



YOUR MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK

BSAC 
Dive with friends



Cover Photo: Simon Rogerson



HELLO

BSAC has 1,000+ branches, is run by volunteers and is the biggest dive club in Britain. Thank you for being part of it.

We hope this Membership Handbook will help you get the most out of being part of the club...



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in partnership with:



HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

Discover more about your BSAC membership inside...

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WELCOME FROM MARY

Welcome to BSAC and our members' handbook – your reference to the work and services of BSAC.

We know how fun and life-changing diving and snorkelling can be and I hope this handbook will help you get the very most out of your membership.

BSAC has been teaching people to dive and snorkel for 60 years. As the sport's UK National Governing Body and a not-for-profit organisation with thousands of volunteers, BSAC invests back into the club, for its members and the development of diving and snorkelling. By bringing together this shared passion for the sport and the very best expertise in our field, BSAC continues to keep itself at the forefront of training, development and safety.

We keep members informed the best we can on all things diving and snorkelling, as well as with exclusive offers and special services. Please keep in touch and let us know if you have any feedback, this is your club. You can contact us using any of the channels on page 4.



Mary Tetley, BSAC Chief Executive
maryt@bsac.com



Did you know...?

Mary has a regular column in the letters section of SCUBA, BSAC's official monthly magazine.



Photo: Sarah Butler

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Here are our top 10 tips to help you get the most out of your membership...

1. Continue your diver or snorkeller training

With an internationally-recognised reputation for safety, BSAC training is acknowledged as being the most respected and best value in the world. Make the most of it by continuing your training! Check out your training options on page 17.



2. Go to your club nights and get-togethers

By keeping in touch with your club as much as you can, you will get to know people better and not miss out on anything.

3. Do a Skill Development Course

BSAC offers a wide range of special interest courses called Skill Development Courses (SDCs). Whether your interest is in rescue, wrecks, technical or photography, there is a BSAC specialist course for you. You don't even have to be a qualified diver to do some of them. More information on page 21.



4. Understand the benefit of your insurance cover

As a BSAC member you benefit from Civil Liability (sometimes known as public liability) cover up to £10,000,000 to protect you if someone else is injured or their property is damaged and they hold you responsible. More information on page 48.

5. Keep in touch with BSAC HQ

Based in Cheshire, BSAC HQ has a team of about 22 staff and is the business and administrative hub of BSAC. BSAC HQ works to keep all members in touch with news and developments. To help yourself to keep in touch, we suggest:

- Facebookers find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BritishSubAquaClub
- Twitterers follow us **@BSACDIVERS**
- Ensure you receive Talk, BSAC's monthly email newsletter. **Sign up at www.bsac.com/bsactalk**
- or contact HQ directly if you have any questions (**+44 (0)151 350 6200 / info@bsac.com**)

6. Visit other BSAC clubs

BSAC clubs (sometimes called branches) make up the one big club that is BSAC. Visiting other clubs can be very positive - some members end up diving or socialising every night of the week with a different club! You will need to contact the club first and may have to pay your way if you join a pool or other type of session, but most will welcome other club members.

To find your local club visit our website at www.bsac.com/findit

7. Read and possibly contribute to SCUBA magazine

SCUBA is BSAC's member magazine, bringing you all the latest news on UK and BSAC club diving and snorkelling – as well as all the important developments in our sport – every month. SCUBA is YOUR magazine and BSAC is keen to include your stories and ideas. If you'd like to contribute to SCUBA magazine, there is a contributor guide specifically for members at www.bsac.com/writingforSCUBA





8. Save money every day with BSAC Plus

As a member you have access to the BSAC Plus savings scheme. You could save £100s every year on everyday purchases you already make at shops such as Sainsbury's, M&S, Argos, Boots, ASDA, B&Q, Apple, Costa and many more.

The savings could pay for your membership many times over. More information on page 54.

9. Save money on your dive travel

BSAC has negotiated exclusive discounts for members (and their immediate family members) with some of the UK's leading dive tour operators. Big savings are on offer with blue o two, Longwood Holidays, Regaldiver, Scuba Travel and Scuba Tours Worldwide. More information on page 53.



10. And finally, you get out what you put in

BSAC clubs are run by dedicated and enthusiastic members who simply love diving. Members are actively involved in the development of both their own club and BSAC as a whole. This is the strength of BSAC and what makes it different to other training agencies.

Find out more...

The full list of BSAC membership benefits can be found online at www.bsac.com/benefits



A BIT ABOUT BSAC CLUBS...

BSAC has more than 1,000 clubs around the UK and overseas. The clubs are the backbone and true spirit of BSAC.

BSAC Clubs have more than 10,000 instructors and Branch Officers between them, who give up their time to help others in their club. All of these people started at some point as a beginner, but they have progressed their skills and are now giving back to the club.

What to expect...

Most clubs meet regularly, with weekly pool sessions and social get-togethers. Through a BSAC club you can enjoy a full range of club and training activities - including dive or snorkel weekend trips and diving holidays and social activities. BSAC clubs all have their own personalities. Some are fairly small, meeting say weekly in a public venue, while other larger clubs may have their own clubhouses. Many clubs are very well equipped, with their own boats, compressors, diving equipment and pool access. Many prospective members visit a few clubs before deciding which one is right for them. And, if members move house or would like to join another BSAC club, that is possible too.

Diving with your club...

Clubs tend to have regular diving programmes. They generally vary according to club size and location – coastal clubs tend to organise dives every weekend and often midweek during the summer, while inland clubs may do lots of training at inland sites but will organise trips to the coast. Most clubs organise overseas trips for those that want to go – to places such as Ireland, the Red Sea, Malta and beyond.

As members progress through the BSAC diver grades (see page 18), they will be able to take part in more adventurous and deeper diving. Club trips are generally organised with a minimum diver grade requirement although clubs will usually manage their diving programmes to be as inclusive as possible so as many members as possible can participate.

Clubs are increasingly getting involved in diving projects – please see following page. If you are interested in any of these, please ask one of your Branch Officers.



BSAC Underwater Litterpick

BSAC clubs can get involved in BSAC's annual initiative to clean up our dive sites and help turn the tide against marine litter. For more information www.bsac.com/litterpick

Seasearch

Seasearch is a project for volunteer recreational divers who have an interest in what they're seeing under water, want to learn more and want to help protect the marine environment around the coasts of Britain and Ireland.

Adopting wrecks

The Nautical Archaeology Society's adopt-a-wreck scheme is part of the wider 'Dive with a Purpose' initiative introduced in 2000 and received funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Locating new wrecks

The UK as an island nation has a substantial maritime history and as a result of two World Wars there are literally hundreds if not thousands of wrecks around our shores. Whilst many have been located and dived there are many more still to be found and explored and several groups dedicate a great deal of time to this pursuit.

Surveying sites

Once you have found a wreck, especially if it has significant age and interest, then increasingly divers are spending much of their diving time carefully surveying and recording their find.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Working with local Duke of Edinburgh Award groups to train young people in diving.

Expeditions

Many branches organise their own diving expeditions. The participants of these tend to be all members of the same club, although quite frequently members of more than one club may join forces.

Funding for expeditions and projects from the Jubilee Trust

The Jubilee Trust is the official charity of BSAC. It was set up in 1977, the Queen's Silver Jubilee Year, with the main objective of providing financial support to divers for a wide variety of projects. The funds are invested and each year grants are distributed to the diving community.

www.bsac.com/jubileetrust



BSAC clubs welcome all divers...

Whether you're an absolute beginner or a seasoned pro, trained with another agency, learnt to dive on holiday or haven't dived for a while there's a BSAC club for you.

Structure of a typical club...

All clubs have what are called Branch Officers, who are the committee members that take on specific responsibilities to run the club safely and efficiently. Some clubs have more positions than others, but all clubs tend to have the following:

Chairperson – Leader and figurehead in the club, in club meetings and in all matters relating to the club's public image.

Membership Secretary – Responsible for the administration of membership fees.

Treasurer – Responsible for the sound financial management of the club.

Diving Officer – Responsible for the management of diving/snorkelling and training in the club in accordance with BSAC rules and standards.

Training Officer – The Diving Officer may appoint and delegate training responsibilities to a Training Officer.

Many clubs also have additional positions such as Recruitment Officer, Social Secretary and Welfare Officer to help share the responsibilities of the club.

Clubs also have instructors, who may or may not also be Branch Officers. All training within BSAC clubs is delivered by fully-qualified BSAC instructors and provides a flexible, cost-effective way to learn to dive or snorkel.

Find out more...

You can find out more about how clubs work here: www.bsac.com/clubadmin
(You have to be a logged on member to access this section).



DIVER TRAINING AND SAFETY

BSAC offers a wide range of training courses, designed to ensure you get the very best out of your diving.

Diver and snorkeller safety is at the forefront of all BSAC training and skill development. The BSAC philosophy of encouraging self-reliance with competence and confidence continues throughout all BSAC courses.

Diver training opportunities are split into the following three categories:

- 1. Diver Training Programme**
- 2. Skill Development Courses – please see page 21.**
- 3. Instructor Training Scheme – please see page 31.**



TRY DIVE

DIVER TRAINING PROGRAMME...

OCEAN DIVER

SPORTS DIVER

DIVE LEADER

ADVANCED DIVER

FIRST CLASS DIVER

Skill Development Courses (SDCs)
Even non-divers can do these courses...

