

Burntwood Sub Aqua Club - Swimming Pool Risk Assessment

This document should be read by all Instructors/divers using the swimming pool on sessions organised by Burntwood Sub-aqua Club, and will be made available to all club members via an annual distribution and on the club website. Whilst this Risk Assessment is intended to cover diving related activities, several of the risks identified will also apply to snorkelling and even swimming.

It is the Pool Managers responsibility to carry out a practical risk review prior to every pool session, based on this generic risk assessment, plus consideration of prevailing conditions. If conditions change such as to be significantly different from those applying at the time the original assessment was undertaken, then the Pool Manager shall reassess the situation accordingly.

Hazards should be continuously monitored during any dive or dive related activity. The Pool Manager should be prepared to put any contingency plans into place at any point during the pool session. "Pool rules" to be followed by all persons at all times.

Standard Controls

Divers shall dive within the restrictions of their training and experience and all diving shall be carried out in accordance with BSAC Safe Diving Practices and Burntwood Sub Aqua (BSAC) Branch Rules. It is the responsibility of each individual diver to undertake personal risk control measures as befits their level of training and experience and, if appropriate, the Instructor shall brief the trainee on the risks associated with the exercise. All divers (including trainees) must have completed a medical self-declaration form.

Divers should ensure that their equipment is properly maintained and functional. BSAC demand valves to be serviced annually.

BSAC will provide a designated Pool Manager. This is in accordance with the recommendations of the publication "Managing Health & Safety in Swimming Pools", jointly published by the Health & Safety Executive and the Local Authorities Enforcement Liaison Committee, that lifeguards require specialised skills to adequately supervise sub-aqua activities).

In the event of children or vulnerable individuals being present in the pool, the club will take special measures to ensure safety based on the specific needs of the people being trained. We have two qualified welfare officers (Mark Beere and Sue Walker) who would ensure the general welfare and safety above and below water. This would include supervision of changing rooms; one to one instruction; safety divers in the pool; pool manager; fitness to dive questionnaire; assistance with kitting up; individual assessment of fitness to dive;

RA ref Pool. Swimming pool risk assessment 10.11.2013 MD SMITH

Entering the changing rooms

Hazard:	Risk of:	Risk Eval	Controls:	Immediate measures to deal with consequences if risk does occur:
Slips and trips	Injury bumps, cuts etc due to slips on wet or hard surfaces	med	All pool users to take care and sit on the benches provided when changing	Assess injury. Apply first aid and hospitalise if required

Kitting up

Hazard:	Risk of:	Risk Eval	Controls:	Immediate measures to deal with consequences if risk does occur:
Skin abrasion due to wearing diving kit	Minor injury	low	Trainees to be advised to wear a t shirt or rash vest under scuba gear	Treat any cuts with plasters or hospitalise if serious
Falling whilst kitting up	Possible major injury	medium	Trainees to follow good practice when putting on scuba gear (buddy to help) and use 'figure of four' and a wall / steady support when fitting fins. Instructor to ensure this happens.	Assess injury. Apply first aid and hospitalise if required
Falling heavy objects – weight belt, scuba gear etc	Broken bones	medium	Extreme care to be taken. Falling weight belts and scuba equipment can break bones. Instructor to advise trainee	Assess injury. Apply first aid and hospitalise if required

The dive itself:

Equipment failure	Serious injury to diver/death	High	Divers to perform a buddy check before entering the water. It is recommended that divers carry-out a bubble check once under the surface. Equipment to be well maintained and regularly serviced.	Divers to abort dive and return to surface. Assistance from buddy as required.
Running out of gas	Serious injury to diver/death	High	Divers to perform a buddy check before entering the water, including gas levels. All scuba sets to be fitted with cylinder pressure gauges. Instructor to monitor trainees gas level during the dive. All divers should carry an alternative air source, i.e. Octopus, Air II, pony or twin-set.	Diver to use own or buddy's AS.

