

A Training and Education Update for PADI Members Worldwide

FOURTH QUARTER 2009

Product No. 01226

In This Issue...

Instructor Manual Revision and Guide to Teaching Overview Instructor Manual Streamlining Goals	2 2
Using the New Instructor Manual	3
IDC Evolution – Get Updated	3
PADI Standards - Key Updates by Instructor Guide	4
New Continuing Education Form Simplifies Paperwork	9
PADI Enriched Air Diver Online	9
PADI Courses Meet Latest ISO Standards Requirements	9
PADI eLearning® Access	9
Tec Expansion New Tec Diver Course Levels	10 10
PADI Cavern Course Allows Use of Sidemount Gear	10
PADI Cave Diving Distinctive Specialty Courses	11
Public Safety Rescue Diving	11
PADI Full Cave Diving Distinctive Specialty Courses	11
Revised EFR Instructor Standards Now Available	12
New and Revised Forms and Exams	12

Training Bulletin Required Reading

This update is the primary training communication from your PADI Office to you. It announces PADI training standards and procedures changes and their implementation date. Your PADI Membership commitment requires you to keep abreast of PADI standards by reviewing and putting into practice the information in this quarterly update. Check with your PADI Office for more information.



Instructor Manual

Instructor Manual Revision and Guide to Teaching Overview

You'll receive the 2010 edition of the PADI *Instructor Manual*, digital version, in early 2010 as a benefit of renewing PADI membership. As identified in past communications, you'll find several changes (see sidebar) designed to make this manual more streamlined and easier to use. Its companion reference, PADI's *Guide to Teaching*, includes the teaching techniques, philosophies and recommendations for PADI courses and programs. Because it is elaborative and foundational, PADI's *Guide to Teaching* is also used as a tool during instructor training. In essence, the *Instructor Manual* is the complete book of required standards in an easy-to-use format. The *Guide to Teaching* is the reference you look to for recommended techniques to meet performance requirements, background and explanation of the standards, and the philosophies that guide how you teach.

Check with your PADI Office on availability of PADI's *Guide to Teaching*. During this transition time, and until it is translated, you can continue using the 2009 edition

PADI *Instructor Manual* to reference recommended techniques for meeting performance requirements and related information.

PUBLISHER

PADI

EDITOR

Julie Taylor Sanders

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Lori Bachelor-Smith

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

PADI Americas Johnny Wetzstein

PADI Asia Pacific

Mike Holme

PADI Europe

Pascal Dietrich

PADI International, Ltd.

Suzanne Pleydell

PADI Japan

Yasushi Inoue

PADI Nordic Trond Skaare

The *Training Bulletin* is published quarterly by PADI,
Professional Association of
Diving Instructors

30151 Tomas

Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 USA

+1 949 858 7234

Instructor Manual Streamlining Goals

- The manual is consistent and standardized in terminology, format, placement of information and standards.
- Technique (how to conduct) and recommendations have shifted to the new PADI's *Guide to Teaching*, and have been simplified and streamlined.
- Standards are modernized with a more active tense and are as simply-stated, general and salient as possible without sacrificing original principles of safety, learning efficacy, philosophy and intent.
- Repetitiveness reduction General Standards and Procedures is the focal guide; standards there are not repeated and apply to all courses unless noted otherwise in an individual instructor guide.
- General Standards and Procedures Guide takes a "definitions" approach. Concepts are alphabetized and explained in an easy-to-reference manner.
- Instructor guides from front to back pertain to diver-level programs and core courses come first. Professional Membership information is a separate guide at the end.
- Outdated information, requirements, etc., have been removed or updated.

Instructor Manual

Using the New Instructor Manual

To make it easy to familiarize yourself with the revised manual, follow these steps:

1. Read How to Use This Manual first.

2. Page through the manual

- Get a general idea of where things are.
- There is no Specialty Diver section; rely on the Specialty Course Instructor Guides for standards information on these courses.
- If you choose to deliver the course content live instead of using PADI eLearning® or diver-based materials, you'll find the teaching presentations in a separate folder on the digital version of the PADI Instructor Manual or available for download from the Pros' Site at padi.com.
- Knowledge review answer keys and answer sheets are found on the Pros' Site at padi.com, along with PADI eLearning Quick Reviews, etc.