Automated External Defibrillator	Boat Handling
Chartwork and Position Fixing	Compressor Operation
Diver Coxswain Assessment	Outboard Engine & Boat Maintenance

Skill Development Courses (SDCs)
for Ocean Divers (or equivalent) and above...

Lifesaver Award	Buoyancy and Trim	Wreck Appreciation
Dive UK	Equipment Care	
Drysuit Training	First Aid for Divers	
Oxygen Administration	Advanced Lifesaver Award	

Skill Development Courses (SDCs)
for Sports Divers (or equivalent) and above...

Dive Planning and Management	Ice Diving
Accelerated Decompression Procedures	Practical Rescue Management
Search and Recovery	Underwater Photography
Sport Mixed Gas Diver (50m)	Sport Mixed Gas CCR Diver (50m)
Explorer Mixed Gas Diver (60m)	Explorer Mixed Gas CCR Diver (60m)
Advanced Mixed Gas Diver (80m)	Advanced Mixed Gas CCR Diver (80m)
CCR Inspiration Diver	Nitrox Gas Blender/Mixed Gas Blender
Twin-Set Diving	

ASSISTANT DIVING INSTRUCTOR

ASSISTANT OPEN WATER INSTRUCTOR

THEORY INSTRUCTOR

PRACTICAL INSTRUCTOR

OPEN WATER INSTRUCTOR

ASSISTANT ADVANCED INSTRUCTOR

ADVANCED INSTRUCTOR

NATIONAL INSTRUCTOR

1. Diver Training Programme

There are five internationally-recognised BSAC diver grades from the entry-level Ocean Diver through to the highest grade, First Class Diver. Our diver training has been awarded the ISO International Standard and audited by the European Underwater Federation. The programme is designed to progressively build confidence and self-reliance, whilst keeping safety uppermost.

Safety from the start

BSAC Ocean and Sports Diver incorporate training for basic Nitrox allowing you to enjoy the benefits of this safer gas right away.

Ocean Diver*

This course is for beginners and provides the essential knowledge and skills needed to prepare for open water diving. The course prepares for this in the safety of a swimming pool or sheltered water and an introduction to open water in a controlled, safe manner. Maximum depth - 20m.

Sports Diver*

Sports Diver training builds on the skills learnt in the Ocean Diver course (or entry-level qualification from another agency) and helps develop confidence, skills and experience in the water to allow trainees to enjoy a wider range of diving sites and conditions. Depth can be built progressively to a maximum of 35m after qualifying. Sports Divers can embark on the first stage on the route of instruction.

Dive Leader*

This comprehensive course gives divers confidence to plan, lead and manage dives, and deal with emergencies. Leading a dive will develop enjoyment, confidence and experience as a diver. After qualifying, and if trainees wish, depth can be built progressively to a maximum of 50m. Dive Leaders are eligible to progress to Open Water Instructor.

Advanced Diver

As a BSAC Advanced Diver you are a highly qualified branch diver. This course is for divers who are interested in extending their skills in planning and supervising further. Advanced Divers are eligible to progress to Advanced Instructor.

First Class Diver

BSAC's highest diving grade requires a great deal of theoretical knowledge, organisational and personal diving skills. First Class Diver is a very challenging award to achieve. Since 1953 when BSAC first formed, only 950† people have qualified as First Class Divers. (†as of October 2013).

Find out more...

More information on each of the Diver Training Programme courses, including what's involved, what you'll learn and what the qualification allows you to do, can be found at www.bsac.com/training

*EN/ISO accredited by European Underwater Federation (EUF)

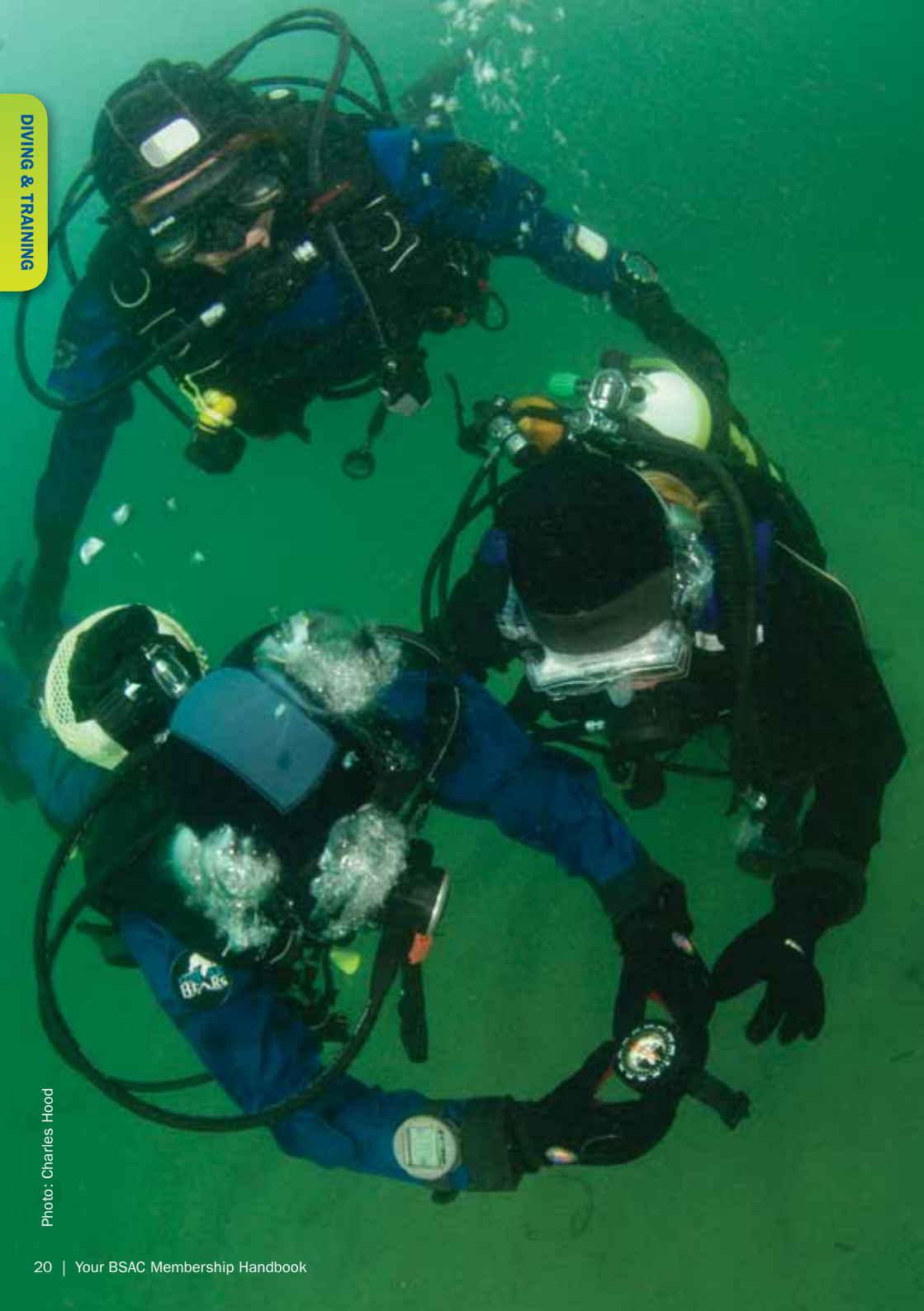


Photo: Charles Hood

2. Skill Development Courses (SDCs)

BSAC offers a wide range of special interest courses called Skill Development Courses or 'SDCs'. Whether your interest is in rescue, wrecks, technical, boats or photography, there is a BSAC specialist course for everybody.

Who can do SDCs?

There are different entry requirements for the courses but several require no diving or snorkelling qualifications at all, such as the Boat Handling and Automated External Defibrillator courses. Please see the list of SDCs that follows for the individual course requirements.

How and where can I do an SDC?

SDCs can be run by your local club so please ask your Diving or Training Officer. If your club is not able to run the course you are interested in, you could do the course with either a Regional Coaching Team or a BSAC Centre. To book either of those:

For BSAC Regional SDC training please visit www.bsac.com/events

For BSAC Centre SDC training please visit www.bsac.com/centres to find a training centre near you.

SDCs are split into five sub-groups as follows. Please note that SDCs run by a club may be conducted over a series of club meetings rather than a one or two-day course.

Club Diving	page 23
Seamanship	page 24
Safety and Rescue.	page 25
Special Interest.	page 26
Technical	page 27

Key:

- A** – anyone can do this course (even a non-diver!)
- OD** – BSAC Ocean Divers or PADI Open Water divers (and above) can do this course*
- SD** – BSAC Sports Divers or PADI Rescue divers (and above) can do this course*

* Or divers with another recognised equivalent diving qualification.

Please note: other prerequisites may apply such as minimum age. Please check the course syllabus.

Did you know...?

All BSAC clubs are in a 'BSAC Region' and each region has a team of volunteers to support its clubs. This support includes providing training to supplement clubs' individual programmes. More on Regions on page 29.

BSAC Training Centres are professionally-run diving schools offering a range of BSAC courses. They provide another training option for members. More on Centres on page 29.



Club Diving

Club diving is the foundation and ethos of BSAC. This suite of courses equips students with skills which either help support club diving or simply help divers expand their knowledge to get more out of their sport.

