

Date assessment issued: Oct 2016

Planned review date: July 2017

Retention period: Oct 2017

UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH SUB AQUA CLUB

SCUBA Diving in a variety of locations at varying depth depending on Qualifications and experience. This includes pool training and in open water.

NOTE: Many inland sites in the UK have their own risk assessments specific to those sites. These are available online and used by UPSAC as needed. In addition, some sites mandate dive club's provide their own risk assessments and these are created as required.

NOTE: UPSAC operates under the 'BSAC Safe Diving' Booklet. This booklet is an alphabetical guide to safe practices of sports diving as recommended by the British Sub-Aqua Club (BSAC), the governing body of the sport of sub-aqua diving and snorkelling in the UK. The ideas expressed within reflect the current thinking of the National Diving Committee (NDC) and the advice on which it is acting. It also contains the Diver's Code of Conduct and lists the current policies of the BSAC.

Summary of assessment: The activity has been assessed against the existing control measures. The assessment has identified the below issues and any recommendations are detailed in the action plan.



Signature of assessor

Name (print): Andy Burns Position: Diving (Safety) Officer Date: 24-10-2016

Authorising Person's Approval:

I have reviewed this risk assessment in consultation with the assessor and accept the issues identified. The actions defined in this risk assessment will be taken in order to reduce residual risks to a level that is as low as reasonably practicable.

Signature of Authorising Person **Name (print)** _____ **Position:** _____ **Date:** _____

Subsequent assessment review: Risk assessments require review, and in some cases revision, to ensure the assessment continues to reflect current working practices e.g. a review should be initiated in response to significant changes to the area / activity or if an accident / incident has occurred.

Review undertaken on:

Comments:

UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH STUDENTS" UNION		GENERAL RISK ASSESSMENT					Assessment Ref:		
HAZARDS									
Please place a cross in the box next to each relevant hazard area to Identify significant hazards relevant to this risk assessment									
Flammable / Explosive Substances		Hazardous Waste Disposal		Storage / Housekeeping		Temperature	X	Travel Health	
Ionising / Non-Ionising Radiation		Discharge / Spill		Falling Objects	X	Humidity		Stress	
Exposure to Hazardous Substances		Slips, Trips & Falls	X	Machinery / Power Tools		Lighting		Out of Hours Working	
Biological Hazards		Electrical Safety		Hygiene		Noise		Personal Security	
Cryogenic Hazard		Manual Handling		Welfare		Vibration		Display Screen Equipment	
Chemical Storage		Working at Height		Pressure / Vacuum Systems	X	Access / Egress			

WHO IS AT RISK									
Identify groups of individuals who need to be considered as part of this risk assessment									
Staff/Students		Contractors		Visitors		Others		Higher Risk groups	
Employees		Cleaners		Visitors		Neighbours		Young Persons	
Temporary Staff		Maintenance Engineers	X	Customers		Members of the Public	X	Disabled Persons	
Operatives	X	Security		Delivery Staff		Environment	X	Children	
Academics		Catering Staff				Wildlife	X	Pregnant /Nursing Mothers	
Students	X	Contractors						Lone Workers	

ASSESSMENT OF RISK

List each individual risk within each identified hazard area and detail the control measures taken to reduce each risk. Please refer to the matrix below to determine the risk rating before and after control measures.

Significant Hazard Area	Perceived Nature of Risk	Risk rating before control measures Low/Medium/High	Existing Control Measures	Risk rating after control measures Low/Medium/High	Further action required Yes/No
Barotraumas	Physical Injury	12 - High	Training and Instruction.	8 - Medium	No
			Emergency Oxygen available on site.		
			Use of Lines and Sloping Bottoms where appropriate to control Ascents/Descents.		
			Ensuring all Divers have appropriate Medical Clearance prior to dive commencement.		
			Ensuring all Divers are Fit and Well prior to dive commencement.		
			Medical Evacuation plans in place as appropriate to Dive Site.		
Decompression Illness (DCI)	Physical Injury	12 - High	Training and Instruction.	8 - Medium	No
			Protective Equipment.		
			Emergency Oxygen available on site.		
			Careful Selection of Dive Site and Activities Undertaken appropriate to level of Training and Experience of all involved.		
			Medical Evacuation plans in place as appropriate to Dive Site.		
			Ensuring all Divers have appropriate Medical Clearance prior to dive commencement.		
Deep Water	Falling into water from the side	8 - Medium	All Divers will undertake a Basic Swimming Assessment at start of Training.	4 - Low	No
			Protective Equipment.		
			Deep Water Hazard(s) will be identified and highlighted to all Divers and visitors at the Start of Day Site Briefing.		
Diver Separation	Leading to other risks such as drowning , DCI or barotraumas	9 - Medium	Training and Instruction.	3 - Low	No
			Protective Equipment.		
			Shore Support present to coordinate Search and Rescue Efforts.		
Drowning	Physical Injury	8 - Medium	Training and Instruction.	4 - Low	No
			Protective Equipment.		