Hazard:	Risk of:	Risk Eval:	Controls:	Immediate measures to deal with consequences if risk does occur:
Cold	Hypothermia	Medium	Divers to choose appropriate, well fitting exposure protection in good condition. Divers to be prepared to exit water early if cold. Divers to monitor buddies, and in particular trainees, for early signs of cold. Trainees to be briefed on appropriate divers' signals to indicate chill. Divers to keep towel at side of pool if prone to suffering from cold.	First Aid to be administered. Pool Reception to contact emergency services, as required. Hospitalise, as required.
Diver falling from ladder when exiting water or generally falling during entry/exit	Serious injury to diver beneath them Injury to diver/damage to equipment	Medium	Divers to ensure they are never beneath a diver who is climbing up a ladder or entering/exiting water	Recover casualty from water and administer first aid. Hospitalise, as required.
Drowning	Serious injury/death of diver/snorkeller/swimmer	Medium	Monitoring by Instructor with trainees. Monitoring by pool manager. Training to be conducted in depths suitable to skill levels.	First Aid to be administered. Pool Reception to contact emergency services, as required. Hospitalise.
Ear damage	Injury to diver	Medium	Trainees to receive specific instruction on ear clearing. Divers//snorkellers to avoid diving when suffering from a cold.	Assistance from Instructor/buddy.
Heart attack	Death	Medium	Divers to complete medical self-declaration/referral to medical referee.	First aid to be instigated. Pool Reception to contact emergency services. Hospitalise.
Uncontrolled ascent/barotrauma	Serious injury to diver	Medium	Divers should ensure they are properly weighted and capable of making a safe and controlled ascent, and that inflation and dump systems are working correctly. If training, Instructor to monitor student. Instructor/student ratios to be in accordance with BSAC recommendations. Progressive training.	Diving monitored by Pool Manager

Hazard:	Risk of:	Risk Eval:	Controls:	Immediate measures to deal with consequences if risk does occur:
Heat	Hyperthermia	Low	Divers to be aware of the risk of overheating when wearing drysuit/wetsuit in the pool and undertaking strenuous activities. Divers to monitor buddies, and in particular trainees, for signs of overheating/exhaustion.	First Aid to be administered. Pool Reception to contact emergency services, as required. Hospitalise, as required.
Injury from falling cylinders	Injury to diver/general public	Low	Divers to avoid leaving cylinders standing upright. Trainees to receive instruction on equipment use and storage. Monitoring by Instructor/pool manager.	First Aid to be administered.
Lifting dive gear	Injury to diver	Low	Seek assistance, if required, when moving heavy dive gear, e.g. twin-sets. Recovery from water to be undertaken by more than one person, if necessary.	First Aid to be administered.
Mask squeeze	Injury to diver	Low	Trainees to receive specific instruction on mask equalisation. Only masks which enclose both eyes and nose in same airspace to be used.	Assistance from Instructor/buddy.
Panic	Injury to diver	Low	Monitoring by Instructor with trainees. Instructor/student ratios to be in accordance with BSAC recommendations. Progressive training.	Assistance from Instructor.
Slipping/tripping on pool surround	Injury to diver/damage to equipment	Low	Divers should be aware that wet surfaces are slippery. No running on pool surround and pool rules to be observed. Trainee/inexperienced divers to be briefed on how to put on and take off scuba equipment and to be aware of and look out for possible hazards while walking or moving in diving equipment. Divers should exercise caution when carrying diving equipment. Fins to be removed when walking on pool surround. Monitoring by Instructor/Pool Manager.	Remove casualty from danger and administer first aid. Hospitalise, as required.

General

Hazard:	Risk of:	Risk Eval:	Controls:	Immediate measures to deal with consequences if risk does occur:
Fire	Serious injury/death	Medium	Pool Manager to be aware of emergency evacuation procedures. Pool Lifeguard (Council employee) will take charge of situation.	Evacuate building in accordance with pool emergency procedure.
Pool manager or adult or child falling from life saver observation chair	Serious injury to anyone	medium	Pool manager only to use this equipment. This to be enforced by pool manager	First aid and then phone ambulance / take to hospital if injury appears to be more than minor or at all concussive.
Vulnerable or young people additional risk of any of the above risks	Serious injury	medium	Extra measures to be taken such as safety divers, one to one instruction, assistance with heavy equipment, checking individual can safely carry out the dive within their physical limitations, full team brief from a Welfare Officer of extra hazards before the event.	Assess incident and react as required above

INFORMATION AND INDUCTION SHEET -EVACUATION PROCEDURES SWIMMING POOL

In the event of an incident the recreation assistants will take control of the situation with the assistance of the instructors. Incidents that might require evacuation of the sports hall are as follows.

- Fire.
- gas escape.
- power failure.
- bomb threat.
- structural damage.
- Drowning
- Spinal injury
- Injured swimmer
- Any incident that requires the Pool Manager to take their attention away from watching the pool

Raising the alarm

In the event of fire the member of the staff/public discovering the fire will:

- a) raise the alarm at the nearest break glass
- b) inform receptionist of the location of the fire
- c) Assemble all your class by the nearest fire exit and wait for further instructions.
- d) the duty Manager will instruct a 'CODE RED'- all staff and customers to vacate the building immediately, giving all swimmers foil blankets.

In the case of bomb threat, structural failure, suspicious packages or gas or chemical leak:

The duty manager will instruct a 'CODE RED'- all staff and customers to vacate the building immediately.

Assembly point

The assembly point for staff and customers is the CAR PARK opposite reception. All staff to ask for any missing persons and report their findings to the duty manager.