Accelerated Decompression Procedures SD

Building on basic Nitrox knowledge from both Ocean Diver and Sports Diver training (or equivalent), this two-day course teaches longer and/or safer bottom times and optimum decompression using oxygen rich gas mixes.

More info at www.bsac.com/adp

Buoyancy and Trim workshop OD

One-day workshop to help you to attain perfect weighting and to maintain good buoyancy and trim at varying depths.

More info at www.bsac.com/buoyancy

Compressor Operation A

Half-day course teaching the basics of compressor operation suitable to fill cylinders, with air, for diving purposes.

More info at www.bsac.com/co

Dive Planning and Management SD

Two-day course introducing and extending existing knowledge and practical skills in all aspects of the process of planning and managing dives.

More info at www.bsac.com/dpm

Dive UK OD

1-2 day course introducing people who have only dived outside of the UK, to the range of diving and other opportunities with UK diving.

Drysuit Training OD

One-day course teaching the correct and safe techniques for drysuit diving.

Equipment Care OD

One-day course to acquaint you with the maintenance requirements of modern diving gear.

More info at www.bsac.com/equipcare

Nitrox Gas Blender/Mixed Gas Blender SD

One-day course providing training in mixing Nitrox (and/or helium mixes).

More info at www.bsac.com/blender

Search and Recovery SD

Two-day course teaching divers how to use the correct techniques and procedures required for search and recovery projects.

More info at www.bsac.com/sar

Twin-Set Diving SD

1-2-day course on the principles of twin-set diving covering a range of different configurations. Complements the Accelerated Decompression Procedures course.

More info at www.bsac.com/twinsetcourse

Wreck Appreciation OD

Two-day course enabling divers to safely dive wrecks and to recognise and appreciate what they see.

More info at www.bsac.com/wreck



Seamanship

These courses not only help make setting to sea safe, they also ensure that the dive sites can be found easily and that divers are set down and recovered efficiently and safely.

Boat Handling A

Learn how to handle a dive boat in two days. No experience necessary.

More info at www.bsac.com/boathandling

Chartwork and Position Fixing A

Two-day classroom and practical course teaching the basic techniques of marine navigation including how to locate a dive site.

More info at www.bsac.com/chartwork

Diver Coxswain Assessment A

Half-day assessment designed to assess students' practical boat handling skills.

More info at www.bsac.com/dca

Outboard Engine and Boat Maintenance A

One-day practical course teaching the basic skills of looking after a typical diving RIB (rigid inflatable boat).

More info at www.bsac.com/boatmaint

Safety and Rescue

These courses teach divers how to administer first aid, improve rescue techniques and manage rescues. Although a great deal of safety and rescue is part of general BSAC diver training, there is no substitute for furthering training and reinforcing these valuable skills.

Advanced Lifesaver Award OD

Assessment of students' lifesaving proficiency and diver rescue skills within realistic open water conditions, placing an emphasis on improvisation and immediacy.

More info at www.bsac.com/als

Automated External Defibrillator A

Half-day course to give students the skills and confidence to use a defibrillator so that in the event of an emergency they have the confidence to use one.

More info at www.bsac.com/aed

First Aid for Divers A

One-day course teaching the basics of non-resuscitation first aid likely to be needed in the diving environment.

More info at www.bsac.com/fad

Lifesaver Award OD

Assessment of students' lifesaving proficiency and diver rescue skills within a pool or sheltered-water environment. Allows for additional/refresher training as required.

More info at www.bsac.com/lis

Oxygen Administration OD

One-day course designed to teach the administration of oxygen as a means of increasing the effectiveness of first aid treatment of diving accidents. The content of this course forms an integral part of Dive Leader training, which can be completed either as a stand-alone course or as part of Dive Leader training.

More info at www.bsac.com/o2

Practical Rescue Management OD

One-day course teaching divers how to manage resources at their disposal in order to make the most effective use of them in a rescue situation. The content of this course forms an integral part of Dive Leader training, which can be completed either as a stand-alone course or as part of Dive Leader training.

More info at www.bsac.com/prm





Special Interest

During the first few months of training, divers are generally busy gaining qualifications and experience. Once a competent diver, there are benefits to developing a special interest.

Ice Diving SD

Two-day course demonstrating the skills required to dive under ice (or in a 'no clear surface' environment.)

More info at www.bsac.com/ice

Underwater Photography SD

1-2 day course (with both theory and practical sessions) for people with little or no experience, teaching the basic use of a compact digital camera and housing.

More info at www.bsac.com/up

Technical

BSAC offers a full suite of mixed gas courses to meet the demands of both open-circuit and closed-circuit rebreather (CCR) divers. Dive sites, once difficult for recreational divers to reach, are more accessible with the use of mixed gases to extend depth limits more safely.

Open-circuit technical courses...

The following sequence of courses allows for easy progression. Each level introduces you to new gear configurations, procedures and planning techniques. The courses teach the use of different mixes of gas to extend dive times, reduce decompression and to dive deeper more safely. The training expands your skills to be able to dive in more challenging environments.

Sport Mixed Gas Diver (50m) **SD**

This 2-3 day course uses gas mixes of oxygen greater than or equal to 20% and helium up to 30%.

More info at www.bsac.com/smgoc



Explorer Mixed Gas Diver (60m) **SD**

This course uses gas mixes of oxygen greater than or equal to 18% and helium up to 35%.

More info at www.bsac.com/exploc



Advanced Mixed Gas Diver (80m) **SD**

This minimum of 5 days course uses gas mixes of oxygen up to or equal to 18% and helium 35% or more.

More info at www.bsac.com/adoc





Closed-circuit technical courses...

Closed-circuit rebreathers provide a breathing gas containing oxygen and either an air or trimix diluent. Recycling exhaled gas containing unused oxygen maximises the usefulness of the whole volume making a rebreather (generally) lighter and more compact than open-circuit gear. Plus, there are no bubbles or noise with rebreathers – so they are a real hit with photographers.

CCR Inspiration Evolution/Vision Diver SD

A minimum of 5 day introduction to rebreathers using an air diluent. The course introduces the associated physics, physiology and equipment maintenance. Comprehensive good diving practice, dive planning and dive management considerations are fully covered.

More info at www.bsac.com/ccr

Sport Mixed Gas CCR Diver (50m) SD

This 2-3 day course uses oxygen greater than or equal to 20% and diluent gas mixes of helium up to 30%.

More info at www.bsac.com/smgccr

Explorer Mixed Gas CCR Diver (60m) SD

This course uses oxygen greater than or equal to 18% and diluent gas mixes of helium up to 35%.

More info at www.bsac.com/explorercr

Advanced Mixed Gas CCR Diver (80m) SD

This minimum of 5-day course uses oxygen greater than or equal to 18% and diluent gas mixes of helium 35% or more.

More info at www.bsac.com/adccr

Did you know...?

Due to the longer duration of the technical courses, they are most commonly staged in commercial BSAC Technical Training Centres or via the BSAC Coaching Scheme.

To find a Technical Centre please visit www.bsac.com/findacentre or for Regional events visit: www.bsac.com/events

Where to train

As a member of BSAC you have the opportunity to train at your local club, at a BSAC Regional or National event, or at a commercial BSAC Training Centre. These options are explained below...

Club training

Diver Training Programme – Yes
Snorkeller Training Programme – Yes
Skill Development Courses – Yes, except some training courses
Instructor Courses – No

Most members do their diver grade training (Diver or Snorkeller Training Programme) at their local club. Club instructors take trainees through courses at their own pace. Many clubs also offer some of the Skill Development Courses to their members. Please note that all clubs vary and not all will offer the above. If you are not sure what your club offers exactly, ask the Diving or Training Officer at your club.

Regional training events

Diver Training Programme – Yes*
Snorkeller Training Programme – No
Skill Development Courses – Yes
Instructor Courses – No

All BSAC clubs are in a BSAC Region (there are 15 in the UK) and each region has a team of volunteers to support the clubs within it. This support includes providing training to supplement clubs' individual programmes. Most regions run a comprehensive programme of Skill Development Courses and other training events which are bookable by following the links from www.bsac.com/SDC

*Specific modules, difficult for some clubs to deliver, may be offered regionally.

National training events

Diver Training Programme – Yes
First Class Diver only
Instructor Courses (including snorkel instructor) – Yes

Instructor training (including instructor crossover training) is generally only available through BSAC national training events arranged via BSAC HQ. BSAC's Instructor Training Scheme (ITS) runs around 140 events each year all over the UK, providing training and assessment at all levels. BSAC standards are internationally recognised. More information can be found at www.bsac.com/instruct

BSAC Centres

Diver Training Programme – Yes
Snorkeller Training Programme – Yes
Skill Development Courses – Yes
Instructor Courses – Centres of Excellence only
Technical Courses – Technical Centres only

BSAC Training Centres are professionally-run diving schools offering a range of BSAC courses to beginners and those who have already started their training. With centres across the UK and several overseas, they are a great way to train over a shorter period of time. Centres vary in their specialities so please use the following link to find one that suits your needs. To find a BSAC Training Centre near you please visit www.bsac.com/findcentre



Did you know...?

Instructor training is only available through BSAC national training events and Centres of Excellence and all national events are bookable online at www.bsac.com/coursesandexams

3. Become an instructor

BSAC's network of highly-skilled diving instructors is the driving force behind BSAC's worldwide reputation for training excellence and safety. Why not join them?

