

NDC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 1st March 2011
ScotSAC HQ, Edinburgh



NDC Members Present

Nigel Spike (NS), Gordon Young (GY), Alastair McCulloch (AM),
Dorothy Kisielewski (DK)

Apologies

Joe Campbell (JC), Graham Forsyth (GF), Tony Carter (TC), Kate Jenkins

Previous Minutes

Thanks to Dot for producing the minutes. The minutes of the previous NDC meeting on the 1st February 2011 were reviewed and adopted to include minor updates proposed by NS. Proposed by DK and seconded by AM.

Incident reports

No new incidents to report.

National Coach report

GF unable to attend, apologies received.

Instructor training weekend

Instructor Development Day going ahead on 12 – 13th March, details are now on the website with contact details for GF.

BI Training Course

BI Course provisionally scheduled for 17Apr, candidates need to get their course applications in now. The number of applications needs to increase for the course to be viable. GY will prompt Regional Coaches.

Board meeting (23/2/11) feedback

PVG scheme:

- Has been approved

Depth limits:

- Board asked NDC to look at listing all the qualifications that would be recognised for deep diving. This meeting discussed and concluded that this would require major work and will revert to the Board.

BI requirements for “crossover” branches:

- To add text to show that recognised PADI, SAA, BSAC instructors will be recognised for cross-over
- The cross-over procedure will be updated to reflect the above.

“Active Instructor” status on card:

- Agreed that card should remove “Instructor” wording unless Rescue Refresher is up-to-date; Instructor status itself would not, of course, be withdrawn from the member.
- “Small” branches:
- Will be retained unless they decide to close.
- Note that Solway Branch has decided it is no longer viable and will close.

Website / webmaster update:

- Jim Anderson is filling in at present.
- 2 very able candidates have come forward volunteering to take on the website. They will be asked for their vision for the website and the Board will take this item forward.

DO's Conference:

- Agreed to canvas regarding support for DO's conference

Underwater Archaeology proposal/action plan

- Endorsed

DO's handbook

GY working with Webmaster to provide an on-line version of the BDO's handbook (an index of existing items that comprise the handbook to make for easy access and update).

RI/BI forms

Updated forms from GY reviewed

RI form:

- Age requirement to be removed from RI form since prerequisite is BI with further experience.

BI form:

- Recognition of cross-over from PADI, BSAC and SAA to be added
- Regional Coach recommendation to be required only for branches with Acting BDOs

Nitrox Course

We now have full 6 instructors for the Nitrox Instructor Training Course. As reported previously, funding is agreed and will be within the Board agreed budget. A date is being finalised but is expected to be during June.

Use of re-breathers on club dives

The following questions received from the membership were addressed:

Does ScotSAC permit the use of this equipment on club dives?

- Yes

If so, are there any restrictions to be enforced?

- No, other than those imposed by the re-breather training/qualifications of the diver and those of their buddy

Are there minimum qualifications required for a re-breather's buddy?

- Sport Diver is the minimum requirement

Can re-breathers be used when accompanying Trainees?

- No, instructors should be using open circuit when taking ScotSAC Trainees on dives

Given the complexity of this equipment and the very different approach to buoyancy control, what additional training does any buddy need to undertake to allow them to perform an effective rescue?

- Any differences from rescuing an open circuit diver must be covered during the buddy check

It was also noted that there exists a ScotSAC re-breather policy previously written by Adam Curtis.

New Training Awards Scheme

The latest draft of the new Training Awards Scheme was reviewed and minor revisions suggested for inclusion and review at the next meeting

AOCB - None

Action Record

| No. | Action Update | Actionee | Status/Due Date |
|-----|---|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | Review progress of new Awards | All | Ongoing |
| 2 | Investigate BSAC crossover levels | JC | Ongoing |
| 3 | Changes to Deep Diving Award | GF | Ongoing |
| 4 | DOs Handbook to be pulled together and a section created on the website | GF/GY | Ongoing |
| 5 | First Class Course | TC + Help | Ongoing |
| 6 | Nitrox Course | JC | Ongoing |
| 7 | BI Course | GY | Ongoing |
| 8 | Create a pool of 50 MD Decompression Theory exam samples | DK | Ongoing |
| 9 | Risk Assessment of the new Awards Scheme | NS | Back Burner |
| 10 | Circulate Training Schedule document to NDC for review | TC | Back Burner |
| 11 | Crossover Document updated & re-circulated for publishing on website | JC | On hold |
| 12 | NDC to consider what they would like on a 'RC' page of the website | All | Back Burner |
| 13 | Review new Awards Scheme Version 5+ | AM | Ongoing |

Meeting closed at 21:15

Next Meeting: Tues 5Apr 19:00, ScotSAC HQ