

NDC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 5th April 2011
ScotSAC HQ, Edinburgh



NDC Members Present

Nigel Spike (NS), Graham Forsyth (GF), Alastair McCulloch(AM), Dorothy Kisielewski (DK)

Apologies

Gordon Young (GY), Joe Campbell (JC), Billy Symington (BS), Tony Carter (TC), Kate Jenkins

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous NDC meeting on the 1st March 2011 were reviewed and adopted. Proposed by DK and seconded by AM.

Matters arising and review of Actions

The Action Record was reviewed. It was decided to drop No.10 'Circulate Training Schedule to the NDC for review'.

National Coach Report

Feedback on Rescue Refreshers – most instructors have done their Rescue Refresher; Regional Coaches urged to chase up those who wish to retain "active" status.

Feedback on Standby diver – it is recognised that for some Branches this can cause problems in training dives if there are few qualified divers to act as standby diver. NS- Would it be possible for 2 or more branches to combine their training days?

Deep Diving Course – Changes to this course are ongoing. GF proposes to increase the lecture content which will allow the course to be shore-based

GF suggested the possibility of closing branches with either no or few members. There are several defunct clubs that are still on the paperwork. The Branch list needs to be updated. He has been unable to contact some branches with only 1-2 members either by phone or by e-mail.

Instructor Development Day

GF organised an Instructor Development Day on 12 – 13th March. NS extended thanks to all involved in this successful weekend. Frank at the Tearooms was disappointed in some aspects of this event. In the future there may be a charge for the use of his facilities, or limits on numbers attending.

Solstice Dive

Marion Brown (MB) is organising this years Solstice Dive. This will be held on Sunday 19th June at a venue to be decided. The Solstice Dive is to be a fun day, NOT a training day as has happened in previous years

Incident Reports

There were no incident reports this month.

Nitrox Update

The Nitrox course has been set for the weekend of 18th – 19th June. Details to follow.

Feedback from Board Meeting

Crossovers – a BI crossover must carry out a ScotSAC Rescue Refresher at the appropriate grade before ratification of the Instructor award from ScotSAC.

Depth Limits – a matrix is to be compiled and circulated to the Board before ratifying the "agreed" depth limits to clarify the matter.

Standby Diver – the Board is considering changing this from a recommendation to a rule. GF questioned what the Board will do about people who break this rule? NS raised the issue of possible culpability. He will bring the matter up at Board level.

The idea was floated that if a trainee is using unfamiliar equipment (tank, suit, BCD) there should be a careful buddy check ensuring the trainee understands how the new equipment differs from that used before. There should also be a buoyancy check carried out. These recommendations should be included in the BI course material.

Crossover Branches amendment

NS submitted a procedure for transferring a Branch from another dive organisation to ScotSAC. This is to go to the Board for approval.

Request for help

There was a request for help in giving disabled people a try dive. It was felt that we could not help on this occasion. TC is the only one who is suitably qualified.

Examiner Course

An Examiner Course will be held later in the year but must be held before the Regional Instructor Course.

New Awards Scheme, version 6

Version 6 of the New Awards Scheme was reviewed.

The BI prerequisite to have completed Master Diver dive leader skill is in the training review agreed by the Board but is not in the new Training Schedule. The matter of dive leader status was clarified. AM to make changes, then this version will go to the Board: possibly this month but definitely by next month.

Process for roll-out: ideas generated include that the document goes to the Board and, if passed, a resolution for approval will be raised at the AGM. Then float it to the membership by inclusion on the website and possibly an article in the *Scottish Diver*. A possible DO's conference may be a good venue for discussion on this.

AM questioned the roll out plan in relation to changes in the lectures and changes in instruction.

AOCB

AM queried whether web master volunteers had been contacted.

AM asked when do the NDC/Board meeting minutes get put on the website. NS- as soon as his computer is up and running.

DK requested that everyone supply a contribution to the pool of Master Diver theory test decompression questions. Sandy McPherson is going to do a monthly Newsletter, which may be the place for this request, then route the replies through HQ.

Action Record

No.	Action Update	Actionee	Status/Due Date
1	Review progress of new Awards	SM	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	Crossover Document updated & re-circulated for publishing on website	AM	On hold
11	NDC to consider what they would like on a 'RC' page of the website	All	Back Burner
12	Review new Awards Scheme Version 6?	AM	Ongoing

Meeting closed at 21:55

Next Meeting: Tues 3rd May at 19.00, ScotSAC HQ