From the Sports Diver grade (or recognised equivalent), you can start training to become an instructor. The first step towards teaching is the Instructor Foundation Course, which qualifies you as an Assistant Diving Instructor. From here, once a Dive Leader (or its equivalent), you can progress to Open Water Instructor and beyond...

Assistant Diving Instructor (ADI)

The first step in qualifying as a BSAC Diving Instructor is to attend the two-day Instructor Foundation Course (IFC), where the essential elements of instruction are taught. After this course you become an Assistant Diving Instructor.

Assistant Diving Instructors can... teach the Diver Training Programme up to their own diver grade under the supervision of an Open Water Instructor (OWI) or above.

Book online at: www.bsac.com/ifc

Open Water Instructor (OWI)

Members who have attained Dive Leader grade can complete the Theory Instructor Exam (TIE) at any stage after attendance on the IFC.

Theory Instructors can... over and above an ADI, teach most theory Diver Training Programme lessons up to their own diver grade unsupervised, plus some Skill Development Courses (SDCs).

Book online at: www.bsac.com/tie
(for N. Scotland events contact BSAC: bookings@bsac.com and for N. Europe events, contact: europe.olo@bsac.com)

On completion of the IFC, members who are Dive Leaders, can further build their teaching experience by attending an Open Water Instructor Course (OWIC). Following OWIC attendance and after further practice and experience at club level you can apply for the Practical Instructor Exam (PIE).

Practical Instructors can... over and above an ADI, teach most Diver Training Programme practical-based lessons up to their own diver grade unsupervised, plus some SDCs.

Book online at: www.bsac.com/pie
(for N. Scotland events contact BSAC: bookings@bsac.com and for N. Europe events, contact: europe.olo@bsac.com)

Open Water Instructors can... teach most Diver Training Programme theory and practical lessons up to their own diver grade unsupervised, plus some SDCs.

Book online at: www.bsac.com/owic

Please note: To teach the following lessons you need to be an Advanced Instructor – AT1, AP1 and AP2. To teach the First Class Diver grade, you need to be a National Instructor.



Advanced Instructor (AI)

The Advanced Instructor has trained for further open water instructional techniques, dive organisation and leadership, and boat diving. Candidates who are Advanced Divers need to attend the Advanced Instructor Course (AIC), pass the Advanced Instructor Theory Exam (AIT) and pass the two-day Advanced Instructor Practical Exam (AIE).

Advanced Instructors can... teach all the Diver Training Programme theory and practical lessons excluding First Class Diver, plus many SDCs.

Book online at: www.bsac.com/coursesandexams

Instructor Trainer (IT)

Progressing to become an Instructor Trainer requires attendance on the two-day Instructor Trainer Development Course (ITDC) and subsequent Observes/Supervised teaching on Instructor Training Scheme (ITS) events prior to release. Once qualified as an IT you will be expected to commit to teaching on a minimum of 6-8 ITS events per year.

Working with the ITS scheme to introduce BSAC divers to the skills involved in good dive instruction is an extremely rewarding activity. The ITDC is the first step in becoming a BSAC Instructor Trainer and is open to all BSAC Advanced Instructors.

Instructor Trainers can... over and above an AI, teach and examine BSAC Instructors up to Open Water Instructor level, plus some SDCs.

Book online at: www.bsac.com/itdc

National Instructor (NI)

The National Instructor grade requires students to pass a four-day practical examination typically conducted at the end of July each year in the UK. NIs are really important to the organisation - they are the ones who bring forward new courses and adapt to technical developments in the sport. They ensure the safety and the quality of all of the training offered through the extensive BSAC instructor base. In order to enter for this examination you need to be an Advanced Instructor, First Class Diver and active IT.

Following additional training National Instructors can, over and above an IT, manage instructor events and can work on First Class Diver and National Instructor training events plus some SDCs.

To book the National Instructor Preparation course, National Instructor Practical Examination or National Instructor Boss's Workshop, please email nice@bsac.com

Already a PADI (or other agency) instructor?

Instructors who have trained with other agencies are welcome to instruct with BSAC. There is a straightforward induction process which recognises instructor qualifications from other agencies so other agency instructors can teach BSAC courses. Please see page 38 for more on instructors crossing over from another training agency such as PADI.

Please note that to maintain proper quality control, BSAC does not support independent instructors. All instructors must operate either through a BSAC club, Coaching Team or as a professional in a BSAC Training Centre.

For more information on instructor training with BSAC, either:

- Ask at your club
- Visit: www.bsac.com/instruct
- Contact BSAC HQ
(+44 (0)151 350 6203 / drt@bsac.com)



Find out more...

More information on all of the instructor courses can be found at www.bsac.com/instruct



Safe diving

BSAC takes the safety of all divers and snorkellers very seriously.

Support for individuals

There are six Safety and Rescue related Skill Development Courses (SDCs) for members. These courses teach members how to administer first aid, improve rescue techniques and manage rescues. Although a great deal of safety and rescue is part of BSAC diver training, there is no substitute for furthering and refreshing training for reinforcing these valuable skills. Turn to page 25 for more information on these courses.

The Safe Diving booklet

Is an alphabetical guide to the safe practices of sports diving, which reflect the advice from the National Diving Committee and the advice on which it is acting. Please ensure you have a copy. And use it!

The Diver's Code of Conduct is appended to the end of this booklet. It contains sensible advice on the conduct of all dives. The Safe Diving booklet is included in the Ocean Diver training materials and the crossover training materials for Sports Diver and above.



Do you have a copy? If not, please ask the Diving Officer at your club for one or contact the BSAC Membership Department who will send one out to you (membership@bsac.com / +44 (0)151 350 6201). Alternatively, you can view a digital copy at www.bsac.com/safediving

Support for clubs

BSAC has a 'Safety First' programme to help clubs raise and maintain awareness about safe diving practices and the need for responsible diving. The programme places emphasis on the prevention of incidents and promotes safe diving practices to all divers, with the overall objective being to reduce the number and seriousness of diving incidents. Divers participating in the Safety First programme are able to practice and fine-tune their diving skills and ensure that they remain up to date before the start of the diving season, or after a break from active participation.

For more information please visit
www.bsac.com/safetyfirst

The Diving Resources Team at BSAC HQ is available Monday to Friday (9.00am-5.30pm) to help with any questions or concerns in relation to your diving or snorkelling safety (drt@bsac.com / +44 (0)151 350 6203).

Diving and snorkelling incidents

As the Governing Body of scuba diving, BSAC has recorded and reported on UK diving and snorkelling incidents since 1964. The lessons learned from incidents are relevant to all divers regardless of their training and diving background and the Safe Diving booklet is a valuable resource that we would encourage all divers to follow.

For more information please visit
www.bsac.com/incidents

National Decompression Illness Helpline

To follow are the emergency contact numbers for the UK to use following a diving incident.



Sea diving – call the Coastguard, DSC or VHF Channel 16/Dial 999 (24 hours)

Inland Diving – ENGLAND, NORTHERN IRELAND, WALES – call the BHA Diver Helpline 07831 151523 (24 hours). SCOTLAND – call Aberdeen Royal Infirmary 0845 408 6008 (24 hours)

Please note: You will find these numbers printed on the reverse of your BSAC membership card. For other emergency assistance, when ashore in the UK, use 999 or 112, as usual. When diving outside of the UK, ensure that you know the local emergency contact procedures.

Safety and Rescue for Divers manual

Safety is kept uppermost in all BSAC training and as a result features highly in all training manuals. However, the dedicated safety BSAC publication is the Safety and Rescue for Divers manual. Sections in this book include: incident anticipation, diving first aid, assisted ascents, rescue management, oxygen administration, recompression therapy and even a section on hazardous marine life.



This book is a component part of the Practical Rescue Management course materials, or can be purchased separately (together with other BSAC manuals) at the BSAC Shop (www.bsacshop.com / +44 (0)151 350 6202).



WELCOME OTHER
AGENCY DIVERS

WELCOME PADI (AND OTHER AGENCY) DIVERS

It's easy for PADI qualified (or other agency) divers to dive with BSAC. If you have a recognised qualification you do not have to do any further training to start diving with BSAC.

That said, if it's been a while since you have been in the water, your chosen club will happily run you through a 'refresher' to bring you up to speed.

Diver Training Grades

The 'other agency' qualifications listed on the page 38 are considered to be of similar standard to those of BSAC. Please bear in mind the list is not definitive! There are many diving qualifications issued by agencies and federations from around the world, and if your qualification is missing, please contact the Diver Resources Team at BSAC HQ who will be able to help (+44 (0)151 350 6203 / drt@bsac.com).

You can either continue to dive on your current qualification or progress to the next BSAC grade (see page 18–19)...the choice is yours.

Skill Development Qualifications

BSAC recognises various speciality-type diving courses from other agencies such as the PADI Speciality courses and RYA boat handling and seamanship courses.

Instructor Qualifications

BSAC recognises instructors qualified with most agencies. Please see page 39 for more on crossing over to become a BSAC instructor.

Nitrox training

BSAC Diver training includes training from entry level in the use of Nitrox as a safer gas to breathe. If you do not have any Nitrox training ask your branch to run a Nitrox Workshop for you.