3. Read General Standards and Procedures.

- Key descriptions and requirements that apply to all courses and programs are alphabetized for convenience.
- You'll see familiar confined water and open water dive parameters, ratios and supervision. You'll also see some new things, including a shallow water definition, and course prerequisite certifications listed here.
- Key standards now include Diver Age Restrictions (at-a-glance section that applies to PADI training for youth) and DSAT courses added to the key standards matrix.
- Paperwork and Administrative Procedures, also in alphabetical order, includes a convenient, all-in-one-place listing of "Linking Courses."
- As always, General Standards and Procedures apply to all PADI courses and programs. They are not repeated in the individual guides. When an individual course standard differs from the General Standards and Procedures Guide, it will be identified in the individual guide.

4. Read Professional Membership.

- In particular, see the revised Code of Practice, which outlines your professional commitment and responsi-
- Also find member status and professional ratings here, including how your teaching experience credits toward higher ratings.

5. Read through the individual course/program guides.

HOW TO USE THIS MANUAL

Though all PAOI Members our plus manual, it is errorm from the instruction's perspective, energy for amoust performance requirements. These are witness bless and an electric personal personal

General Standards and Procedures

Senior of antidoctors and Procedures.

Senior of senior of the Control Standards and Procedures Guide apply to all PAOI sources and programs, except as noted etherwise in the individual course guide. You must first comprehend where in the General Standards and Procedur Guide, because three standards are not repeated in the individual course guides. Read also first The roots respective thing about the General Standards and Procedur Limbs in the in gravidus are overall need at seniorist the General Standards and Procedure I then in gravidus are overall need of seniorists the III PAOII courses and program II the individual capitals for a course or programs downly sequely a seniorist, the strends in General Standards and Procedures applies. There are non-secretain in this guide.

- Testing Scandards This is an algebraical living of near defection and and key concept that apply throughout the natural. Here you'll find generated information about reportation, materials and apartment representations. from Som other organizations iron PADS courses, and
- Paperwork and Administrative Procedures This is an alphabetical lie grand information an instructor mode to below organizing the adve-of PADI common and geographic Europées of common documentation ment and incident report filing and how PADI course link reache

Individual Course/Program Guides

t you'll find the eatman nemperferainted heed assertely ridial guides, as well as the standards for PADS Diversa

IDC Evolution -Get Updated

The Course Director and IDC Staff Instructor Updates beginning in Fourth Quarter 2009 will give you all the information you need to begin teaching with the revised IDC curriculum. Update content includes coverage of the new PADI's Guide to Teaching, the revised IDC curriculum components and methodology, the revised PADI Course Director Manual and related lesson guides and materials. Make plans to attend an update conducted by your PADI Office, and watch for more information in the First Quarter 2010 Training Bulletin.

PADI Standards - Key Updates by Instructor Guide

The 2010 edition *Instructor Manual* includes standards changes announced in *Training Bulletins* through Fourth Quarter 2009. It is your professional duty to familiarize yourself with the standards in the revised manual. Some of the changes are listed below, the rest you'll identify as you read the manual.

Standards changes below may be put into effect immediately, and must be implemented in PADI courses and programs as of 1 June 2010.

General Standards and Procedures Training Standards

Changed: "Prerequisites" to "Assessing Open Water Diver Readiness"

In preparation for the dive and before beginning open water dive skills, assess the diver's skills and comfort level inwater and generally assess dive knowledge. If the diver exhibits lack of dive readiness, remediate before training progresses.

Recent dive experience with the diver is acceptable as a screen if you are confident in the diver's current knowledge level, inwater skills and comfort.

Rationale: More clearly defines preassessment and its intent. See article, "Preassessment" in the Third Quarter 2009 *The Undersea Journal*.

Equipment — Standard Diver Equipment Added: Dive computer or RDP (eRDPML or Table)

Rationale: With new dive computer option, divers need either a computer or RDP to plan dives.

Ratios — Student Diver to Instructor

Added: Reduce ratios for safety and control as needed based on risk assessment variables such as:

- a. Water conditions
- b. Weather conditions
- c. Dive requirements
- d. Number of certified assistants
- e. Your personal abilities, limitations and familiarity with the dive site
- f. Participant age, ability, experience and comfort level

Rationale: Ratios themselves did not change; however, there are some more clearly-defined variables to evaluate when determining appropriate ratios.

Added: Shallow Water

Water shallow enough in which to stand.

