



## CSAC Club Diver Syllabus

Theory and practical skills for the SAA Club Diver Qualification.

The Club Diver theory builds on the knowledge from Elementary Diver, including the use of SAA Bühlmann decompression tables. The practical side builds diver competence in open water and includes rescue training.

Once qualified, a Club Diver may dive with others certified to Club Diver or above, upto a maximum depth of 50m.

All training or assessment dives will be under the supervision of an Open Water Instructor and all qualifying dives will be conducted with at least a Dive Leader as buddy.

### Prerequisites

1. Open Water Diver grade.

This is a practical-only qualification after Elementary Diver.

The diver must have completed 4 additional open water dives (max depth 20m) under the supervision of a Open Water Instructor (or Dive Leader if no skills are being learned or tested).

The following skills are required:

- Achieve neutral buoyancy by being correctly weighted.
- Demonstrate correct use of BCD.
- Dry suit divers must display the ability to right themselves when inverted.
- Use an alternative air supply.

2. 10 additional open water qualifying dives in a variety of conditions (max. depth 35m).

### Theory lectures

(followed by Club Diver written exam)

Lecture	Title	Overview
C1	Diving air and deep diving	To understand the dangers of deep diving (dives deeper than 20m) and how planning and reduce the risk. Includes effects of partial pressure on gases, nitrogen narcosis and recognising the symptoms of toxic gas poisoning.
C2	Diver rescue	Understanding the principles and practices of safe diver rescue including various lift techniques plus how to respond appropriately in first aid situations.

C3	SAA Bühlmann decompression tables	The concept of “Diver Behaviour” and applying this in dive preparation. Understanding the layout and use of SAA Bühlmann decompression tables including definitions used and limitations. This is split into two sessions with a set of decompression “homework” questions in between to help build a good understanding of the tables.
C4	Underwater navigation	Understanding the principles of plotting a course underwater, how to determine position and recognising underwater environmental features to aid navigation. Includes the use of a compass underwater.
C5	Boat diving	Procedures of diving from a boat. Comparison of various types of boats used commonly by divers. Etiquette of boat diving plus safety and discipline involved.
C6	Dive planning	Understanding procedures for planning a safe dive, including air requirement calculations, plus how to plan to avoid potential problems.

The Club Diver written exam follows this set of lectures.

### Pool Skills

- Using a surface marker buoy
- Deploying a delayed surface marker buoy

Revision of the following pool skills is also highly recommended:

- Out of air drills
- Tired diver towing
- Alternative air source ascent
- Assisted ascent
- Diver rescue
- Diver resuscitation and first aid

### Open Water Assessment

Competency in the tasks is required – doing the task will not qualify unless it is done competently and safely.

1. Rescue a buddy diver on the surface.
2. Diagnose a decompression problem.
3. Swim 250m on the surface using a snorkel while wearing scuba gear (including BCD).
4. Demonstrate correct buoyancy.
5. Horizontal buddy-breathing acting separately as both donor and receiver.
6. Use an alternative air source.
7. Vertical air sharing from 5m to the surface, including 3m safety stop.
8. Demonstrate (on land) two methods for recovering an unconscious diver from depth.
9. Dive with an SMB.
10. Safe deployment of a delayed SMB.