

Mercian Divers SAA 39	Assessment Title: Baseline Diving		
	Assessment no: MDRA 1		
Risk Assessment	Prepared by		date
	DO Approval		date

This Risk Assessment applies to every dive

Hazard	Risk of	Groups at Risk.	How you can reduce the risk
1. Kitting up			
Cylinder toppling over	Crush injury	Anyone in vicinity	Cylinders always left on side – never stood up
Dropped lead	Injury to foot	Diver kitting up , helper	Pick up weight belts by loose end (not buckle) Fit weight retainers
Heavy equipment	Muscle injury	Diver kitting up	Always use a helper when putting on BCD assembly
Dive knife	Cut/stab injury	Divers and helpers	Keep knife sheathed when not in use. Exercise normal precautions for sharp objects when using
Falling with fins on	Injury	Divers	Fit fins immediately prior to water entry
2. Water entry			
Uncontrolled entry	Disorientation Panic Drowning	Diver	Entry observed from shore/boat. Always give OK signal to shore/boat if you are OK
Landing on another diver	Injury	Diver and “other” diver	Check water is clear before entering

Hazard	Risk of	Groups at Risk.	How you can reduce the risk
Being landed upon by other diver.	Injury	Diver and “other” diver	Move away from entry point ASAP
3. In water			
Cold water	Hypothermia	All divers, but especially in wet and semi dry suits	Suits should be well fitting Know signals to indicate discomfort Buddies to observe each other for signs of hypothermia Warm dry clothing, food and warm drinks to be available close to exit point
	Equipment malfunction – DV free flow	Divers with equipment not appropriate for cold water	Only regulators rated for cold water use should be used
	Inability to operate BCD valves	Divers with cold hands	Use gloves.
Low visibility	Disorientation	All divers	Stay close to buddy Hold on to each other if necessary Be prepared to abort dive
	Diver separation	Diver and buddy	Know lost buddy procedure
Insufficient air	Asphixiation	Divers	Ensure pillar valves are turned on Ensure cylinder is adequately filled Buddies monitor each others air supply Both buddies to have alternative air supply (octopus min) Dive in accordance with plan
Uncontrolled descent	Exceeding depth limits	Diver	Know depth before entry Ensure BCD inflated before entry Ensure drysuit zips are closed and seals in good order Ensure not overweighted

Hazard	Risk of	Groups at Risk.	How you can reduce the risk
Uncontrolled ascent	Burst lung. DCI	Diver	Ensure not underweighted
4. Exit			
Fall whilst exiting - off ladder, rocks etc	Disorientation Injury Panic Drowning	Diver	Buddy will help remove fins if required Keep mask and DV fitted until clear of water
Falls onto another diver	Disorientation Injury Panic Drowning	Diver, "other" diver	Keep clear of area close to exit other diver is using it
Another diver falls onto diver	Disorientation Injury Panic Drowning	Diver, "other" diver	Keep away from exit are until it is clear
5. Dekit			
Tripping with fins on	Injury	Divers	Remove fins close to exit point
Dropping BCD assy	Injury to foot	Diver	Helper, buddy will help in removing BCD assy