

MINUTES

SAN DIEGO COUNTY SCUBA UNDERWATER SWIMMING COUNCIL

August 10, 1961

A MEETING OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY SCUBA ENTHUSIASTS WAS HELD IN THE NORMAN PARK CENTER, 270 "F" STREET, CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA TO DISCUSS FORMATION OF A SOUTHLAND UNDERWATER INSTRUCTOR'S GROUP TO AFFILIATE WITH GROUPS FROM THE LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO AREA. THESE COMMITTEES WILL UNITE AND WRITE STATE-WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS SETTING MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS CONSIDERED NECESSARY FOR THOSE INSTRUCTING SCUBA.

MR. JOHN BEAGLES, OF THE NAVAL ELECTRONICS LABORATORY PRESENTED A PROPOSED DRAFT OF MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GROUP TO DISCUSS AND REVIEW. DISCUSSION WAS HELD AS TO THE WATER PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS AND THE REQUIREMENTS IN REGARDS TO INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS FOR TEACHING TECHNIQUES. MR. DEVINE MADE A MOTION No. 1 OF THE PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS TO BE ACCEPTED WITH THE INSERTION OF AND/OR BE INCLUDED. MR. HOLBECKER SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED. MR. HOLLBECKER MADE A MOTION No. 2 OF THE WATER PROFICIENCY BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE COMBINING OF ITEMS No. 6 AND 7 AS ONE AND ITEMS 1 THROUGH 3 UNDER BASIC SKILLS OF No. 4. MR. LASCH SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED. DISCUSSION WAS HELD AS TO No. 3 REGARDING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COURSE OF INSTRUCTIONS. MR. DEVINE MADE A MOTION THE REVISION BE ACCEPTED READING AS FOLLOWS: ALL FUTURE INSTRUCTORS AFTER (DATE) WILL COMPLETE A COURSE OF 70 HOURS OF INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES PLUS A 20 HOUR STUDENT TEACHING COURSE OF BASIC SCUBA SKILLS AND THIS TO INCLUDE SEMINARS TO BE SET UP WHEN IT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO KEEP INFORMED WITH THE DIVING FRATERNITY. MISS PALMER SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

NOMINATIONS WERE HELD FOR THE THREE MEMBERS AND ONE ALTERNATE OF THE GROUP TO FORM A WORKING COMMITTEE WHICH WOULD HAVE THE POWER INVESTED AMONG THEM TO REPRESENT THE SAN DIEGO GROUP IN ALL STATE-WIDE MEETINGS.

MR. HOLBECKER NOMINATED MR. JOHN BEAGLES, MR. STEWART SECONDED AND MR. BEAGLES WAS ELECTED. MR. BRUCE BARR NOMINATED MR. TOM DEVINE AND MR. DAN STEVENS SECONDED AND MR. DEVINE WAS ELECTED. MR. REX GRIFFITH NOMINATED MR. DAN STEVENS. MR. STEVENS DECLINED. MR. TOM DEVINE NOMINATED MR. JIM STEWART, MR. EMIL HOLBECKER SECONDED AND MR. STEWART WAS ELECTED. MR. HENRY SUTTON NOMINATED MR. BILL HARDY, MISS PALMER SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED. MR. JIM STEWART MADE A MOTION THE NOMINATIONS BE ACCEPTED AND THE FIRST THREE WOULD BE THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WITH MR. HARDY AS THE ALTERNATE. MISS PALMER SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

IT WAS REQUESTED THE MINUTES AND REVISED PROPOSALS I.E., SCUBA REQUIREMENTS BE MAILED TO PRESENT ATTENDEES OF THE MEETING.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD AS TO THE DAY OF THE MONTH TO MEET AND TO HAVE A MORE CENTRALLY LOCATED MEETING PLACE TO HOLD MEETINGS. MR. DEVINE MADE A MOTION THE MEETINGS BE HELD ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH. MISS PALMER SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED. IT WAS REQUESTED MR. OREN MEYERS BE CONTACTED AS TO THE GROUP USING HIS FACILITY TO HOLD MEETINGS.