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			Shore Support present to coordinate Search and Rescue Efforts.			
Entrapment/ Entanglement	Leading to other risks such as Out of Gas or Drowning	8 - Medium	Training and Instruction.	4 - Low	No	
			Careful Selection of Dive Site and Activities Undertaken appropriate to level of Training and Experience of all involved.			
			Cutting Tools to be taken as appropriate.			
Equipment Failure	Leading to other risks such as drowning , DCI or barotraumas	8 - Medium	Training and Instruction.	6 - Medium	No	
			Protective Equipment Redundancies.			
Improper Equipment Preparation	Leading to Equipment Failure	8 - Medium	Training and Instruction.	4 - Low	No	
			Pre-Dive Safety Checks.			
Lost Underwater	Leading to other risks such as Out of Gas or Drowning	8 - Medium	Training and Instruction.	4 - Low	No	
			Protective Equipment.			
			Careful Selection of Dive Site and Activities Undertaken appropriate to level of Training and Experience of all involved.			
			Shore Support present to coordinate Search and Rescue Efforts.			
Lost on Surface at Sea	Risk of Drowning or being stranded	8 - Medium	Training and Instruction.	4 - Low	No	
			Protective Equipment.			
			Careful Selection of Dive Site and Activities Undertaken appropriate to level of Training and Experience of all involved.			
			Appropriate Selection of Boat Skippers/Cox'ns			
			All Divers will undertake a Basic Swimming Assessment at start of Training.			
Low on Gas/ Out of Gas	Risk of Drowning	8 - Medium	Training and Instruction.	4 - Low	No	
			Protective Equipment Redundancies.			
			Emergency Oxygen available on site.			
			Medical Evacuation plans in place as appropriate to Dive Site.			
Nitrogen Narcosis	Risk of impaired judgment leading to other risks such as drowning , DCI or barotraumas	12 - High	Training and Instruction.	4 - Low	No	
			Careful Selection of Dive Site and Activities Undertaken appropriate to level of Training and Experience of all involved.			
Reduced underwater visibility	Loss of diver / Physical Injury	8 - Medium	Diver numbers in water to be controlled and monitored. Divers to carry torches on all dives. Dive to be abandoned in the event of adverse reduced visibility. Divers to surface and exit. Dive Marshal to abort diving.	4 - Low	No	

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Entanglement in nets/lines/under - water obstructions	Physical Injury	8 - Medium	Dive planning should identify risk level. All divers carry appropriate cutting implement, such as filament line cutter, wire snips, diving knife, etc. Instructor control.	4 - Low	No	
Diver Separation	Loss of diver / Physical Injurt	8 – Medium	Divers to dive in buddy pairs at all times. Contact to be maintained throughout the dive. Divers trained to surface immediately. Re-establish contact.	4 – Low	No	
Trips/ Falls	Physical Injury	8 - Medium	Trip/ Fall Hazard(s) will be identified and highlighted to all Divers and visitors at the Start of Day Site Briefing.	4 - Low	No	
Contact with dive boat/propeller	Physical Injury	8 - Medium	Only trained cox'ns allowed to operate boats. Trainees receive specific instruction in boat exit / entry techniques. All exit from and entry to boats controlled by cox'n.	4 – Low	No	
Deteriorating weather	Physical Injury	8 - Medium	Diving planned using latest weather information. Alternative site planned. Weather conditions constantly monitored by Dive Marshal / cox'n during diving. Diver recall mechanism available (e.g. signals via SMB line, Thunderflashes)	4 - Low	No	
Injury from other boats	Physical Injury	8-Medium	Flag 'Alpha' flown while divers are underwater. Monitoring of other surface traffic by boat cover. Divers marked by SMBs or ascending under DSMBs.	4 – Low	No	
Cold Water Temperature Related Disorders	Whilst Diving	8 - Medium	Protective Equipment.	4 - Low	No	
			Extreme Thermal Conditions will be identified and highlighted to all Divers and visitors prior to the Day of Diving.			
			Additional clothing will be recommended as appropriate.			
Underlying Medical Conditions	Physical Injury	8 - Medium	Ensuring all Divers have appropriate Medical Clearance prior to dive commencement.	4 - Low	No	
			Ensuring all Divers are Fit and Well prior to dive commencement.			
			Medical Evacuation plans in place as appropriate to Dive Site.			

ACTION PLAN

Develop a prioritised action plan to support the risk assessment, if any of the identified control measures require further action

Action to be taken to further reduce risk	Person responsible for completing action	Target completion date (Prioritized on risk)	Action closure
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		Date	Priority	Signature	Date
Replace the old O2 Administration equipment	UPSU and Club Committee	Sept 2016	High		

RISK MATRIX

Use the risk matrix to classify the perceived level of risk and to prioritise the action plan

LIKELIHOOD	SEVERITY			
	1 - Slight (First aid injury)	2 - Moderate (Medical treatment injury)	3 - Severe (Lost time accident/major injury)	4 - Very Severe (Long term disability or fatality)
4 - Very Likely (Common occurrence)	4 - Low	8 - Medium	12 - High	16 - High
3 - Likely (Easily foreseeable)	3 - Low	6 - Medium	9 - Medium	12 - High
2 - Possible (Foreseeable under unusual circumstances)	2 - Not Significant	4 - Low	6 - Medium	8 - Medium
1 - Unlikely (Unlikely sequence of events / unplanned event)	1 - Not Significant	2 - Not Significant	3 - Low	4 - Low