

# Dive Site Briefings

## DIVE SITE BRIEFINGS

This briefing is to be completed by an Instructor, Divemaster or Trainee Divemaster and witnessed by either an Instructor or qualified Divemaster. NDAC briefing to be conducted from a position to give a panoramic view of the site. This site safety briefing is in line with Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1974 under the ACoP and is a pre-requisite for all commercial dive training.

Prior to diving activities, you will need to acknowledge by signature that you have received the briefing and understood. Please ask questions as we go through this.

## GENERAL SITE HAZARDS AND ORIENTATION

**Car Park** – Be careful when moving around the car park, vehicles come and go throughout the day so be aware of this when you are moving around.

**Kit Loading Area** – Be careful moving around the kit loading area, NDAC dive vans are transporting kit and divers between the top and bottom loading areas. Be aware of them reversing and when opening the rear doors, be aware heavy equipment can fall and injure, be courteous of other divers and wait for your turn.

**Vans** – Place kit on van carefully and considerably, ensure you have all your equipment on the van before leaving. Sit on the vans and try to avoid standing. Do NOT lean on the doors or inadvertently distract the drivers. Wait for divers to unload the van before you try to put any of your kit on to the van.

**Gas Room** – NDAC Gas room is out of bounds. There is a risk of hearing loss, fires and explosions. Only trained and authorised personnel are to enter. Explain gas room procedure for buying gas.

**NDAC Office** – Completely out of bounds to everyone except authorised personnel.

**Orientation** – The quarry runs South to North in the direction of the car park to the windsock loosely following the zip lines.

## SITE FACILITIES

**Dive Shop** – The NDAC shop sells dive equipment and provides kit servicing and repair. Please ensure that you have paid for entry and completed the NDAC entry forms and waivers. If you have not, please do so at end of briefing and place your copy of the form in the window of your vehicle. You will not be allowed on the vans without a band.

**Café** – Food and drink can be purchased here. Please be aware of diving timescales. We recommend only purchas-

ing food and drink after we have finished diving. Please stay hydrated throughout the day, watch for wet floors in the café.

**Toilets/Showers/Changing** – There are 3 toilets one each for male and females and one for disabled people. Please do NOT use disabled toilet unless you have a disability. Showers are available. Do not have a hot shower directly after diving as it can result in decompression sickness. A cool shower is permissible.

**Large Changing Cabins** – There are 2 large changing cabins one each for male and females. Do not put any equipment on the heaters to dry off as this poses a fire risk. Watch for wet floors as these can cause you to slip.

## DIVING PROCEDURES

Put equipment on correctly before attempting to carry it on to the pontoon. Do not carry harnesses over one shoulder, if you slip serious injury could occur. Ensure drysuits are fully zipped up before entering the pontoon area. If the equipment is too heavy, make as many journeys as you feel necessary. If you cannot carry the weight, please inform the dive team now so we can plan for this. Weight belts are only to be put on if a BCD/Wing follows immediately, no walking around the pontoon with just a weight belt on. (Excludes Freediving courses.)

**Ramp, Bridge, Pontoon** – Watch the ramp, bridge and pontoon, they can become very slippery especially in the winter with frost or when wet, use the handrails provided and walk in the centre of the pontoon not near the edges. Please note that with changing water levels the bridge angles can change.

**Dive Preparation** – Buddy checks will be completed and overseen by Dive Team (unless open water students who are to be supervised by their PADI Instructor). Gas checks will be made and logged by the Surface Support.

**Manoeuvring** – Do not walk forwards in fins, serious injury can occur through tripping. Walk sideways or backwards.

**In Water** – Every Orange buoy in the water is above an attraction. Each attraction has an ascent line attached to the buoy. In the event you get lost or separated look around for no longer than one minute, if you do not find each other or the group swim to the nearest attraction and use the ascent line to control your ascent, monitoring your computer, execute a safety stop, gas permitting, and ascend.

If you are uncomfortably cold, hot, dizzy or feeling generally unwell let the Dive Supervisor, Support Diver or Surface



Support know immediately.

**Post Dive** – It is important to stay focussed, ensure you inform the surface support you are out of the water and of how much gas you have. Wait for the Dive Team to give permission before leaving the Pontoon. Please do not leave the pontoon without permission.

## INCIDENTS AND EMERGENCIES

If anyone hears someone shouting for help it is their responsibility to inform the Dive Supervisor immediately.

**Communication** – On the Pontoon there are red buttons all the way down, in an emergency press one of these and NDAC safety protocols will kick in (if in doubt PRESS, you will not be in trouble if a false alarm). Still tell Dive Supervisor or Surface Support at first opportunity. Fixed to the front of the shed there is a yellow radio box and another inside portable radio inside. It is Push to Talk (PTT) push the button and speak, release the button to listen. All divers, on duty NDAC staff and NDAC OFFICE will be able to hear and respond.

**Emergency Oxygen / First Aid** – Emergency O2 and First Aid is held in the shed. If asked by member of staff to retrieve them, it is marked and easily. The InDepth Surface Support will also carry O2 and a First Aid Kit.

**Defibrillator** – This is held in NDAC Office and another is in the InDepth van. If you are not trained, read the instructions on the machine while using the equipment.

**Fire** – Fire extinguishers are in all major installations as per fire safety regulations.

**Helicopters** – Helicopters can land on the Heli-Pad which is located by the windsock. You are NOT to approach this area unless instructed.

If you are not immediately involved in the incident, keep clear, do not crowd, do not speculate and do not post ANYTHING on social media until you leave NDAC premises. Please respect the situation and those involved. DO NOT leave pontoon until instructed.

Please, enjoy your day and remember your safety and our is our priority.