

DCB meeting 18 Oct 2007
Minutes

Attendance:

Jerry Phillips
Stephen Jewett
Rob Chadwell
Katrin Iken
Max Hoberg
Brenda Konar
Bill Bechtol
Ginny Eckert

Guests:

Dave Christie

1) New on-line Dive Plan form

Guidelines for filling out dive plan on Scientific Diving web page.

There is also an example on-line to help new folks out. Some areas of the state, such as Western Alaska, will need to fill in emergency information such as Chamber contact numbers as appropriate to site of their dive operation.

Question: is there a way to see if the dive plan was approved on-line?

No. In the past, Stephen has let folks know if there is a problem.

We suggest that Stephen gives the divers an "approved dive plan" so that they can take it with them to the Kasitsna Bay Lab, ship captain, etc.... to show that they have been approved (and so that they have all the current emergency numbers).

Proficiency dives also need dive plans. For non-Fairbanks projects, a more timely response for plan approval will occur if proposed dive plans are submitted electronically.

**Need clarification: Does diving with a non-AAUS buddy constitute an AAUS dive?
Stephen will check**

2) Update on classes

Scientific Diving and Advanced Scientific Diving classes occurred in March 2007 (spring semester)

Cold Water Diving was offered in August 2007.

Need to advertise to get more students in this class next year.

Send flyers to Ginny and Sherry to distribute.

All of these courses will be offered next year.

Still no plans for diving courses in Juneau.

3) Graduate School Dive Protocols (with advisor permission)

Although UAF diver protocols are identified in the dive safety manual, confusion remains among some students regarding the specific steps needed to be certified as a scientific diver.

Stephen will assemble a 1-page summary explaining what needs to be done by the

chain of command, etc... This form should also state that divers leave the program after they leave UA or have been inactive for over a year.

GPMSL (Katrin) will find a way to flag graduate projects so that these students know what they need to do to be able to conduct a dive-related project with UAF.

4) Chain of command for dive plan approvals

What if someone wants to dive when Stephen is away? This was an issue this past summer. One issue is that some of the file info is on Stephen's computer and some is in dive locker files.

Katrin suggests setting up secured site for dive record information. Stephen will chat with John Haverlack to set up secured site.

Chain of command: Stephen, Max, Brenda

5) Inform divers when no one will be around for approvals

Moot point. See # 4 above.

6) Revision of AAUS written test

Shawn will do this.

7) Standards

We need to keep our standards high. All reciprocity divers need to come from an AAUS institution. All our divers entering the program must meet all qualifications (swim, pool, open water, etc..).

Ginny suggests that AAUS reciprocity divers still undergo a check-out dive to make sure that they are comfortable in cold-water and that any personal gear that they want to use in our program is working properly. This can be done case-by-case.

Anyone can refuse to dive with someone that they are not comfortable with. If there is a diver that someone is uncomfortable with they need to contact Stephen.

Dave wants to meet with Stephen, Brenda, and Denis to determine status of SeaLife Center students.

8) Key to dive locker and locking of dive locker

Things have been stolen from dive locker. We need to monitor keys and closing of the dive locker. Let's get better about keeping doors locked! Brenda will remind Doreen, Gary, and Ruth that they are not supposed to let folks into the dive locker without permission. THIS HAS BEEN DONE

9) Funding for Juneau dive locker

New building being built in Juneau. This might be able to house a dive locker. Ginny wants to know where to look for funds for dive gear. Brenda suggests President's Special Fund or Technology Development Fund. Dave suggests checking with NSF. DAN has calls for proposals to give O2 kits. Stephen will be going to Juneau in the spring, perhaps in April, to help with the divers.

10) Seward dive accident

Matt Myers was not a UA diver. He was a UA grad student who was getting certified through Bob Hicks and the SeaLife Center. Repercussions: SeaLife Center divers are not AAUS and as such can not dive for UA or any UA facility (ie Kasitsna Bay Lab). The board does not feel that we should be doing our own investigation. We are awaiting the report.

11) Brenda Konar was appointed to the AAUS Board of Directors. She will bring AAUS news to our DCB twice a year.

12) Dive logs now have a summary column. Please get the new forms off the web. Stephen will send out an email to let all our divers know.

13) Stephen feels that we need to revise our dive manual, hopefully by the next DCB meeting. Stephen is writing a new ice diving protocol.

14) Rob has 2 new Jumbo D Oxygen kits available for borrowing.

15) Next meeting some time in February

16) An inactive diver wishing to return to active status must first get their paperwork active and then do a check-out with the DSO or an AAUS diver that the DSO appoints