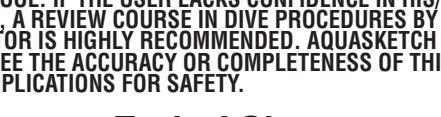


# Dive Safety Checklist



The underwater writing and drawing system

www.aquasketch.com 1-800-282-1608

## aquaSketch Vellum Care and Maintenance

After diving, always remove the vellum from the Minno and rinse in fresh water. Avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight.

**DISCLAIMER – THIS CHECKLIST IS NOT INTENDED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR PROPER DIVE TRAINING, BUT AS ONLY A SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCE TOOL. IF THE USER LACKS CONFIDENCE IN HIS/HER DIVING ABILITIES, A REVIEW COURSE IN DIVE PROCEDURES BY A CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. AQUASKETCH DOES NOT GUARANTEE THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THIS CHECKLIST OR ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR SAFETY.**

## End of Sheet

- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>CONTENTS:</b>                  | <b>8. Descending</b>                |
| <b>1. Emergency Contact Info</b>  | <b>9. Things to Keep in Mind...</b> |
| <b>2. Dive Log</b>                | <b>10. Note/Slate Area</b>          |
| <b>3. Pre-Dive Prep</b>           | <b>11. Ascending</b>                |
| <b>4. Gear Set-up</b>             | <b>12. Surfacing</b>                |
| <b>5. Common Hand Signals</b>     | <b>13. Exiting the Water</b>        |
| <b>6. Computer Reference Area</b> | <b>14. End of Dive Notes</b>        |
| <b>7. Entering the Water</b>      | <b>15. Post-Dive Procedures</b>     |

Note: Fill in contact info and computer reference BEFORE dive

## 1. Emergency Contact Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

In case of emergency contact \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Dive Insurance # \_\_\_\_\_

DAN Emergency Phone Number: 1-919-684-9111

## 2. DIVE LOG

Dive# \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Time in: \_\_\_\_\_ Time out: \_\_\_\_\_ Max. Depth: \_\_\_\_\_

Bottom Time: \_\_\_\_\_ EANx type: \_\_\_\_\_

Fresh / Salt Visibility: \_\_\_\_\_

Total hrs. to date \_\_\_\_\_ Total hrs. this dive \_\_\_\_\_

Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Gear \_\_\_\_\_

Tank Pressure Start: \_\_\_\_\_ Finish: \_\_\_\_\_

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_ Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Air: \_\_\_\_\_ Surf: \_\_\_\_\_ m/ft

Surface: \_\_\_\_\_ Surge: \_\_\_\_\_ m/ft

Dive Companion(s): \_\_\_\_\_

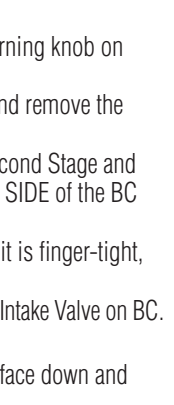
## 3. Pre-Dive Prep

- A) Equipment Check List
- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tank (Filled)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mask        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buoyancy Compensator Vest – Know the location of the releases                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Snorkel     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Weight Belt – know your weight, review procedure for integrated loading and quick release. | <input type="checkbox"/> Wet Suit    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regulator – primary, alternate   | <input type="checkbox"/> Fins, Boots |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gauges   | <input type="checkbox"/> Accessories |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer   | <input type="checkbox"/> aquaSketch  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low Pressure Connection to BC/Drysuit  | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer    |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Knife       |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Light       |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Compass     |

Additions: \_\_\_\_\_

## B) Plan your Dive (dive your plan)

- Consider the conditions
- Do Deepest dive of the day FIRST
- Do the deepest PART of each dive first.
- Indicate the current direction and strength



C) Review communications and separation plan with dive buddy

D) Review computer manual, check battery, fill in Computer Reference Area (Go to Area 4, below)

E) Refrain from alcohol consumption before diving

## 4. Gear Set Up (in order)

### A) Secure BC to Tank

- Wet BC tank straps
- Lower straps over the tank
- The tank valve opening should face the BC
- The top of the BC should be even with the tank valve
- Secure BC straps
- Check that the BC straps are tight enough by lifting the Tank with the BC shoulder straps

### B) Attach the Regulator First Stage to the Tank Valve

- Remove Tank Valve cover
- Clean tank valve with short burst of air by turning knob on tank clockwise.
- Unscrew knob on the regulator First Stage and remove the dust cover
- Attach the First Stage to the tank with the Second Stage and Alternate (Octopus) regulators on the RIGHT SIDE of the BC and the console on the LEFT.
- Tighten regulator First Stage Yoke Screw so it is finger-tight, do not over tighten.
- Attach inflator hose of Regulator First Stage to Intake Valve on BC.

### C) Turn ON Air

- Hold instrument console so that the gauges face down and away.
- With other hand slowly open the tank valve by turning it counterclockwise.
- Listen for leaks. If there are any, repeat step C to clean and reset valve.
- Open tank valve completely and then turn back a half turn.
- Check pressure gauge for air pressure (with air integrated computers, wet contacts).

### D) Test Second Stage Regulators, Primary and Alternate, by pressing purge buttons and breathing through.

### E) Secure Tank and BC

- On a boat, secure to the tank rack. If there is no rack:
- Lay tank down with BC up, and secure it. Avoid contact with sand and dirt.

