

## ADVANCED DIVING QUALIFICATIONS

### DIVE LEADER

#### N. DIVE LEADER QUALIFYING DIVES

The Dive Leader Candidate must complete 15 additional dives (at least 8 should be in the sea) to those required for Club Diver in a variety of conditions. No more than 2 qualifying dives in any one day or at any one site. The duration of each dive should not be less than 15 minutes with a majority of the dives deeper than 7 metres. To qualify as a Dive Leader, a Club Diver will be expected to have logged a further 5 hours underwater since qualifying as a Club Diver. It may be necessary to have recorded more than the 15 qualifying dives to achieve this underwater experience.

It is advised that the qualifying dives should include experience of at least 6 of the following:

- Wreck dive.
- Hard boat dive.
- Night dive.
- Dive with a work task.
- Dive to 30 metres.
- Drift dive.
- Zero visibility dive.
- Cold water dive (below 5 deg C).
- Cliff dive.

Other types of dive which indicate a range of diving experience are also acceptable.

During the qualifying and assessment dives, candidates should demonstrate an appropriate level of competence in such things as:

- Questioning of divers, inspection of their log books and testing to determine diver's ability/experience.
- Selection of suitable sites and tidal conditions, arrangement of dives (within overall plan of meeting) to meet the needs of Novice and Club Divers.
- Briefing divers, supervising kitting-up and buddy checks.
- Getting divers into the water, supervising in-water checks.
- Leading dives, applying correct monitoring, control and safety practices.
- Rope search.
- Navigation by "dead reckoning", pilotage and use of a compass.
- Assisted ascent/emergency ascent
- Conducting of debriefings, submission of dive record sheets.
- Use of Decompression Tables to correctly determine stops for any given dive.
- Air requirement calculations.
- Familiar with the use of PDC's
- Basic First Aid

#### N. DIVE LEADER

*[Must be carried out over a number of dives.]*

**N1. A 35m dive**

**N2. Act as a Dive Leader on four occasions.**

**N3. Carry out a rope search.**

**N4. Carry out an assisted ascent from 10 to 3 metres**

- N5. Demonstrate ability to recover an unconscious diver from 20 metres to 10 metres using a buoyant lift.**
- N6. Plot a navigation course taking into account a tidal stream.**

*Items 4 & 5 form part of the Diver Rescue Course and as such may be signed off by completing the relevant course. The SAA would strongly recommend that all Divers who are trying to obtain the Dive Leader qualification complete the SAA Diver Rescue Course.*

#### NOTES FOR GUIDANCE.

- N1. A 35m dive.** Diver to dive with a more experienced diver to gain experience of the effects of deeper diving. And must be able to plan the dive including a backup plan.
- N2. Act as a Dive Leader on four occasions.** At least two of the dives should be in the Sea.
- N3. Carry out a rope search.** Candidate to plan and execute a simple rope search with a buddy, semi-circular etc. The candidate should choose and organise the search depending on the site chosen.
- N4. Carry out an assisted ascent from 10 to 3 metres.** Candidate to bring buddy from 10m to 3m acting as the donor using an AAS, correct ascent rate, signals and buoyancy control required. Candidate and casualty should not re-descend during any part of the drill.
- N5. Demonstrate ability to recover an unconscious diver from 20 metres to 10 metres using a buoyant lift.** Candidate should lift casualty from neutral buoyancy at approx 20m [22m max] to 10m using casualties BC with minimal fining. Dry-suit lifts are not permitted [neck-seals]. Ascent should be at 10m/min max and no re-descents permitted once lift commences. Lift should stop at 10m  $\pm$  1m. Please see section 11.2 of this manual "MANIKIN HINTS AND TIPS" for further information.
- N6. Plot a navigation course taking into account a tidal stream.** Demonstrate ability to compensate for tidal effects by swimming a simple course taking account of tide.

#### LECTURES.

- L1. Decompression sickness - condition and treatment.**
- L2. Burst Lung.**
- L3. Search diving - signals etc.**
- L4. Advanced diving.**
- L5. Dive Leadership.**

#### KNOWLEDGE REVIEW

Satisfactorily complete a knowledge review which should include air calculations and SAA Bühlmann system questions, up to and including L5 (Exam Papers are available from SAA Head Office)

#### OUTCOME

Dive Leaders may dive with divers of Elementary Diver status or higher. They may not act as instructors in Open Water unless qualified as such.