

The Formentera Department of Sport reports that the municipal pool will reopen Wednesday after upgrades were carried out on the facility's air-conditioning system and waterproofing. Since January, crews have installed a replacement dehumidifier and performed maintenance and waterproofing on the roof, not to mention upgraded changing rooms and instructor spaces, installed energy-saving bulbs in indoor lighting fixtures, repaired the pool bassin, installed new pipes in the boiler room and done general upkeep like painting and cleaning.

One of the primary tasks was replacement of the dehumidifier — a machine that was originally installed fifteen years ago when the pool was still covered, and which had reached the end of its useful life. Installation of the €102,850 replacement machine concluded an administrative process that had started last year and which was blocked for a time by the invocation of emergency orders.

Deputy premiere and temporary FDS chair Ana Juan welcomed news of the completion and apologised to islanders for the wait. The process hasn't been easy, she insisted. Work suffered setbacks and snags, Juan said, some related to the pandemic, some not. And crews took the opportunity to do other repairs and maintenance in changing rooms and common areas. Juan told islanders to expect "a safer and newly improved indoor pool" and hailed the return of supervised activities, on hold since the start of the pandemic.

Return of supervised activities

Suspended since the onset of the pandemic, supervised activities like aquafitness and gentle gymnastics are also back on the agenda. Appointments and visits can be scheduled from tomorrow by calling 971 321 240.

As per safety protocol now in place, free swims will last forty-five minutes, showers can be used for fifteen minutes, and changing room lockers will remain off limits. Pool equipment may be used and once used, it must be disinfected. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied and visitors may only remove their masks to exercise.

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