OTHER AGENCY DIVER QUALIFICATIONS

BSAC EQUIVALENT:

ENTRY LEVEL:

OCEAN DIVER

- CMAS One Star Diver
- NASDS Open Water Diver/Advanced Open Water Diver
- NAUI Scuba Diver/Advanced Scuba Diver
- PADI Open Water Diver/Advanced Open Water Diver
- SAA Open Water Diver
- SSI Open Water Diver/Advanced Open Water Diver

SECOND LEVEL:

SPORTS DIVER

- CMAS Two Star Diver
- HSE Scuba Diver/HSE Surface Supply Diver/HSE Closed Bell Diver
- NASDS Rescue Diver
- NAUI Scuba Rescue Diver
- PADI Rescue Diver
- SAA Club Diver
- SSAC Third Class Diver/Sports Diver
- SSI Advanced Open Water Diver with 'Stress & Rescue' speciality

THIRD LEVEL:

DIVE LEADER

- NASDS Dive Supervisor
- NAUI Divemaster
- PADI Divemaster
- SAA Dive Leader
- SSI Dive Control Specialist

HIGHER LEVEL:

ADVANCED DIVER

- CMAS Three Star Diver
- SAA Dive Supervisor
- SSAC Second Class Diver/Master Diver

Frequently asked questions from divers joining BSAC from PADI and other agencies

Do I have to do any further training to go diving with a BSAC club?

No you don't. As long as you present evidence of your diving qualification, you will be recognised as a diver of the equivalent BSAC grade.

Can I progress my training without repeating what I have already learnt?

Essentially, yes. The recognised qualification you hold will be the starting point for further training with BSAC. So if you wish, you can do the 'next course up' with BSAC. For example, if you are a PADI Advanced Open Water Diver, you can do the BSAC Sports Diver course next with BSAC, including some 'catch up' modules on the way.

I can't find my old diving qualification, can I still go diving with a BSAC club?

In this instance, you must get the qualification reissued by the training agency. Most agencies will have a centrally held record for you and will be able to reissue your qualification. Evidence of previous training is essential.

For more information on equivalent grades for military divers please contact BSAC on 0151 350 6203.



PADI (and other agency) instructors joining BSAC

BSAC welcomes instructors who have trained with other agencies and there is a simple route to using your instructing skills within BSAC.

The first is to join a BSAC club. All our club instructors are volunteers and teaching within a BSAC branch is a great way to use your skills to make a difference within the club.

As a new BSAC club member, your existing instructor qualification will be recognised by BSAC...all we ask is that you complete our Open Water Instructor (OWI) Induction Programme, which involves:

- *Submitting evidence of your Instructor qualification and a passport style photo*
- *Payment of the registration fee*
- *Working through our pre-event induction pack*
- *Attending and actively participating in the one-day Open Water Instructor Course*
- *On completion be awarded your OWI qualification*

As a BSAC Open Water Instructor, you will then be able to teach the current BSAC Diver Training Programme within your own branch.

For more information go to www.bsac.com/instruct

For other agency instructors wanting to commercially instruct as a BSAC instructor, please contact BSAC on 0151 350 6203.



SNORKELLING OPPORTUNITIES

Snorkelling is open to everyone – young and old – and is an enjoyable way to get the whole family involved in the underwater world.

BSAC offers opportunities to build snorkelling experience and learn new skills. There is a good range of training courses designed to ensure you get the best out of your snorkelling within a club.

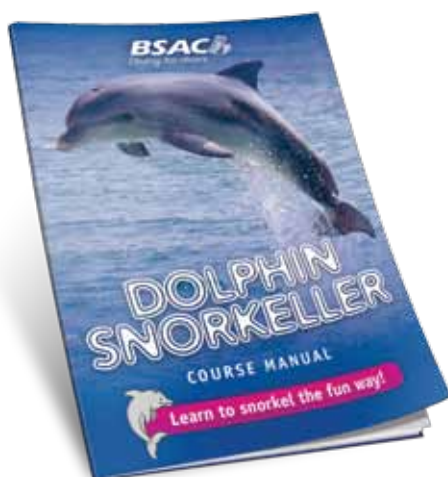
Snorkeller Training Programme

There are four BSAC snorkeller grades, from the entry-level Dolphin Snorkeller (for young children) or Snorkel Diver, through to the highest grade, Snorkel Dive Manager. The programme is designed to be fun and build confidence and self-reliance, whilst keeping safety uppermost.

Dolphin Snorkeller

This course introduces snorkelling to children via a series of seven progressive fun sessions. Each session is named after a different type of dolphin, and completion of a session results in the award of the corresponding dolphin sticker. Once students have collected a complete set of dolphin stickers, they can be awarded the grade of BSAC Dolphin Snorkeller. Dolphin Snorkellers who wish to continue their snorkel training need only complete the Snorkel Diver classroom lessons and knowledge assessment to be awarded BSAC Snorkel Diver.

Alternatively trainees could start straight away with the Snorkel Diver course...





Snorkel Diver

There are classroom sessions to teach the theoretical knowledge of snorkelling, coupled with practical lessons in the pool or in sheltered water. The training is structured and progressive, building skills and confidence.



Advanced Snorkeller

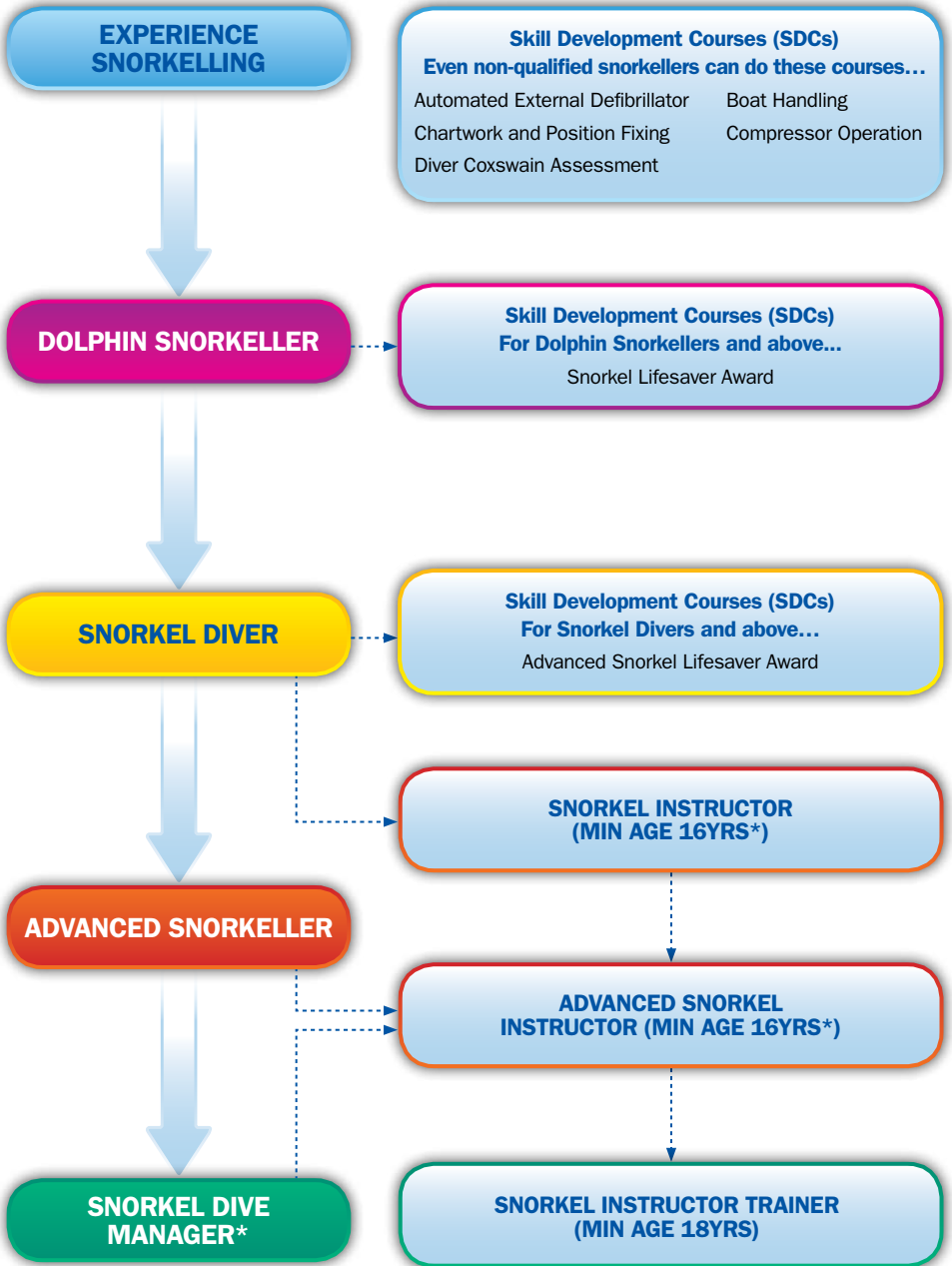
There are classroom sessions to teach more advanced theoretical knowledge of snorkelling, coupled with practical lessons in the pool or in sheltered water. An Advanced Snorkeller is a comprehensively-trained, experienced and responsible snorkeller.



Snorkel Dive Manager

The Snorkel Dive Manager is the person in overall charge of all the groups of snorkellers as well as being responsible for making all the arrangements for the snorkelling activities. The Snorkel Dive Manager course teaches the organisational, leadership and planning skills needed to take on this role. He or she needs to be an experienced snorkeller and a responsible person, able to plan ahead and anticipate possible problems.