Rationale: If shallow water is required, it's defined that divers have the comfort of knowing that they can quickly and easily gain access to the surface if needed.

Paperwork and Administrative Procedures

Documentation

Added: For Adventure Diver, Advanced Open Water Diver, Rescue Diver, Master Scuba Diver and Specialty Diver courses, use the Continuing Education Administrative Document, which includes all three required forms, and applies to multiple continuing education courses taken within 12 months.

Rationale: See related article in this bulletin.

Knowledge Development Assessment

Added: Have student divers complete course Knowledge Reviews.

Rationale: Knowledge Reviews are part of the educational model for PADI courses. Diver manuals (or online or multimedia versions) are required for all core PADI courses and many specialty courses. When a PADI course has a course manual available in a language understood by the student diver, and the manual is required material for the course, Knowledge Review completion by the student diver is required.

Certification

A diver earns certification (Positive Identification Card - PIC) by mastering all course knowledge and skill performance requirements and fulfilling all other course requirements. Added: For each certification, reinforce to divers that they are responsible for diving within the limits of their training and experience.

Rationale: Encourages safe diving practices and provides reinforcement to knowledge development as divers apply their training to dives beyond the context of the course.

Open Water Diver Course

Removed: Buddy breathing references.

Rationale: Originally buddy breathing was a required skill and then it shifted to an optional skill in 1994. Removing the buddy breathing skill from PADI courses is in keeping with modern, prudent diving practices, which include divers being equipped with and practiced in using alternate air sources.

Removed: Skin dive in open water

Rationale: Snorkeling skills remain a requirement of the Open Water Diver Course, Confined Water Dive Flexible Skills. The skin dive in open water continues to be an option for this course, or for any PADI course, though it is not specifically mentioned.

Changed: Confined Water Dive 3
performance requirement location

Demonstrate the cramp removal technique:

Demonstrate the cramp removal technique for self and buddy (at the surface or underwater.)

Rationale: Whether this skill is performed at the surface or underwater is not relevant to mastery of the performance requirement.

Dive Flexible Skill

Added: Safety Stop – At the end of at least one normal ascent (not emergency ascents), stop at 5 metres/15 feet for at least 3 minutes before surfacing.

Rationale: Performing a safety stop at the end of every dive (whenever possible) is in keeping with safe diving practices – this extends to training dives. The Open Water Diver course includes specific emergency ascents that are not necessarily conducive to safety stops. However, adding a safety stop to at least one normal ascent gives student divers practical experience in performing a safety stop. These skills include adjusting buoyancy to slow and stop the ascent; and while at the stop – maintaining depth, tracking time, maintaining proximity to and communication with the dive team, watching for overhead hazards, listening for boat traffic and checking for obstructions before surfacing.

Adventures in Diving Program

Documentation

Removed: Required that Adventure Dive Training Record sheet is completed and signed.

Replaced with: Sign diver logbooks and sign and complete training records.

Rationale: As long as the instructor documents that both the dive and the Knowledge Review for the dive are completed, that will suffice. Adventure Dive Training Record sheets are recommended (not required) for this purpose.

Enriched Air Adventure Dive

Added: Follows the computer-based diving model

Rationale: As announced in the Third Quarter 2009 *Training Bulletin*.

Rescue Diver Course

Scenarios

Removed: 4 scenarios
Replaced with: 2 scenarios

Scenario 1 – Unresponsive Diver Underwater

- 1. Search for and locate a missing diver.
- 2. Bring a diver simulating unresponsiveness to the surface using controlled positive buoyancy.

Scenario 2 – Unresponsive Diver at the Surface

 Respond to an unresponsive, nonbreathing diver. Demonstrate evaluation, tow, inwater rescue breathing, removing equipment, exiting and providing CPR

Note: Either use a CPR mannequin or simulate compressions for CPR.

Rationale: This scenario refinement further and more clearly defines the separation between development and assessment. During the 10 rescue exercises, divers are developing – learning how to perform rescue components in a skill-building approach. The scenarios are an evaluation of skills learned in the development phase, similar to the IDC (development)/ IE (assessment) process. Scenarios focus on student divers role-playing and being appropriately responsive to realistic diving emergencies – demonstrating that they have mastered their newly-acquired skills.

Divemaster Course

Required Materials

Added: RDP – Table and eRDPML including associated *Instructions for Use* booklets

Rationale: Incorporates new eRDP technology.

