standard



National Fire Protection Association: NFPA 102

Purpose:

- Standard for Grandstands, Folding and Telescopic Seating, Tents, and Membranes
- Minimum requirements for life safety related to fire, storm, collapse, and crowd behavior in tents, membrane structures, and assembly seating

Application:

- Construction, location, protection, and maintenance of folding / telescopic seating systems
- New and existing seating facilities located in the open air or within enclosed or semi-enclosed structures



NFPA Inspection Standard

Chapter 5- Grandstands & Bleachers

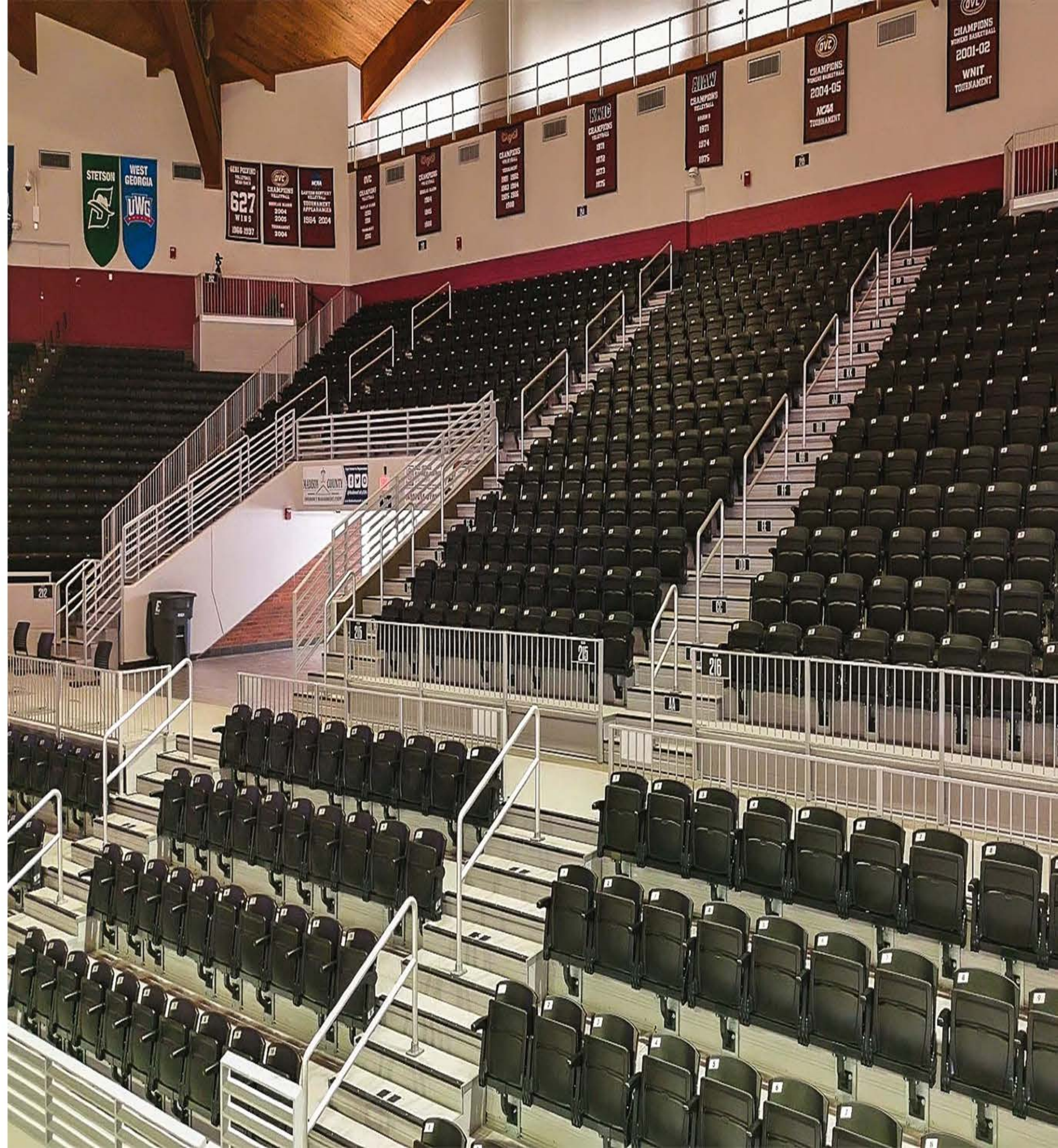
Section 10: Maintenance

10.1	The owner shall provide for not less than annual inspection and required maintenance for each grandstand to ensure safe conditions
10.3	Where required by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ), the owner shall provide certification that both inspection have been performed

Chapter 6- Folding & Telescopic Seating

Section 6: Maintenance & Operation

6.2	Maintenance and operation of folding and telescopic seating shall be the responsibility of the owner or his or her duly authorized representative
6.2.3	An annual inspection and required maintenance of each folding and telescopic seating unit shall be performed to ensure safe conditions
6.2.4	At least biennially, the inspection shall be performed by a professional engineer, registered architect, or individual certified by the manufacturer



Code Compliance Requirements for Folding & Telescopic Seating

Codes vary by location and it's important to understand which code jurisdiction applies to your location to ensure proper compliance for certified inspections.

Requirement	ICC 300	NFPA 102
Inspection of New Installations	✓	✓
Inspection of Existing Installations	✓	✓
Inspection Frequency by Owner	✗	Annually
Inspection Frequency by Certified Professional	Annually	Biennially
Document / File Inspection & Repairs	✓	✓
Test and Operate the Folding / Telescopic Mechanism	✓	✓
Operation in Accordance with Manufacturer's Instruction	✓	✓
Provide Certificate of Inspection	✓	✓

Code Compliance Summary

- National industry standard for assembly seating spaces
- Outlines minimum requirements for life safety, public health, and welfare
- Aligns with all international building and property maintenance codes

Owner Responsibilities:

- Code compliance and annual inspection
- Proof of certification that inspection was performed
- Proper operation in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
- Maintain in good repair, structurally sound, and proper working condition
- Documentation on file with inspection certificate and corresponding repairs

Per H.R. 836, violation of ICC 300 constitutes a violation of Title 15 (Commerce and Trade) of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Code which carries civil penalties of up to \$100,000 for each violation and \$15 million for any series of violations





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