* Snorkel Dive Managers and Instructors under the age of 18 need to be operating under the supervision of a responsible adult.



Snorkelling Skill Development Courses

The following Skill Development Courses are designed specifically for snorkellers. These courses can be run by your local club, so please ask a Branch Officer for more information.

Snorkel Lifesaver Award

Assesses students' lifesaving proficiency and snorkeller rescue skills within a pool or sheltered-water environment. Allows for additional/refresher training as required.

Snorkel Advanced Lifesaver Award

Assesses students' lifesaving proficiency and snorkeller rescue skills within realistic open-water conditions, placing an emphasis on improvisation and immediacy.

Become a snorkelling instructor

Teaching snorkelling can be a hugely rewarding experience. Why not give it a go? BSAC stages a number of events nationally in the UK throughout the year.

There are three main levels of BSAC Snorkel instructor:

Snorkel Instructor

Entry requirement: BSAC Snorkel Diver, minimum age 16 years.

To qualify as a Snorkel Instructor you need to take part in the two-day Snorkel Instructor Training Course and Assessment (SITCA). The course covers how to teach snorkelling activities in a swimming pool and concludes with an assessment of classroom lesson presentation skills and pool snorkelling instructional ability.

Book online at: www.bsac.com/sitca

Advanced Snorkel Instructor

Entry requirement: Snorkel Instructor, Snorkel Dive Manager, Advanced Snorkel Lifesaver, minimum age 16 years.

To qualify as an Advanced Snorkel Instructor you need to take part in the two-day Advanced Snorkel Instructor Training Course and Assessment (ASITCA). The two-day course covers how to teach advanced snorkelling activities in open water. The course concludes with an assessment of classroom lesson presentation skills and open water snorkelling instructional ability.

Book online at: www.bsac.com/bookasitc

Snorkel Instructor Trainer

Entry requirement: Advanced Snorkeller, Advanced Snorkel Lifesaver and Snorkel Dive Manager.

Please contact the Diver Resources Team (DRT) at BSAC HQ for information on becoming a Snorkel Instructor Trainer. (+44 (0)151 350 6203 / drt@bsac.com)



Find out more...

More information on all of the snorkel instructor courses can be found at **www.bsac.com/instructsnorkelling**



YOUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

As a BSAC member you belong to a group of people who share a real passion for diving and/or snorkelling.

By joining one of our 1,000+ clubs you are able to dive or snorkel and train with friends, and participate in a full range of club and training activities, as well as associated activities, weekend trips to inland or coastal sites and diving/snorkelling holidays.

BSAC sees the club aspect as the main benefit of BSAC membership, but there are many others of course and to follow are the BSAC membership benefits in a nutshell...

Worldwide Third-Party Liability

insurance cover* - up to the value of £10m for civil liability. More on this on page 48.



Monthly copy of SCUBA*

(BSAC's official magazine) - delivered to your door and packed with news, reviews, and diving advice. More on this on page 49.



Access to high-quality training programmes

- with the internationally-recognised Diver Training Programme, Skill Development Courses, Instructor Training Scheme and Snorkeller Training Programme.

Affordable financial services for BSAC divers

- exclusively-negotiated diver life cover, critical illness and income protection cover for BSAC divers.



Travel and boat insurance

- Exclusive to BSAC members, the policies from Bishop Skinner Marine offer real value for money.



Have your say - as a member of the UK National Governing Body for scuba diving and snorkelling.

Up to 50% discount in the BSAC Shop

- on anything from a logbook to a waterproof first aid kit.

Expert diving advice - on tap from the experienced and friendly Diver Resources Team at BSAC HQ.

Big savings on diving

holidays - with leading UK dive travel companies



Access to member-only online areas

- on bsac.com and BSAC forums.

Access to divers' events, including shows and conferences.



See the full range of benefits at www.bsac.com/benefits

* Terms and conditions of membership apply.

BSAC worldwide third-party liability insurance



As a BSAC member you benefit from liability insurance that protects you whilst you are taking part in your sport, including whilst diving and snorkelling. Liability insurance will protect you if someone else is injured or their property is damaged and they hold you responsible.

What BSAC insurance cover provides:

Civil Liability cover up to £10,000,000. This includes the costs associated with defending a claim against you.

Civil liability cover includes **Public liability** and also:

Professional Indemnity, which is important to protect you if you are giving advice.

Directors and Officers liability, to protect the personal liability of branch committee members.

Libel & Slander cover, to protect you if someone claims you have damaged their reputation.

Abuse cover, if you are accused of failing in your duty to protect children or adults at risk.

Cover is extended to protect your Principals (i.e. swimming pools, leisure centres, land owners and lake or pit owners that allow BSAC-organised diving to take place on or in their property) if they are sued as a result of your actions.

BSAC members are insured, for example, against claims resulting from:

- *Accidentally injuring another diver or snorkeller while diving or snorkelling.*
- *Accidentally injuring another person whilst on diving or snorkelling-related activities. For example dropping a cylinder on someone's foot.*
- *Diving incidents around in the world (Please note: some countries are excluded from the BSAC policy. If you live overseas please contact BSAC on +44 (0)151 350 6201 for more information).*
- *Accidentally harming another person through improper use of a compressor.*
- *Nitrox, rebreather and Trimix diving incidents.*

Please note: Successful claims are subject to members following the BSAC Diving Guidelines.

If you'd like any more information on the BSAC insurance please call BSAC HQ on +44 (0)151 350 6201.

This insurance has been placed with Zurich Insurance by Perkins Slade Ltd.

If more information about this insurance is required please refer to BSAC HQ or Perkins Slade Ltd directly. They can provide a more formal proof of insurance if necessary. This is only a brief description of the Annual Liability Insurance that is stated more specifically in BSAC's Master Insurance Policy, a copy of the Master Policy can be obtained from BSAC HQ upon request.

SCUBA magazine and Talk

SCUBA is BSAC's fantastic member magazine, bringing you all the latest news on UK and BSAC club diving and snorkelling – as well as all the important developments in our sport – every month. BSAC full members get SCUBA delivered directly to their door as part of their membership package.

As the official magazine of Britain's biggest dive club, SCUBA is YOUR magazine and BSAC is keen to include your stories and ideas. If you'd like to contribute to SCUBA magazine, there is a contributor guide specifically for members at www.bsac.com/writingforSCUBA

For more information on SCUBA, including details on how to advertise please visit the SCUBA website at www.scubamagazine.co.uk

'Talk' is the monthly member email newsletter. It contains the biggest news stories of the month from BSAC. **If you are not currently receiving this email newsletter but would like to, please contact the membership department (membership@bsac.com / +44 (0)151 350 6201).**



Did you know...?

There is a digital PDF page-turner version of SCUBA called iSCUBA. If you currently receive the hard copy magazine and would either like to switch or receive iSCUBA as well as your hard copy magazine, please let us know by contacting the membership department (membership@bsac.com / +44 (0)151 350 6201)



Scuba Financial Services (SFS)

MEMBERSHIP
BENEFITS

Scuba Financial Services offers financial protection for BSAC members at an affordable price. SFS has done considerable research into BSAC diving to ensure the best possible deals for members. Many members were struggling to get fair cover (or cover at all) and Scuba Financial Services has managed to help many of those members, and in most cases at more favourable rates.

Developed solely for BSAC divers of all grades Scuba Financial Services specialises in the following types of cover:

- **Mortgage Protection**
- **Family Protection/life cover**
- **Critical Illness Cover**
- **Income Protection**

Does diving affect your life insurance policy?

It can do but Scuba Financial Services will ensure you are adequately covered and pay the best price. Failure to disclose to your insurance company that you dive may impact on your life policy cover. Legally your insurer may void your contract whether your non-disclosure was intentional or not.



“What I’ve saved in the first year alone, when compared to the other quotes, is enough to pay my BSAC subscription for the next 33 years!”

**Barry Goss,
BSAC Advanced Diver**

To talk about your requirements and/or receive a quote, please call 0844 579 0997 or visit www.scuba-fs.co.uk

Scuba Financial Services is brought to you by Sports Financial Services Ltd. Scuba Financial Services is a trading style of Sports Financial Services who is an appointed representative of Suttons Independent Financial Advisers Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Travel and Boat insurance

Exclusive to BSAC members, these policies are designed to meet the specific needs of BSAC divers and diving clubs. Bishop Skinner Marine – part of the Bluefin group – has excellent credentials. They have over 40 years' experience in the sector and also work with the RNLI and RYA, making them the ideal insurance partner for BSAC.



part of the Bluefin group

The **BOAT INSURANCE** is tailored specifically for BSAC clubs and members and their RIBs and boats, providing wide levels of valuable cover, with additional cover enhancements only available to BSAC members and clubs. Boat insurance can also be arranged for members that have their own boats.



The **TRAVEL INSURANCE** offers a specialist cover package, especially suited for diving overseas and takes into account your specific dive cover needs. Whether it is single trip or annual cover, the travel insurance for BSAC members is the essential travel companion.



The range of insurance for BSAC members also includes:

- *Diving equipment insurance*
- *Club insurance*

For more information visit
www.bishopskinner.com/BSAC

To obtain a quote, call FREE
on 0800 783 8057 or email
insurance@bishopskinner.com



BSAC Shop

BSAC members can save up to 50% on RRP in the BSAC Shop.