Added: PADI Instructor Manual

Rationale: This replaces the previous standard requiring candidates to have individual instructor guides for programs they may conduct. The streamlined PADI *Instructor Manual* gives Diversaters the standards for core diver courses and programs they either 1) are authorized to conduct or 2) may assist on while an instructor conducts them. Diversater candidates heading for the IDC will have the advantage of being familiar with this manual.

Dive Skills Evaluation

Removed: Buddy breathing performance

requirement (No. 20)

Replaced with: Alternate air source-assisted

ascent"

Rationale: See Open Water Diver course optional buddy breathing removal rationale.

Professionalism

Added: 6. Positive attitude/practice towards caring for the environment

Rationale: Supports PADI's Professional Code of Practice.

Skill 1 – Mapping Project

Added: Have divemaster candidates survey an open water dive site and create a detailed map of the site showing (as applicable to the site) underwater relief, important points of interest, any relevant environmental notes, recommended entry/exit areas, local facilities and potential hazards.

Rationale: Supports PADI's Professional Code of Practice.

Skill 2 - Equipment Exchange

Removed: Buddy breathing and replace with "while sharing a single second stage."

Added: Instructor provides an orientation to sharing a single mouthpiece – including exhalation between breaths and not covering the purge valve.

Rationale: Because buddy breathing (as an outof-air emergency procedure) is no longer part of PADI courses, it affects the conduct of this skill. The equipment exchange exercise is a means of fostering problem-solving abilities at the leadership level. If divemaster candidates are not familiar with sharing a second stage, as in buddy breathing, the instructor orients the divers to the basics of passing the regulator back and forth and exhaling between breaths. This orientation differs from how buddy breathing has traditionally been taught (as a means of sharing air to get to the surface) because the application is different when one set of equipment is being transferred from one diver to the next.

Skill 3 – Divemaster Conducted Programs

Added: Have divemaster candidates conduct two real or simulated PADI programs:

- 1. A PADI Discover Scuba Diving program (in confined water).
- 2. A PADI Discover Snorkeling, Scuba Review, Discover Local Diving or Skin Diver course.

Added: Remind divemaster candidates that once they are certified Divemasters, they can complete the PADI Discover Scuba Diving Leader Internship, which authorizes them to conduct Discover Scuba Diving in confined water, independently.

Rationale: Requiring divemaster candidates to conduct two PADI programs gives them more practical leadership experience under instructor supervision. All candidates become directly involved in learning the skills of working with novice divers in the Discover Scuba Diving program, and understand that they must have additional training to become qualified to offer the program in confined water.

Briefing

Added: Provide dive site description and area orientation (hazards, points of interest, special requirements, care for the environment, facilities).

Rationale: Supports PADI's Professional Code of Practice.

Discover Scuba Diving

Effective Immediately

Added: When the Discover Scuba Diving experience is conducted in confined open water:

- Skill performance requirements are conducted in shallow water before moving to water too deep in which to stand;
- You may not engage in any other activities, such as taking photographs or video, while supervising participants.

Rationale: Provides additional preparation and heightened supervision for participants in confined open water.

Added: Have participants complete and sign the Discover Scuba Diving Knowledge and Safety Review.

Rationale: Helps to ensure participants understand and accept basic dive safety principles.

NOTE: This review is located in the revised Discover Scuba Diving brochure. If the brochure is not yet available in your region, you can use the review and answer sheet located in the Pros' Site of padi.com until brochures become available.

Discover Scuba Diving Required Materials

The following Discover Scuba Diving materials have been revised to reflect recent program changes:

- Brochure
- Instructor cue card and flip chart

Begin using these revised materials as soon as you can. Required implementation date: 1 January 2010, or as soon, thereafter, as translations are available.

Scuba Review

Removed: Buddy breathing performance requirement (No. 20)

Replaced with: Alternate air source-assisted ascent

Rationale: See Open Water Diver course optional buddy breathing removal rationale.

Discover Local Diving

Briefing

Added: Explain how to interact responsibly with the aquatic environment.

Rationale: Supports PADI's Professional Code of Practice.

