

CARLISLE SUB AQUA CLUB

RISK ASSESSMENT

HAZARD	RISK	B=BOAT; P=POOL; S=SHORE	EXISTING CONTROLS	RISK CONTROL MEASURES	WHO
Slips, trips, falls	Injury to diver	B/P/S	None – different for each site	Assess terrain for obstacles, take care when walking with gear on. Help each other donning equipment. Don't leave gear lying about. No walking with fins on.	All
Road traffic	Injury to diver	B/S	None – different for each site	Brief divers on location & possibility of traffic. Take extra care if dive site near road. Be vigilant in car parks. Keep gear tidy.	All
Manual handling of heavy equipment	Injury to diver	B/P/S	Training on how to kit up safely	Divers to assist each other donning kit. Use trolleys to move gear if possible. Max 25kg. Care with weightbelts.	All divers
HP cylinders	Injury to diver, bystanders	B/P/S	Lecture : Principles of Aqualung / Compressor Use. Cylinders to be in test. Only authorised members to fill Cylinders. See procedure in Compressor room.	Always lay on side. Never leave an upright cylinder unattended. Check 'O' ring before every dive. Do not over tighten valve when not in use. Store correctly. Keep out of strong sunlight. Only trained personnel to fill.	All divers
Equalising pressure	Burst ear drum	B/P/S	Lecture: Effects of pressure	Remind trainee to equalise pressure when in OW. Advise against use of decongestants. Descend slowly, be prepared to ascend. Abort dive if necessary.	All divers
Rough terrain at entry / exit	Injury to diver	S	None	Assess prior to dive, move debris or change entry/exit if possible. Change dive site. Abort dive if necessary.	All divers
Running out of air	Panic, drowning, DCI, lung injuries, death	B/S	All divers trained to check cylinder pressure before & during dive. Lecture on Safety procedures	Carry out buddy check before dive, check air is turned on. Brief divers to check air regularly during dive. Practice out of air procedures. Plan dive to return to surface with reserve. Carry AAS or other air supply. Bis/DL to check air regularly. Trainees to surface with 50 bar min. Enter water with min 1500 It	All divers
Fast or emergency ascent	DCI, burst lung injuries, death	B/S	Lectures on Burst lung, DCI. Open water ascent training	Regularly practice ascents. Always carry Oxygen kit. Log sheet to show emergency contact numbers. O2 & heart start training for as many people as possible. Use shot line or delayed SMB for ascents where possible.	All divers
Cold water/weather	Hypothermia or equipment malfunction	B/S	Lecture on hypothermia, signals	Choose appropriate protection for before, during & after the dive. Buddys to monitor each other. Abort dive if cold. Choose regulators suitable for the conditions, well maintained/serviced. Train to deal with free flow. Hot drinks. Space blanket.	All divers
Low visibility	Diver separation, panic, poss. injury	B/S	Pool – practice with blacked out mask	Brief on procedure for diver separation underwater. Carry torch, strobe. Use buddy line if necessary. Only dive in pairs. Abort dive if necessary.	All divers
Diving from boat	Injuries to diver	B	None	Listen to brief by skipper, don't leave gear lying around. Help buddy kit up. Take care when entering water check for other divers. Don't wait directly behind another diver exiting up a ladder. All divers to be aware of diver recall procedure. Wear appropriate warm clothing pre/post dive.	All divers
Boat propeller	Serious injury to diver	B	Lecture – correct ascent procedure	Look & listen for boats overhead when ascending. Use SMB where possible. Only enter/ exit boat when instructed by skipper. Do not swim under the boat.	All divers
Underwater obstructions e.g nets, lines, wrecks, kelp	Panic, entrapment, injury, running out of air.	B/S	Practice removal of kit – pool assessment	Ensure kit is streamlined. All divers to carry knife/line cutter. Dive in buddy pair. Do not penetrate wrecks without suitable training. Change site or dive plan if necessary.	All divers
Currents, tides	Diver separation, separation from boat, exhaustion	B/S	Lecture: Expedition organisation	Plan the dive , ascertain state of tides etc prior to dive. Carry appropriate surface detection aids, whistle. Take advice from boat skipper. Start dive swimming against current unless a drift dive. Deploy DSMB. Change dive site if necessary. Pick suitable sites for trainees i.e. minimal tide/current . Abort dive.	All divers
Heart Attack, Lung injuries	Serious injury, trauma, death	B/S	Lectures on DCI, Burst Lung etc Medical self declaration Lecture on use of Buhlman Tables	Dive planned with computer/tables. Correct ascent procedures. Never hold your breath.	All divers
Nitrogen Narcosis	Inappropriate actions, confusion, panic, death	B/S	Lecture on effects of Nitrogen	Improve fitness. Be dive fit. Don't dive beyond ones competency.	All divers
Deterioration in weather	Injury, separation of divers, panic	B/S	Expedition organisation & procedures	Progressive build up of depth experience. Clear dive plans. Awareness of buddy. Buddy less experienced with more experienced divers. Be aware of your limitations. Abort dive if necessary.	All divers
Equipment – malfunction	Injury, panic	B/S	Lecture: Safety Procedures	Use up to date weather information. Monitor by expedition organiser. Advice from skipper, dive centre personnel. Diver recall mechanism in place. Alternative dive site if possible. Abort dive.	All divers
				Always check out new or recently serviced equipment in pool or shallow water prior to serious diving. Service as to manufacturer's recommendation. Abort dive if equipment malfunctions.	All divers

BY SIGNING YOU ACCEPT THAT YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THIS RISK ASSESSMENT AND ALL HAZARDS RISKS MENTIONED FOR THIS PARTICULAR DIVE SITE.