The BSAC Shop stocks a variety of its own products including: BSAC diving manuals, BSAC decompression tables, logbooks, BSAC Diver/Snorkeller Instructor resources and BSAC clothing. It also stocks BSAC training materials that Branch Officers can order for their trainees.

In addition, the Shop has a wide selection of diving and snorkelling-related items from outside suppliers. Products include diving-

related books, dive guides, diving safety and kit care products, diving DVDs, sports-related jewellery and much more.

Almost all products are discounted by a minimum of 10% for members. You can also sign up for the Shop e-newsletter for additional special offers.

Visit www.bsacshop.com or call +44 (0)151 350 6202.



BSAC Travel Partners

NEW in 2014 ...

BSAC has negotiated exclusive discounts for members (and their immediate family members) with some of the UK's leading dive tour operators.

Savings of between 5 and 10% (and in some cases more) are on offer. These companies have committed to offering BSAC members genuinely exclusive discounts with potential savings of £100s...



To get your discount, simply...

1. Visit www.bsac.com/travelpartners and click the Travel Partner logos to link to their dedicated BSAC Member offer page
2. Choose your holiday
3. Give your name and BSAC membership number to the tour operator when you book
4. The appropriate discount will be applied to your holiday

Please note: terms and conditions apply.
Please see the travel companies' dedicated web pages for further information.



BSAC Plus

BSAC Plus is a discounts and benefits scheme designed to bring savings to members on a wide range of everyday goods and services with 100s of British companies.

To start saving, visit the BSAC Plus website at www.bsac.com/plus, call **0845 071 6396** or go to the links below.

A few examples of how you can save with BSAC Plus...

Everyday shopping

5% cashback at ASDA and Sainsbury's, 6% at M&S, 7% cashback at Argos and Homebase, 8% at B&Q, 10% cashback at Boots and Debenhams... and many more high street brands. Example saving: if you spend £75 per week at say ASDA or Sainsbury's, you earn £175 per year net. This cashback scheme is with 'My Cashback Cards'.

More at www.bsac.com/cashback

Participating stores include:



Car insurance

Save 15% off your current insurance renewal premium. The cover includes free legal expenses and foreign use.

More at www.bsac.com/carinsurance



Wine

Claim a £40 gift code from Naked Wines.

More at www.bsac.com/wine

Gym membership

Access the corporate rate at over 2,500 gyms.

More at www.bsac.com/gyms

Eating out

2 for 1 dining or 25% off the whole bill including drinks with the Gourmet Society. Choose from over 6,000 restaurants. Discounted card costs £29.95 per year (RRP £69.95) plus enjoy a 2-month free trial.

More at www.bsac.com/gourmet



Apple products

Great savings on a wide range of Apple products.

More at www.bsac.com/apple

Gas and electricity

Free impartial service to find the cheapest suppliers in your area.

More at www.bsac.com/energy

Travel

5% off package holidays with Travellers Advantage, plus discounts on hotels, currency exchange, car hire and more.

More at www.bsac.com/plustravel



Terms and conditions apply to all benefits. See website for details. Offers and prices subject to change without notice. Insurance is subject to underwriting. Some benefits not available in N.Ireland or outside of the United Kingdom. BSAC Plus is managed on behalf of BSAC by Parliament Hill Ltd. BSAC is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Parliament Hill Ltd of 3rd Floor, 127 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6BT, who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority under register number 308448.



WORKING FOR YOU

Photo: Pete Saunders

WORKING FOR YOU

BSAC is run by divers for divers and, as a not-for-profit organisation, invests back into the club for its members and the development of diving.

As the UK National Governing Body, BSAC also works as ‘the voice for diving’ by representing the interests of all divers and snorkellers – from grassroots participation and development through to driving forward safety and excellence in our sport and representing diving and snorkelling on a national and international level.

An experienced diver, HRH, the Prince of Wales, has been President of BSAC since 1974. The BSAC board of directors – also known as Council – are elected by the membership to oversee the club’s constitution and ensure proper governance on behalf of its members.

Here are some of the key ways BSAC works for you:



Safety and training development

Since the 1950s BSAC’s safety recommendations and training have been updated and improved to keep pace with developments in equipment and diving knowledge. The training is designed to build confidence and self-reliance, whilst keeping safety uppermost.

BSAC’s National Diving Committee (NDC) provides a wealth of experience as well as practical development work to support the National Diving Officer (NDO) in his or her responsibilities for all diving, snorkelling and training within BSAC.

The 30+ members of the NDC are all appointed for their specific skills, experience and expertise. Their collective remit covers the complete range of BSAC activity, from snorkel, diver and instructor training through to support for branches, centres and coaching. All members of the NDC are volunteers.

Directed by the NDO and the Steering Group, the NDC maintain and develop training programmes and resource materials. The NDC also provide a wide range of advice to meet the aims and objectives set out by BSAC Council for delivering continually improving services to all members.

BSAC Incident Report

Since 1964 BSAC has produced an annual Incident Report which plays a key role in understanding trends in diving safety, both in the UK and around the world. Providing the most comprehensive database of incidents and trends, the report has influenced the development of safe diving and training practices across all the diver training agencies. The annual report contains details of UK diving

incidents occurring to divers of all affiliations plus incidents occurring worldwide involving BSAC members. Many groups, including the RNLI and other diving agencies feed into the reporting system but the majority come from individuals.

BSAC members are encouraged to report any incidents in confidence to BSAC. Incident reports can be submitted online at www.bsac.com/incidents

Marine conservation

BSAC and its members are in a privileged position to contribute to the protection of the marine environment – today and for future generations.

BSAC's Divers Making Waves...to protect our seas initiative underpins the organisation's commitment to the marine environment, both at home and around the world. From engaging BSAC members in the issues currently facing the marine environment through to galvanising divers and snorkellers to get involved, BSAC hopes that Making Waves will live up to its name.

BSAC Chair and marine biologist Clare Peddie said Making Waves has been introduced as a call to action to BSAC members.



"We need to make positive waves now to make a real and long-lasting difference to the health and sustainability of the UK and the world's seas."

For the latest information and guidance on the marine environment and how you, as a diver or snorkeller can make a difference, please visit www.bsac.com/makingwaves

Underwater heritage

BSAC works to ensure that ordinary divers are able to access their underwater heritage freely and without unnecessary restrictions. It works closely with English Heritage, helping to promote diver access to historic wrecks protected under the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973, and also liaises with the Ministry of Defence when military wrecks are to be protected under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986. BSAC is on the Historic Wrecks Panel that English Heritage set up to look at contentious applications for protection of shipwrecks under the 1973 Act.

BSAC also has representation on the Joint Nautical Archaeology Policy Committee, and has spent a lot of energy persuading members of the committee that divers are responsible and do obey the law. BSAC also supports the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) by encouraging members to join the NAS and do some training in simple archaeological techniques, and get a basic understanding of what archaeology is so that in the future BSAC divers may choose to record sunken jetties, the remains of old piers, and other remains of our maritime past as well as diving on wrecks.

Recently BSAC has been involved with the steering groups for the new Marine Conservation Zones, again supporting diver access and making sure that our favourite wrecks are not put out of bounds unless there is a very good reason.

Our most important function is probably to work closely with a range of people from government departments to local interest groups to ensure that we can continue to dive free from

unnecessary restrictions, often by explaining to non-divers how we go about our business and how we can contribute to looking after our underwater heritage.

If anyone has any questions regarding underwater heritage issues then Jane Maddock (BSAC's Underwater Heritage Advisor) can be contacted at uwheritage@bsac.com

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults

BSAC takes its responsibility for all members and their welfare very seriously. It consequently is part of the UK's movement to formalise the role of safeguarding of vulnerable people. BSAC is working in conjunction with leading organisations such as The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) to achieve this.

BSAC's Child Safeguarding Policy "BSAC Safeguarding Policy" lays down clear requirements on members and clubs to meet the required duty of care to ensure the

safeguarding of BSAC child members. The policy encourages best practice and takes a responsible attitude to safeguarding the needs of all children in our sport. It also outlines details of the new Disclosure and Barring Service and those who will be required to undertake a DBS check which will be facilitated by BSAC and information received will be held securely and in the strictest confidence. A new version of "BSAC Safeguarding Policy" will be available from Summer 2013. BSAC is able to facilitate this process and is fully registered to carry out these checks which are simple and treated in the strictest confidence.

If anyone has any questions regarding Safeguarding issues then Mary Tetley (BSAC's Safeguarding Officer) can be called on +44 (0)151 350 6220 or emailed at safeguarding@bsac.com.



Did you know...?

Branch Officers can access the Safeguarding Policy and related information at

www.bsac.com/safeguarding



SUPPORT FOR CLUBS

From new member recruitment to diver and training guidance and advice, BSAC is here to help.

Recruitment campaigns and support

BSAC runs recruitment campaigns and offers various support to help clubs attract new members. Please do take advantage of this assistance to help your club recruit new members. Any member could potentially help with their club's promotion and recruitment. If you have skills to bring to the party – why not get involved and help your club?

The support on offer includes the following:



2. Free promotional materials to promote your club

Various materials are available to help with the promotion of your club including posters, 'Go Diving UK' DVD, leaflets and postcards.

Check out and order the materials here:

www.bsac.com/promomaterial

3. Promotional materials available for events

BSAC has a selection of banners and tall outdoor flags that your club could borrow for use at events such as county fairs.