Professional Membership

Combined Ethical Requirements in one place, listed as: Code of Practice

As a PADI Professional, you enjoy a rewarding role – teaching and introducing others to scuba diving. You have the chance to change lives for the better and to experience things most humans will never have the opportunity to enjoy. With this ability comes a very important obligation to your students, clients and all those who come to you to be taught or led underwater. You are responsible for the safety of others.

Note that the following points are new – the entire 19-point code is found in the 2010 edition PADI *Instructor Manual*.

As a PADI Member, you agree to the following:

- Put the safety of diving clients and students as your first priority and responsibility. In doing so, abide by the requirements and intent of PADI Standards and Procedures in the PADI Instructor Manual, PADI's Guide to Teaching, Training Bulletin and other updates while applying your best judgment during the PADI courses and programs you conduct.
- Although scuba diving is a reasonably safe activity when safety rules are followed, the risk/consequence of scuba diving can lead to very serious injuries. Be safety minded, safety conscious and practice instructing and dive mastering professionally.
- When teaching, repetition is good and overlearning basic skills and breathing control in a variety of conditions takes time and practice. Help those you teach and supervise by guiding them through this learning process.
- Each person has an individual state of mind and comfort level that may be very different from yours, and may vary greatly between divers in a group. Be willing to cancel a dive for the group or an individual at any time to err on the side of safety.

- Be watchful for signs of diver stress and anxiety, and act quickly and appropriately when you see them.
- Employ effective group control measures in the water, particularly when supervising novices and children. Carry out frequent head counts.
- Respect and reinforce the depth and supervisory restrictions as displayed on restricted PADI certification cards, such as PADI Scuba Diver and Junior Diver.
- Follow a professional code of practice toward the environment and abide by the practices and intent of Project AWARE's Ten Ways a Diver Can Protect the Underwater Environment in all PADI-related activities. (See projectaware.org)

Rationale: Supports and reinforces diver comfort and safety as well as the maintenance and sustenance of our underwater resources.

PADI Professional Ratings

IDC Staff Instructor Course Prerequisite
Added: Emergency First Response Instructor

Rationale: Those who became PADI Instructors before the EFR Instructor credential became a prerequisite to becoming a new instructor, may not yet have this rating.

Training Information

New Continuing Education Form Simplifies Paperwork Requirements

The new Continuing Education Administrative Document (10038, v1.0) is available for diver-level continuing education programs completed within a 12-month period. This new form combines the Liability Release and Assumption of Risk Agreement, the Medical Statement and the Safe Diving Practices Statement into a single document. A diver who takes a continuing education course with you, then signs up for another course within 12 months, reads and signs this form once. The form covers the PADI Adventure Diver, Advanced Open Water Diver, Rescue Diver, Master Scuba Diver and Specialty Diver courses (including Enriched Air). As always, if the diver's medical condition has changed since the form was completed, have the diver complete a new medical form.

The Open Water Diver course and all professional-level courses (Divemaster and above) still require use of the individual forms for each course. Use of the Student Record File for the Open Water Diver course simplifies record keeping by providing all the forms in one convenient folder.

You can download the new Continuing Education Administrative Document (10038, v1.0) from the homepage of PADI Pros' Site under Training and Education.

PADI Enriched Air Diver Online

The dive-computer-based Enriched Air Diver Course Online is up and running. PADI eLearners are directed to PADI Dive Centers and Resorts that offer the PADI Enriched Air Diver specialty course to complete the Quick Review and the practical application portion of the program for certification. Be sure you are prepared by obtaining the revised PADI Enriched Air Diver Specialty Instructor Guide from your PADI Office and downloading the Quick Review from the PADI Pros' Site. Revised diver materials (in English) will be available fourth quarter 2009.

PADI Courses Meet Latest ISO Standards Requirements

Two new International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standards for diver training have recently been released. ISO is a global body with 161 member countries that work to align their national business practices with those represented in ISO standards in various fields. Six ISO standards for diving have been in place for several years already, equating in the PADI system to PADI Scuba Diver, Open Water Diver, Divemaster, Assistant Instructor, Open Water Scuba Instructor and Dive Center/Resort. The two new standards equate to the PADI Discover Scuba Diving program and the Enriched Air Diver course.

These two new standards are designated as follows in the ISO system:

- Training program requirements for enriched air nitrox diving (ISO 11107)
- Training program requirements for introduction to scuba diving (ISO 11121)

When PADI Members conduct a PADI Enriched Air Diver course or a PADI Discover Scuba Diving program, they can also claim to meet the requirements of these ISO standards. This can be a major advantage when conducting business with customers, travel operators and local governments, as ISO is seen as an independent standard of quality.

