

DCB Meeting Minutes
4/13/09

Attending:

Stephen Jewett (DSO)
Brenda Konar (Chair)
Dave Christie
Max Hoberg
Bill Krause
Terry Efir
Sherry Tamone
Ginny Eckert
Elizabeth Siddon

2008 Dive Statistics:

Have been turned into AAUS
About the same as previous years (# divers, # dives, etc...)

On-line dive logging:

Only 10 divers have logged onto the new system.
Stephen will resend the request for divers to enroll in this system
All these divers need to input all their 2009 dives.
The board feels that everyone should be using the electronic system now.

Temporary Diver:

5.10.2 Temporary Diver Permit (highlighted text are suggested changes (additions) to our current dive manual)

This permit **may** constitute a waiver of **some of** the requirements of Section 5.00 and is issued only following a demonstration of the required proficiency in diving. It is valid only for a limited time, as determined by the Diving Safety Officer. This permit is not to be construed as a mechanism to circumvent existing standards set forth in this standard.

Requirements **(e.g., some of the required theoretical and practical training, written exam)** of this section may be waived by the Diving Safety Officer if the person in question has demonstrated proficiency in diving and can contribute measurably to a planned dive. A statement of temporary diver's qualifications shall be submitted to the Diving Safety Officer as a part of the dive plan. Temporary permits shall be restricted to the planned diving operation and shall comply with all other policies, regulations, and standards of this manual, including medical requirements. **Temporary permits also may be issued for multiple dive plans of a research project, e.g., assisting graduate students.**

Comments on Temporary Diver:

It should state what is absolutely required (ie safety requirements)

Perhaps make the status good for one year.

Stephen and Dave are opposed to blanket temporary permits (the scope of the permit needs to be clearly defined).

As is, this will not work for people who want to help with projects throughout the year.

This is a project by project basis.

Is there a way to formalize people who want to dive for the university?

Is there a volunteer form that people can fill out?

There are UA volunteer forms that could be used. Dave pointed out that anyone who is diving and not paid by another university or other employer probably qualifies as a UA volunteer and should be registered as such. While not strictly a DCB issue, this will provide some coverage for the volunteer in case of accident.

Bill will send a weblink to the UA volunteer form around and we will look at it and decide if it should be on our web page.

Can there be an active volunteer diver status?

Example: USCS

These people could be on our diver list and we would keep track of dives for AAUS stats.

Perhaps there should be two statuses: Temporary Diver and Volunteer Diver

Stephen will add a section to (ie revise) the Temporary Diver verbiage discussing the Volunteer Diver

Possible addition to dive manual re: protocol for safe boating and diving:

(Here are a couple of options to discuss. Approximately 50% of all AAUS org. members require a designated boat operator/dive tender for small boat diving)

A designated small boat operator/dive tender must accompany all small boat diving operations.

Exceptions are when all of the following situations exist:

- Dive operations are within sight and radio contact of the shore facility;
- Dive operations are during non-winter months;
- Dive operations are less than 30 ft; and
- Dive operations are during minimal tidal exchange.

or

A designated small boat operator/dive tender must accompany all small boat diving operations when:

- Diving occurs out of sight and radio contact of the shore facility;
- Diving occurs during winter months; and
- Diving to more than 30 ft; and
- Diving during flood and ebb tidal exchange.

Suggestions:

-Exchange flood and ebb tidal exchange with verbiage about current

-30ft is constraining. It was suggested that 60 feet would be a better standard for our operations.

-Some don't like the idea to require tenders.

-Perhaps have a more rigorous dive plan to make people think about safety issues.

-Stephen would have to make the call regarding tender necessity.

-The dive plan would need to be revised.

-This would mean that no changes would need to be made to the dive manual.

-Should tenders be site specific?

-Should they be required unless waived by someone with authority?

-K-Bay should come up with boating safety guidelines for their facilities.

Next meeting agenda:

Boat Safety

Juneau has a boating safety manual. It has been approved by Risk Management

A subcommittee could review this manual and make suggestions

UCSC has a boating committee (similar to DCB). It had its own manual, board, etc...

MLML has its boating operations run through its boating operations with courses etc..

A separate board may need to be established for boating issues.

Stephen will send a memo to Bill (and the UA Risk Management person) about our boating concerns

Bill has been working on boating issues

Next meeting mid May.