

DIVE MANAGING

As Dive Manager you are responsible for all aspects the dive, this is delegated from the branch diving officer. Please obey local by-laws and make sure the behavior on the beach/harbour does not offend anybody. Ask divers not to block any access with their gear or boats.

Have you remembered to check -

- ◆ Weather conditions for the day ?
- ◆ Check times of slack water ?
- ◆ Check boats for complete boat boxes, anchors paddles, dive flag, pumps and oxygen ?
- ◆ Check boats have enough fuel and oil and are carrying spare fuel and oil ?
- ◆ Leave trailers above high water mark and lock together ?
- ◆ Pay harbour dues ?
- ◆ Tell coastguard your plans ?

We are leaving port to divesite with number of boats and number of divers. We expect to return to port at about time and will contact you again then.

- ◆ Brief your divers for the dive ?
- ◆ Checked % O₂ and MOD for each Nitrox diver?
- ◆ Log divers in out of water and record ? on this log sheet and return to D.O ?
- ◆ Tell coastguard when you return ?
- ◆ Fill in boat log and return to E.O ?

FUEL AND OILS

Only use good quality outboard oil preferably quicksilver or the like. Use unleaded fuel at all times.

Oil is put into engines under engine covers or in stern compartment on Viper.

RECOGNISING DECOMPRESSION ILLNESS

History

You should be concerned if a diver has any medical distress 24 hours after a dive especially given the factors below.

- ◆ Dives deeper than 8 meters
- ◆ Missed stops
- ◆ Hard work
- ◆ Cold Conditions
- ◆ Rapid ascents
- ◆ Breath holding while ascending
- ◆ Difficulty clearing on descent or ascent
- ◆ Repeated dives and ascents, sawtooth profiles.

Signs and symptoms

You probably won't get more than a few symptoms at first. Some develop earlier than others and some are easier to spot. Keep watch for other symptoms you have not spotted.

- ◆ Joint pain
- ◆ Skin rash
- ◆ Numbness/tingling in extremities
- ◆ Headache
- ◆ Fatigue or personality changes
- ◆ Visual impairment
- ◆ Weakness
- ◆ Unconsciousness, collapse or convulsions.
- ◆ Stopped breathing
- ◆ Bloody, frothy sputum
- ◆ A uncontrolled ascent

A diver with any of the above could have Decompression illness.

- ◆ **Both are serious medical emergencies**
- ◆ **First Aid is the same for both - oxygen**
- ◆ **Call Coastguard 999 or VHF CH 16**

Advice can be sought from the Royal Navy on 07831 151523 for England, Northern Ireland and Wales. When in Scotland call 01224 681818 which will connect with Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.

MANAGING EMERGENCIES

Lost divers

- ◆ Mark last known position note time
- ◆ Call the Coastguard
- ◆ Recall all divers
- ◆ Note detection aids carried

Diving illness

- ◆ Administer 100% oxygen. Start immediately, use lots of it carry on till bottle empty. Then use richest Nitrox mix followed by least richest mixes.
- ◆ Treat for shock and give First Aid as necessary.
- ◆ Record dive details and progress of illness.
- ◆ Call the Coastguard on VHF CH16/70 or dial 999 ask for Coastguard.
- ◆ Say this is a diving emergency.

When help comes

- ◆ Send the casualty's computer.
- ◆ Send the casualties buddy.
- ◆ Send full details of the dive and record of illness.

Expect to asked

- ◆ Where are you?
- ◆ What is wrong?
- ◆ What are the sea conditions or weather?
- ◆ How long overdue are divers?
- ◆ Any special conditions like wreck dive?
- ◆ Can you mark the last position?
- ◆ Is the casualty conscious?
- ◆ When did symptoms first appear?
- ◆ Dive profile and previous dives?
- ◆ Are your other divers OK?

Helicopters

- ◆ May communicate on CH 16/67
- ◆ Be ready with orange smoke if asked for it.
- ◆ Obey their instructions
- ◆ Don't tie their ropes to the boat.