For more details of ISO member countries, visit: http://www.iso.org/iso/about/iso_members.htm

PADI eLearning® Access

PADI Instructors now have limited access to enroll student divers in PADI's eLearning programs beginning fourth quarter 2009. This on-demand access will be available to PADI Instructors who sign up and prepurchase Access Passes online. Visit the PADI Pros' Site eLearning Toolbox for details.

DSAT TecRec

Tec Expansion

PADI/DSAT Tec courses have been revised and reconfigured. The changes, which mainly affect the Tec Deep Diver course, provide a series of more compact steps of progression, with the diver acquiring new capabilities at each stage. The new course levels reflect the depth to which the diver can reach on the course: Tec 40, Tec 45, Tec 50 and Tec Trimix 65.

The Tec Trimix Diver course remains unchanged. Each of the first 3 levels of the Tec Diver course require four dives/water sessions and the Tec Trimix 65 requires five dives/water sessions.

New Tec Diver Course Levels

- Tec 40 qualifies divers to make limited, single gas decompression dives of no more than 10 minutes deco to 40 m/130 ft. Divers use air and up to 50% EANx. The minimum required equipment is a cylinder with dual outlet valve and two regulators or a primary cylinder and a large pony. Full tec diving gear is recommended, however.
- Tec 45 qualifies divers to make extended no stop dives, and accelerated decompression dives to a maximum of 45m/145ft. Divers use air and any EANx mix and oxygen with a maximum of two gas mixtures. Double tank configurations are required, with sidemounted doubles being acceptable.
- Tec 50 qualifies divers to make accelerated deco dives to maximum of 50 m/165 ft using multiple stage cylinders. Divers use more than two gas mixtures, EANx; and use double-tank configurations.
- Tec Trimix 65 qualifies divers to use any trimix with 18% oxygen or higher to a maximum of 65 m/213 ft using multiple stage cylinders. Divers use more than two gas mixtures, EANx; and doubletank configurations.

Instructor Qualifications

DSAT Tec Deep Instructors are qualified to teach Tec 40, Tec 45 and Tec 50. DSAT Tec Trimix Instructors are qualified to teach both Tec Trimix 65 and Tec Trimix. A new DSAT TecRec Instructor level rating, DSAT Tec Instructor, allows new tec instructors to teach Tec 40. To become a DSAT Tec Instructor, the applicant must attend a course with a DSAT Instructor Trainer, unless they have an existing instructor rating with another organization that qualifies the applicant to make direct application to PADI.

Materials

New or revised materials support these innovations: Tec Diver Instructor Guide (replaces 70407), Extra section for Tec Trimix Instructor Guide, Knowledge Reviews and answer keys for four levels, Exams for four levels (replaces 71024), Lesson Guides for four levels (replaces 70838) and a new Instructor Trainer guide for the Tec Instructor course. Contact your PADI Office for timelines and materials availability.



PADI Cavern Course Allows Use of Sidemount Gear Configurations

In alignment with recently-announced changes to the DSAT TecRec courses, the PADI Cavern Diver course can also be conducted using sidemount equipment configurations. Use of sidemounts provides excellent role modelling for cavern students to show the distinction between cavern and cave diving and the need for additional training and equipment. Additionally, the instructor is also more fully prepared to enter the cave environment in an emergency. PADI Cavern Instructors who wish to teach the PADI Cavern Diver course using sidemount gear configurations must hold a PADI Sidemount Distinctive Specialty Instructor rating or have a qualifying sidemount instructor rating with another organization. PADI Instructors who have a sidemount diver certification can apply for a PADI Sidemount Distinctive Specialty Instructor rating by meeting the Distinctive Specialty Instructor requirements and submitting a Sidemount Diver course outline for approval. Please contact your PADI Office Training Department for more details.

Public Safety Diver

Public Safety Diving

The recently-released PADI Public Safety Diver course familiarizes divers with the skills, knowledge, planning, organization, procedures, techniques and hazards of public safety diving. The course covers key entry-level topics for public safety diving such as: specialized equipment, scene handling, communication procedures, search patterns, witness handling, victim and self-rescue techniques. Divers perform practical water skills including a variety of common and useful public safety search patterns, and skills and training for different team diving roles (such as primary diver, safety diver, tender, 90% diver and supervisor). The program is based on proven, successful techniques used by today's public safety divers. In addition, the program meets and addresses important U.S. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) guidelines found in NFPA 1006 and 1670.

