

Diving Control Board Meeting Minutes

14 May 2010

In Attendance:

Stephen Jewett
Brenda Konar
Elizabeth Siddon
Bill Krause
Max Hoberg
Terry Efirm
Dave Christie

Dive Stats:

We all looked at the dive stats. They look good although there was one error in number of UA divers going elsewhere with reciprocity. The UW divers should be listed as MLML. The stats look very similar to past years. Much of the activity is currently occurring at the Kasitsna Bay Lab. As far as the number of divers and number of dives, we are about middle of the pack with other member agencies.

There is still a problem with expiration of certificates (CPR, O2, etc..). It seems that people are having a hard time realizing when they are expired. Terry pointed out that some logging systems send out reminders. Stephen will talk to AAUS to see if we can get something added to our current logging program so that reminders can be sent out. Bill says that the program "intellects" can send out reminders. This might be a nice option if AAUS can't help us.

If we want divers to get in synch (as far as CPR, First Aid, etc..), there is a DAN course that does this. Someone would need to get certified to teach this. We should revisit this in the future.

Electronic Logging:

This is the first year that UA has submitted dives to AAUS electronically. There were some glitches (some categories don't add up, etc...) but by and large, it went smoothly. Stephen was able to talk to folks about the glitches at the annual AAUS meeting. It seems that 1/2 of the member agencies are using this program/system right now.

Annual AAUS business meeting and DSO meeting:

Stephen attended this meeting. After this year, AAUS will be changing venue. It will probably be in Fall 2011 in Maine. It would be great to have one at the Kasitsna Bay Lab. Perhaps do something jointly with the Sea Life Center or something at Homer (KBNERR). We should think about this in the future.

One troubling point that came up at this meeting is that AAUS is considering requiring a Physician to do physicals rather than a Physician Assistant. This would be an issue for UA divers, especially the students. We asked Stephen to talk to the AAUS board about this requirement.

Dive incidents:

Brenda gave an update on the dive incident that occurred during the spring break dive class with one of the students. It ended up that the student had a major panic attack and ended up being taken over to Homer to be seen at the hospital. She is now fine. Incident reports were sent to UA Risk Management and PADI. One needs to be submitted to AAUS. Brenda will send all paperwork to Stephen. Stricter requirements are going to be implemented in this class starting next year to try to prevent such incidences in the future.

Katrin's polar cruise also had an issue. A visiting videographer did a check-out at Woodshole and then came up and plugged into the cruise. He ended up being terrible in the water and this could have resulted in an incident. Stephen suggests that in the future, all visiting divers be required to do a check-out dive under similar conditions to which they will be diving (including equipment) with someone from UA who is approved by Stephen. Everyone agrees that this is a good idea. Stephen will change some of the wording to make this requirement stricter in the UA regulations. Stephen will circulate this wording to all of us for comments.

News:

Bill Krause will be retiring in December. He will look into having someone replace him from Risk Management.