MR. BEAGLES STATED PEOPLE WHO ARE INVOLVED IN INSTRUCTING SCUBA SHOULD BE VERY CONCERNED AND AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS COORDINATION OF COMMITTEES THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA TO STANDARDIZE THE SCUBA REQUIREMENTS IN ALL PHASES. BECUASE OF THE SERIOUS ACCIDENTS AND DEATHS WHICH

HAVE RESULTED FROM IMPROPER USE OF SCUBA, STATE LEGISLATION COULD VERY WELL REQUIRE ALL INSTRUCTORS TO BE LICENSED. THIS WOULD BE OF SERIOUS CONSEQUENCE TO ALL INVOLVED WITH SCUBA AT THE PRESENT TIME AND IN THE FUTURE.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:15 P.M.

ENCLOSED IS A COPY OF THE REVISED PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS ACCEPTED BY THE COUNCIL.

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:

*JOHN BEAGLES	4814 33RD -S.D.16	AT2-7004	NEL
DR. E.F. COIL	1867 FT.STOCKTON DR.	CY6-1182	SUBRON 3
DAN STEVENS	2530 PROSPECT, N.C.	GR7-7672	SDCDC
EMIL HOLBECKER JR.	5108 REBEL RD. S.D.	BR4-0577	DIVING LOCKER
*JAMES STEWART	4996 MT.ALMAGOSA DR.	BR7-9485	SCRIPPS
*TOM DEVINE	1450 TOBIAS DR. C.V.	GA2-4153	C.V.(CITY)
CHUCK NICKLIN	2174 TOKALON ST. S.D.	BR6-0929	DIVING LOCKER
JAMES FALLON	1440 OLIVER AVE.	BR4-5253	DIVING LOCKER
LYN PALMER	4984 NARRAGANSETT	AC3-6676	L. J. DIVERS
V.F.YALMOKAS	1664 THOMAS AVE.	BR4-0632	1ST.RECON BTN.
JAMES HODGES	4585 MT.BIGLOW DR.	BR7-1543	S.D.DIVERS
BRUCE BARR	1115 8TH.AVE.S.D.1	BE2-7451	YMCA (DOWNTOWN)
MIKE SATTERLEE	5130 MESQUITE RD.	JU2-7212	YMCA (COPLEY)
REX GRIFFITH	P.O.Box 515, BONITA	GR7-1255	S.D.DIVERS
JIM BLAIR	92 QUEEN ANN DR.	HA0-6831	"
W.AVERILL SMITH	P.O.Box 9117, S.D.9	HU8-2097	"
JIM LASCH	1130 CUCHARA DR.DELMAR	SK5-1821	"
*WM.F.HARDY,JR.	4004 MIDWAY DR., S.D.	AC4-3439	"
P. SUTTON	"	"	"
WM.B. JOHNSTON	"	"	"
JOSEPH LUCAS	3702 BAYSIDE WALK	HU8-8003	S.D. (CITY)
BOB HAYCOCK	6281 LAKE ARAL DR.	HO-3-1901	S.D. DIVERS
JUNE DEVINE	385 PARKWAY C.V.	GA2-6138	C.V. (CITY)
<i>Tom Devine</i>	" " " "		

* THESE MEN TO HOLD THEIR OFFICE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS IT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO HOLD ANOTHER ELECTION BY THE S.D.C.U.S.C.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

LAUREL WAGNER
8/11/61

We SCUBA enthusiasts of San Diego County have been asked to instigate action directed toward reducing fatalities among untrained persons using SCUBA equipment. To accomplish this it has been proposed that the following steps be taken:

- I. Form a San Diego County or Southland Underwater Instructor's Group to affiliate with groups from Los Angeles and San Francisco. Working committees from these groups and others that may form, will unite and write State-wide recommendations setting minimum requirements considered necessary for those instructing SCUBA.
- II. Nominate and elect three members of the group to a working committee with the power invested among them to represent the San Diego Group in all State-wide meetings. Members of the committee should be chosen in such a manner that all phases of SCUBA diving are represented.
- III. Formulate recommendations considered minimum for State-wide instructors and forward to the Los Angeles Group for publication keeping in mind that local recommendations may be stricter if deemed necessary.
- IV. Form a local committee to determine the level of San Diego instructors and recommend to the group those that should or should not be recognized as SCUBA instructors without advanced training. Prepare a course of instructions of not less than 90 hours of such a nature considered necessary to maintain a high level of state-wide instructions. Recognize the possibility that instructors migrating into the local area will possess some or all of the local requirements and instigate action to qualify these people by the most expeditious means.