Diver Prerequisites

- PADI Rescue Diver or qualifying equivalent certification.*
- 18 years
- Proof of affiliation/employment with a public safety team (law enforcement, fire fighting, paramedic, EMT, dive rescue team, etc.)

*You may also need to conduct ancillary programs (Dry Suit Diver or a Distinctive Specialty program on full face mask, for example) to fully prepare divers to carry out public safety diving operations in the conditions in your region.

Instructor Prerequisites

- PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer
- PADI Dry Suit Specialty Instructor
- PADI Full Face Mask Distinctive Specialty Instructor
- Any three of these PADI Specialty Instructor ratings:
 - Search and Recovery
 - Night Diver
 - Underwater Navigator
 - Emergency Oxygen Provider
 - Limited Visibility Distinctive
- Current Emergency First Response Instructor (or qualifying rating)
- Medically evaluated and cleared for diving by a physician within 12 months
- Proof of affiliation/employment with a public safety team (law enforcement, fire fighting, paramedic, EMT, dive rescue team, etc.)
- One year public safety diving experience with
 - 20 public safety diver missions,* or,
 - if a Public Safety Diver Instructor, 10 missions* and 10 public safety diver certifications issued
- Proof of Incident Command Training Level 200 (or regional equivalent).

*Missions may include simulations or dive team exercises

Course Requirements

- Two to three days (depending on group size) of dive training.
- Divers complete a series of skills and requirements at each of eight dive stations.

Course Materials

- Public Safety Diver Instructor Guide
- Lesson Guides
- Specialized forms (used during class and in the field during public safety diving operations).

This course may not be available through all PADI Offices based on regional public safety diving requirements. For more information, contact your PADI Office.

PADI Full Cave Diving Distinctive Specialty Courses

If you are a full cave diving instructor and wish to teach a PADI full cave diving distinctive specialty course, submit a PADI Specialty Course Instructor Application and course outline to PADI. Guidelines for course content (such as dive data, skills, etc.) as well as details on instructor prerequisites are available from your PADI Office.

Emergency First Response

Revised EFR Instructor Standards Now Available

In May, Emergency First Response (EFR®) released revised Course Overview and Standards that incorporated a Code of Practice and a Youth Leader's Commitment section. The revised standards provide guidelines for EFR instructors to follow when acting in a professional capacity. The Code of Practice clearly outlines how EFR Instructors should conduct themselves in their interactions with EFR and identifies that a criminal conviction involving abuse of a minor or sexual abuse of an adult, prior to or after becoming an EFR Instructor will adversely affect their continued EFR instructor status. The Youth Leader's Commitment addresses and provides specific guidelines with regard to how EFR Instructors should ethically conduct themselves when interacting with underage young adults and children.

The Emergency First Response Primary and Secondary Care and Care for Children Instructor Application (10245 v2.07) has also been revised to reflect these important changes. Effective immediately, use of the revised EFR Instructor Application is mandatory. You can download the revised application and replacement pages for the Course Overview and Standards (67002 v2.03) section from the PADI Pros' Site under the Emergency First Response heading.

New and Revised Forms and Exams

The following list includes forms and exams revised since Third Quarter 2009. Each PADI Office may have additional forms that apply regionally. Check the PADI Pros' Site/Members' Toolbox or contact your PADI Office.

Forms

10038 Continuing Education Administrative Document See related article in the bulletin.

Version 1.0

10151 Discover Scuba Diving Internship Completion Form (Rev. 7/09) Version 1.04 Incorporates new internship requirements regarding evaluation criteria and assessment.

70254 Discover Scuba Diving Brochure

(Rev. 7/09) Version 3.0

Incorporates the Discover Scuba Diving Experience Knowledge and Safety Review now required the program. See Standards section in this bulletin.

Minor application revisions

There have been minor revisions made to many PADI application for consistency in the administrative sections. Go to the Pro's Site at padi.com for the most recent editions.

Exams

4035DT Enriched Air Diver Course Quick Review and Answer Key Version 1.0 Use this required Quick Review for PADI Enriched Air Diver Course Online students divers.