



UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

Work/Activity: SCUBA Diving and Powerboat Use During COVID-19		
<p>The club operates diving operations from both the shore and by boat. This risk assessment covers how the COVID-19 requirements will be adhered to while undertaking club scuba diving and powerboat activities. It does not cover the generic risks of scuba diving, please refer to the UPSAC-Risk-Assessment-2020-21-May-20-v3.docx for this, filed on the group drive & with SU.</p> <p>Foreword: The COVID-19 outbreak poses additional risk to members and the public which require additional consideration to ensure the continuation of safe diving. Any diver or participant in such activities will be informed to stay home and will not be allowed to partake in any club diving activities, where they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • displaying symptoms of COVID-19 as set out by the NHS, • self-isolating, or • residing with an individual displaying such symptoms or self-isolating. <p>Participants will be reminded to maintain good hand, respiratory and personal hygiene at all times. During training and diving, the club will follow the current Government advice, the BSAC safe diving recommendations and COVID-19 guidance.</p>		
Group: UPSAC	Assessor(s): Andy Burns – BSAC Branch Diving Officer Elliot Murdock – President UPSAC Society	Contact: 07802 174834 Contact: 07397 174995
Guidance/standards/Reference documents	Competence requirements	
<p>All diving activities carried out by the club follow BSAC safe diving recommendations which can be found here: https://www.bsac.com/safety/bsacs-safe-diving-guide/ This document is produced by a highly</p>	<p>Role: Diving Officer</p>	<p>Skills, experience, or qualifications: The Diving Officer has ultimate responsibility for diving activities and delegates his/her authority from the National Diving Officer to the Training Officer to conduct training at branch level. The Diving Officer is responsible for the award of in-club qualifications and is the only branch member with this authority other than the lead instructor. The Diving</p>



UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

<p>qualified and experienced team from BSAC (the National Governing Body for Scuba Diving and Snorkelling in the UK). As such it shall be considered the minimum benchmark for all diving practices.</p>		<p>Officer is responsible for the conduct of divers within the club and therefore, although not necessarily present, should have an awareness of all branch diving activity.</p>
	<p>Role: Instructor / Assistant Instructor</p>	<p>Skills, experience, or qualifications: Instructors are primarily nationally qualified individuals who have passed strict theory and practical examinations by national assessors. They will be highly qualified in their own diving and very experienced. The minimum grade is 'Practical Instructor'. Assistant instructors will have attended national training but not have passed any examinations. They will require constant supervision from fully qualified Instructors who are the only people who can sign off any elements of training. A fully qualified Instructor must always be present if an Assistant Instructor is teaching and the Assistant Instructor must have a fully qualified Instructor's permission to teach.</p>
	<p>Role: Cox</p>	<p>Skills, experience, or qualifications: The Cox should be qualified to RYA Level 2/BSAC Boat Handling or equivalent. They should be comfortable with diver drop-off and recovery and ideally hold a GMDSS Short Ranger Certificate with authority to operate in GMDSS Sea Area A1, however this is not essential. They must hold the authority of the Boat Officer to be the designated cox.</p>

UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

--	--	--

Task	Hazards	Affects Who?	Likelihood	Impact	Score	Control Measures	Additional Control Measures	Action by whom?	Likelihood	Impact	New
Any	COVID-19 transmission from infected individual attending diving	All	3	2	6	An individual who has displayed any COVID-19 symptoms (irrespective of a COVID-19 test result) is not permitted to attend any activities within 14 days of their last display of symptoms and is to follow all NHS guidance: https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/	Contact details will be taken for all attendees to facilitate a 'track and trace' procedure in the event an attendee begins exhibiting symptoms after the activity. All attendees to the activity must be notified of the event immediately and practice the NHS guidance.	All	1	2	2
Eating and Drinking	COVID-19 transmission	All	2	2	4	All individuals should bring their own food and drink items. None will be provided by the cox or anyone else.	Nobody must share any food or drink items, including utensils. All food and drink items must be stored in personal bags when not in use.	All	1	2	2

UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

							Sanitising gel or thorough hand washing must be completed before eating and drinking.				
Equipment loan and Use	Contracting coronavirus by using dive equipment that has been handled by others	Divers	2	2	4	<p>All loan equipment should be stored in a bag for individual use to prevent cross contamination.</p> <p>All equipment must be allocated to one diver for the duration of the session.</p> <p>All rental equipment must be washed in fresh free-flowing water or in a separate water to other equipment. Following this it should be soaked in disinfectant solution for 10 minutes, rinsed in fresh water and allowed to dry for 72 hours before the next use.</p>	<p>Although always recommended, divers should be encouraged to supply and use their own personal equipment.</p> <p>All club owned equipment will be washed with Chemgene HLD4H Surface Disinfectant after use.</p>	Divers	1	2	2

UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

Equipment collection and return	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to close proximity in the equipment storage facility	Divers People helping with equipment collection	2	2	4	No more than one person should be in the kit storage area at any one time. Each diver should only enter the kit storage upon collection to pick up their own equipment.	Where possible kit should be designated and sorted into individual bags for each diver at least 3 days prior to being collected for diving to allow time for the equipment to cease being contaminated. Where possible divers should travel in the same vehicle as their equipment and be the only one to load and unload it. Sanitise hands before handling equipment for other people and do not handle mouthpieces or any area that connects gas supplies.	All	1	2	2
Travelling, including to collect equipment and travel to dive sites	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to close proximity	Divers of different households travelling together	3	2	6	You should try not to share a vehicle with those outside your household or support bubble. If you need to do this, try to:	The number of households per car should be reduced where possible, with the maximum possible distance being maintained	Drivers All	1	2	2

UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

	during traveling					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • share the transport with the same people each time • keep to small groups of people at any one time • open windows for ventilation • travel side by side or behind other people, rather than facing them, where seating arrangements allow • face away from each other • consider seating arrangements to maximise distance between people in the vehicle • clean your car between journeys using standard cleaning products - make sure you clean 	<p>If possible, divers will travel alone. It is acknowledged however that this is not always possible. Face coverings should be worn, and good ventilation maintained</p>				
--	------------------	--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--

UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

						door handles and other areas that people may touch ask the driver and passengers to wear a face covering					
Using changing facilities on site	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to close proximity Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to contamination of surfaces	Divers	2	2	4	Each diver should use a single spot in changing facilities throughout the entirety of the day to minimise spread of the virus due to surface contamination Distance should be maintained while in changing facilities and numbers limited if necessary	Where possible divers are encouraged to wear clothes that do not require the use of changing facilities, i.e. arriving to the dive site wearing base layers to be worn under an undersuit. They are also encouraged to not use changing facilities, even if available, where possible.	All	1	2	2
Zippering up a drysuit	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to close proximity	All	2	2	4	Divers should zip up their own drysuit if possible. However, this is not always achievable. If so, they must stand side to side, front to back at 90 degrees to the wind		All	1	2	2

UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

						thereby making sure neither is downwind of each other. Face coverings and gloves must be worn while doing this.					
Spitting in a mask	Contracting or spreading coronavirus through fluid exchange	Divers	1	2	2	Divers must not spit in their masks. They must use proprietary defog methods.	No buckets of water will be shared to rinse masks. This must be done in open water.	Divers	1	2	2
Performing tasks as a buddy pair – Kitting Up	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to close proximity and contact with equipment	Divers	2	2	4	Divers should assemble their own equipment Where assistance is required, buddies should help each other, wearing a mask and gloves and neither down wind of each other	Where possible benches should be used to don equipment without assistance. This process can be made easier with proper loosening of straps and preparation.	All	1	2	2
Performing tasks as a buddy pair – Buddy Check	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to close proximity and	Divers	2	2	4	Care should be taken not to breathe from the alternate second stage to reduce risk of contamination	Buddy check should be conducted at a distance with visual demonstrations of all equipment.	All	1	2	2

UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

	contact with equipment										
Performing tasks as a buddy pair - Diving	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to close proximity and contact with equipment	Divers	2	2	4	Despite guidelines to social distance, while underwater divers should ensure that they are still able to maintain visual contact and be able to assist each other as needed. While underwater, wearing full protective equipment and breathing filtered air, coronavirus transmission should not be possible.	In the case of a need to share air, the alternate second stage should be taken rather than donating the primary.	All	1	2	2
Refilling cylinders	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to contact with equipment	Divers Compress or trained members	2	2	4	Where possible divers should fill their own cylinders. Where this is not possible a single person should be in charge of filling cylinders and should disinfect each cylinder valve upon	Once cylinders have been filled each diver should ensure they collect the cylinder that they used previously.	All	1	2	2

UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

						receiving and before return.					
Boarding the boat	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to close proximity	All	2	2	4	Divers should board the boat completely unaided.	If help is needed to board the boat, divers should use PPE while doing so.	All	1	2	2
Being on the boat	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to contact with equipment	All	3	2	6	People on the boat will be limited to a maximum of four. All people must sit as far away from each other as practical and wear face coverings at all times where practical. The cox will provide a full boat brief to ensure all persons are fully aware of their duties and requirements regarding boat diving and COVID-19.	The absolute minimum number of items must be brought upon the boat to enable as much space as possible from others. Dives could be run in waves, with a group on shore and a group on the boat. This will increase the number who can dive without making the boat more full.	Cox / Boat Officer	1	2	2
Recovering others equipment into a boat	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to contact	All	2	2	4	Divers must wear face coverings while assisting equipment return to the boat. They must also	Divers in the water will keep their mask on until they are safely back in the	All	1	2	2

UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

	with equipment					wear gloves, or sanitise their hands immediately the activity is finished.	boat, upon which they will don a face covering.				
First aid and CPR	Contracting or spreading coronavirus due to contact with equipment and contact	All	3	2	6	Refer to the BSAC CPR Guidance document.	In the event of a conscious and aware casualty they should be encouraged and spoken through administering first aid to themselves.	All	2	2	4

Reviewed By	Date	Comments

		Likelihood		
Impact ↑	3 med	6 high	9	
	2 low	4 med	6 high	
	1 low	2 low	3 med	



UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

Impact Level	
Level	Description
Low (1)	Minor/superficial injuries. Local first aid treatment or absence from work for less than 3 days.
Medium (2)	Serious injury causing hospitalisation, less than 3 days. Rehabilitation could last for several months.
High (3)	Major Injury or Death; Loss of limb or life-threatening conditions. In hospital for more than 3 days, and/or subject to extensive prolonged course of medical treatment and support.

Likelihood	
Level	Description
Low (1)	Will probably occur in most circumstances
Medium (2)	Might occur at some time
High (3)	May occur only in exceptional circumstances

Member Confirmation of Understanding:		
Date	Name	Signature



UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

Date	Name	Signature



UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19

v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns



v1 21 SEPT 2020 – Andy Burns

UPSAC – Risk Assessment for COVID-19