With this in mind, I have taken the time to draft a rough of what I consider minimum and hope you will comment accordingly.

PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS

- I. ALL STATE OF CALIFORNIA DIVING INSTRUCTORS WILL POSSESS A CURRENT AMERICAN RED CROSS SENIOR LIFESAVING CERTIFICATE AND/OR BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE THE EQUIVALENT PROFICIENCY.

Comment.

The proposed requirement that a Water Safety Instructor's Certificate be possessed by all SCUBA instructors in the State of California as a worthy item and should, if possible, be obtained by each. This requirement, if enforced, would essentially eliminate a substantial number of the present Veteran SCUBA instructors by the Red Cross requirement of Form Swimming. Veteran instructors possess the necessary endurance and instructional ability but most are unable to coordinate the basic skills required in swimming because of long and constant use of swim fins during normal work. Military and commercial divers consider the ability of survival swimming more important than proper form. It is recognized here that a substantial number of the Southern California veteran instructors are either military or professional SCUBA divers and if this group was eliminated, the State would be denied fast access to the new and approved diving information as it is released. Military divers usually possess the new diving information and have practiced it for several years prior to public release.

11. WILL HAVE A MINIMUM OF TWO YEARS ACTIVE DIVING EXPERIENCE AND DEMONSTRATE PROFICIENCY IN ALL PHASES OF DIVING.

Comment.

It is considered that any person desiring to become an Underwater Instructor must have a minimum two years of active diving experience. Many weekend sport divers, although they may possess a valuable fund of diving knowledge, do not have the necessary or variety of water proficiency to qualify. The reverse of this is also recognized where a person may have many years of water experience but not the full range of diving knowledge considered desirable and necessary as an instructor. The proficiency and knowledge considered desirable can be broken down in the following categories:

WATER PROFICIENCY

1. Basic Skills:
 - a. Swim ³ ~~100 yds~~ ^{12 minutes} (Survival methods). ~~90 ft~~ ^{underwater}
 - b. Swim 75 feet under water.
 - c. Float and tread water 3 minutes. No hands + 10 min with hands
2. Demonstrate lifesaving and rescue methods. - Eg. R.C. Sr Life Saving - winter + water.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in all basic SCUBA skills.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in directing diving operations and be familiar with military and/or Civil Defense search, rescue and recovery methods.
5. Demonstrate a knowledge of basic seamanship, navigation and small boat handling.

DIVING KNOWLEDGE

AS ADMINISTERED BY CONTROLLED EXAMINATION

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. Diving Physics | 6. State Fish and Game Laws |
| 2. Diving Physiology | 7. Decompression |
| 3. Diving Disease and First Aid | 8. Buddy System and Signals |
| 4. Basic Oceanography | 9. Diving Equipment; regulators, & H.P. Air |
| 5. Noxious Marine Animals | |

Proficiency and examinations to be administered by District committee as recognized by the State of California Underwater Committee.

111. ALL FUTURE INSTRUCTORS AFTER (date) WILL COMPLETE A COURSE OF 70 HOURS OF INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES PLUS A 20 HOUR STUDENT TEACHING COURSE OF BASIC SCUBA SKILLS AND THIS ALSO TO INCLUDE SEMINARS TO BE SET UP WHEN IT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO KEEP INFORMED WITH THE DIVING FRATERNITY.

Comment.

With an increasing number of sportsmen taking to diving, it is estimated that the number of instructors needed in the next ten year will increase a hundredfold. To sustain a high state-wide standard of Diving Instruction, it is felt that a course of study to be initiated to fully prepare future instructors for certification.

With the rapid increase of diving technology over the past fifteen years, it is probable that during the next two decades diving personnel will be exceeding depths of 1,000 feet using various gas mixtures. If and when this situation develops, instructors will need necessary training in the procedures of mixed-gas diving as well as that required for conventional diving methods. Here again, the hard core of veteran government diving instructors will be the first to receive the information and be in the position to disseminate it among the diving fraternity whenever the security restrictions are lifted.