There are also various promotional giveaways such as bottle-opener keyrings, pens and bugs that can be given to clubs attending events.

To find out more and/or to book or order these promotional materials please contact the BSAC membership department (membership@bsac.com / +44 (0)151 350 6201)



1. 10-step Plan to recruit new members

This easy-to-use PDF guide provides advice on the best ways to recruit new members using tried and tested methods. It's a great starting point for clubs looking to recruit new members.

Download the guide here:

www.bsac.com/10step



4. Free 'Try Dive' event materials

Running a Try Dive event is a great way to recruit new members. The support on hand includes free participant packs, posters and leaflets, and a comprehensive guide detailing how to run the perfect Try Dive event.

More at: www.bsac.com/trydiveevent



5. Free 'Experience Snorkelling' participant packs

Running an Experience Snorkelling (have-a-go) event is a great way to recruit new members. The participant packs include a 12-page leaflet on snorkelling with BSAC, a letter, certificate and cloth badge.

Check out and order the packs here:

www.bsac.com/promomaterial



6. Materials and support for recruiting already trained divers

The support on hand includes free participant packs to give to prospective new members and a comprehensive guide detailing the most effective way of welcoming and integrating already trained divers to your club.

Check out and order the packs here:

www.bsac.com/promomaterial



7. Marketing and PR support

The marketing and PR staff at BSAC HQ can offer advice and hands-on support where possible with regard to clubs' recruitment. Getting coverage with the local media can work wonders for recruiting new members and BSAC is on-hand to assist clubs to do just that. If for example you have a story that could be used to promote club diving in a popular light or if you wish to promote an event you're running, BSAC is there to help. PR and Communications Manager Alison Dando works closely with clubs and BSAC's external PR company to get the word out about BSAC.

Please call BSAC HQ on +44 (0)151 350 6200 or email marketing@bsac.com for assistance.

8. Grant application support

The Diver Resources Team at BSAC HQ is on-hand to offer advice on grant funding for clubs. Many BSAC clubs have now had grant success with considerable sums being awarded to many BSAC clubs. Why not join them?

More at: www.bsac.com/grants



9. Support for family-friendly clubs

Would you like to offer fun but educational activities for children in your

club? BSAC Kidz is a new initiative designed to support BSAC's family-friendly clubs. The new BSAC Beachcomber activity is fun and easy to run. It can add an educational and inclusive element to a dive weekend or club holiday where there are non-diving family and friends. It is also ideal to run as part of snorkel training. BSAC Kidz is supported by a colourful interactive website at www.bsackidz.com.

More info for your club at: www.bsackidz.com/clubs



Coaches are available to visit clubs in their area to offer advice and training to support the club and its members. There is also a network of Overseas Liaison Officers and Regional Organisers who work to support clubs overseas.

Please go to www.bsac.com/coaching for full contact details for the BSAC Regional Coach in your area.

BSAC Diver Resources Team

The Diver Resources Team at BSAC HQ are always on hand to offer training and club management advice as an alternative to contacting your Regional Coach.

Please call +44 (0)151 350 6203 or email drt@bsac.com for assistance.

Training and club management advice

BSAC Coaching Scheme

The BSAC Coaching Scheme has been designed to provide direct support to both members and clubs as well as offering regionally-organised courses and events. The UK is covered by a network of 15 Regional Coaches, assisted by their Area Coach and support teams. BSAC's Regional

Practical training assistance

If your club needs hands-on help with its training requirements, please get in touch with either the Regional Coach or BSAC HQ. BSAC will do its best to provide instructors or other support as needed to help you.



YOUR COMMUNITY

BSAC WITH BENEFITS
Make your membership pay your way

NORWEGIAN BLUES
Why wreck divers get a kick out of Gulen

GO WEST
Anita Sherwood's guide to the dive sites of Pembrokeshire

TEKKIE TALK
The buzz of Eurotech

SNAPPER SCHOOLS
The rise of the group dive

NORTHERN EXPOSURE
Discover Scotland's amazing wrecks and reefs

GEORDIE INVASION
The fishheads

RUSH HOUR
Visit Northern Ireland's greatest wreck dives

TEENAGE KICKS
Diving's new generation

BSAC SCUBA

The Official Magazine of Britain's Biggest Diving Club

2012 TRAVEL PLANNER
55 fantastic destinations to choose from

ST ABBS
Best ever guide

SUMMER ISLES
Three clubs, no guits

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ASK THE EXPERTS
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A winter tour of Mull

CLUB MIXES
Teaching Sport Mixed Gas

THE ART OF SHORE DIVING
Technique, planning, best sites

DIVING FOR ALL
Injured soldiers go scuba in Ozco

BETWEEN FIRE AND ICE
Explore the continental divide of Iceland

SHIPWRECK GRAVEYARD
Discover the fabled wrecks of Main Road

BLUE WATER BLISS
Escape to the Maldives

SHINE A LIGHT
Torches on test

NORTH STARS
Discover Scotland's remote shore dives

THE PHILIPPINES
Asia's bargain hunt

CLASSY CARIBBEAN
Christmas year holiday

ALL ABOARD!
Globe-trotting guide

LIGHT UP YOUR LIFE
Super-bright umbilical torches

PRAWN COCKTAIL!
Fun for all in scenic St Abbs

LOOK CLOSER
Classic wrecks of Olan and Mull

DEVON'S DOLPHIN
A night in the water

ALL ABOARD!
Globe-trotting guide

SUB DISCOVERY
First divers on the line

MID CHANNEL MAGIC
Wrecks for advanced divers

APENS BLACKICE BOB REVIEWED

KITTED UP
Fins that stand the test of time

KITTED UP:
The BIG SIMI web site test

FROM THE TEST CENTRE

FROM THE TEST CENTRE

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FROM THE TEST CENTRE

YOUR COMMUNITY

There are lots of ways you can keep in touch with your BSAC...



bsac.com

Online, at BSAC's website, you'll find lots of useful information, including: training options, safety, travel and medical information. You'll also find instructor resources, a club support area, membership discounts and benefits and the online shop. Once registered on the website members can access restricted areas including additional instructor and club support pages, the 100s of online discounts with BSAC Plus, their own membership details and the member discounts in the BSAC online shop.

Visit bsac.com and see for yourself.

Facebook and Twitter

BSAC has a growing social media following. All of the latest news and offers are released on Facebook and Twitter and there are often exclusive Facebook competitions and promotions. Join in at:

[@BSACDIVERS](http://www.facebook.com/BritishSubAquaClub)



SCUBA magazine

SCUBA magazine features many articles written by BSAC members. BSAC is always looking to feature more content from members so if you have an idea for an article, please let us know.

Please email any ideas for articles to the editor at simon@scubamagazine.co.uk.





USEFUL CONTACTS AND JARGON BUSTER

Bringing together membership, diver and snorkeller resources, operations, accounts and the BSAC Shop, the Cheshire-based HQ is the administrative centre for the organisation with around 22 employed staff.

Membership

+44 (0)151 350 6201 | membership@bsac.com

Diver Resources Team

+44 (0)151 350 6203 | drt@bsac.com

Marketing and PR

+44 (0)151 350 6221 | marketing@bsac.com

Shop

+44 (0)151 350 6202 | shop@bsac.com

Jargon buster

DRT – Diver Resources Team

IFC – Instructor Foundation Course

ITS – Instructor Training Scheme

NDC – National Diving Committee

SDCs – Skill Development Courses

External contacts

Coastguard

Implements the government's maritime safety policy in the UK and provides a 24-hour maritime search and rescue service around the UK coast.

www.dft.gov.uk/mca

VHF Channel 16

National Decompression Illness Helpline

To follow are the emergency contact numbers for the UK to use following a diving incident.

Sea diving – call the Coastguard, DSC or VHF Channel 16/Dial 999 (24 hours)

Inland Diving – ENGLAND, NORTHERN IRELAND, WALES – call the BHA Diver Helpline 07831 151523 (24 hours). SCOTLAND – call Aberdeen Royal Infirmary 0845 408 6008 (24 hours)

Please note: You will find these numbers printed on the reverse of your BSAC membership card. For other emergency assistance, when ashore in the UK, use **999** or **112**, as usual. When diving outside of the UK, ensure that you know the local emergency contact procedures.

DDRC

A charity which aims to promote and take part in the medical treatment, training and research associated with the use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy in the treatment of diving diseases, accidents and other medical problems.

www.ddrc.org

Tel: +44 (0)1752 209999

Marine Conservation Society (MCS)

MCS is a partner to BSAC and the UK's leading charity for the protection of our seas, shores and wildlife.

www.mcsuk.org

Tel: +44 (0)1989 566017

Met Office

Information on the shipping forecast and gale warnings, as well as marine observations.

www.metoffice.gov.uk

Tel: 0870 900 0100 or +44 (0)1392 885680

Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS)

The NAS is dedicated to advancing education in nautical archaeology at all levels.

www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org

Tel/Fax: +44(0)23 9281 8419

RNLI

Charity providing 24-hour lifeboat search and rescue service around the coasts of the UK and RoI, as well as a seasonal lifeguard service on many of the busiest beaches in England and Wales.

www.rnli.org.uk

Tel: 0845 045 6999

UK Hydrographic Office

Provides information on tides via the Admiralty Easy Tide service.

easytide.ukho.gov.uk



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