### F) Put on Wet Suit

### G) Prepare Weights

- Always carry the weight belt with the right hand at the free end, opposite the buckle. Place belt on floor with buckle on left side. Using both hands, hold each end of belt, step in and raise belt to waist. The buckle should now be on the left, so that it can be released with the right hand. Pass free end on right through buckle and secure.
- Integrated systems follow BC manufacturers instructions.

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

## H) Set Up Your Mask

- Use defogger and thoroughly rinse.
- When not in use, wear mask around your neck - not on your forehead.
- Attach snorkel to left side of mask strap.

## I) Put on Fins

- From standing position use rail or buddy for stability.

## J) Safety Check With Buddy

- BC
- Weights
- Releases
- Air
- Gauges / Computer
- Check buddy's equipment, especially areas he/she cannot see (such as the Regulator First Stage for leaks).
- Signal OK to buddy to start dive

## 5. Common Hand Signals



## 6. Computer Reference/Diagram/Notes

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Entering The Water

### GIANT STRIDE ENTRY

- Make sure entry area is clear
- Hold your mask in left hand and gauges with your right
- Breath through your regulator
- Look straight ahead and take a GIANT STRIDE toward the water
- Once in the water, surface and signal OK
- Clear the area for the next diver

### BACK ROLL ENTRY

- Make sure entry area is clear
- Sit on the edge of the boat, back to the water
- Breath through your regulator
- Add air to the BC
- Hold mask and regulator with one hand and console with other
- Lift legs up and fall backwards into the water
- Once in the water, surface and signal OK
- Clear area for the next diver

### Shore Dive Entries

#### NO-SURF ENTRIES

- Walk into the water, holding fins, to waist depth
- Breathe through regulator and partially fill BC
- put on fins and swim to greater depth
- release air from BC and descend

#### SURF ENTRIES – REQUIRES SPECIAL TRAINING FROM A CERTIFIED DIVE INSTRUCTOR

#### ALL ENTRY POINTS

- Align watch bezel with minute hand to monitor elapsed time
- Note Compass direction of boat or land

Reference Points: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## 8. Descending

- Check gear on yourself and your buddy
- Check time and Computer
- Signal buddy to begin descent
- Add or release air from BC to control descent rate
- Release air from BC with Deflator held high in LEFT hand
- Equalize your ears continually during descent
- If ears will not equalize ascend a few feet until they clear
- If your ears still will not equalize ABORT DIVE
- Avoid contact with the bottom

## 9. Things To Keep In Mind During the Dive

- \* **NEVER HOLD YOUR BREATH**, breath evenly
- Do deepest dive of the day FIRST
- Do the deepest PART of each dive first
- \* **MONITOR YOUR GAUGES REGULARLY**
- Always leave the water with at least 500 lbs. of air pressure
- Keep track of buddy and / or dive group
- Follow the Dive Plan
- Abort the dive if you are uncomfortable for any reason
- Avoid touching anything
- Avoid kicking up silt from the bottom
- Ascend to the surface slowly – one foot per second, while RELEASING air from the BC very gradually
- Take a Safety Stop at fifteen feet from the surface for at least THREE minutes, or longer as indicated by dive computer

## 10. Slate Area

\_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Ascending

- Signal buddy to begin ascent
- Check gauges, note:  
time \_\_\_\_\_  
depth \_\_\_\_\_  
air pressure \_\_\_\_\_
- With BC Deflator in the Left Hand, **GRADUALLY RELEASE** air from the BC as you ascend
- **BREATH CONTINUALLY, DO NOT HOLD YOUR BREATH!**
- **ASCEND SLOWLY**, one foot per second
- Never ascend faster than your bubbles
- Observe computer for any ascent warnings
- Look up and rotate to observe to make sure ascent area is clear
- Make a Safety Stop at fifteen feet for at least THREE minutes, or longer as indicated by dive computer

## 12. Surfacing

- After Safety Stop, ascend looking up to make sure area is clear and extending one arm above your head to avoid obstacles
- At surface, inflate BC and switch from regulator to snorkel if low on air
- Rotate and observe surface area
- Locate Buddy and signal OK

## 13. Exiting the Water

### BOAT EXITS

- Grasp towline
- Do not crowd other divers – wait your turn to board boat
- Follow crew instructions
- Hand unattached equipment up to crew
- Remove fins only AFTER firmly grasping ladder rail
- Ascend ladder
- SURFACE EXIT WITH NO SURF
- Continue breathing through regulator until out of the water
- Have air in BC
- Remove fins at waist high depth and walk to shore

### SURFACE EXITS WITH SURF – REQUIRES SPECIAL TRAINING FROM A CERTIFIED DIVE INSTRUCTOR

## 14. End of Dive Note area:

Time out: \_\_\_\_\_ Remaining PSA: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 15. Post Dive

- Turn tank valve clockwise to turn off air
- Note remaining air pressure before closing valve and purging
- Push purge button on Regulator Second Stage to release air
- Remove Regulator First Stage from tank valve
- Clean and dry dust caps for Regulator First Stage and replace
- Disconnect inflator from BC
- Rinse and soak all gear in fresh water after use

## End of Sheet

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AquaSketch welcomes any suggestions that can help us to improve our product and enhance your diving experience.

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