

Safety Equipment

Oxygen Administration Equipment

Ensure that the equipment works properly and that oxygen cylinders are full before setting off.

VHF Radios /GMDSS

Check that the unit is working properly, that the battery is fully charged, and carry out a radio check with the Coastguard.

Flares

Check that they are in date and appear in good condition.

Continuing Education

Skill Development Courses

Are an excellent way to both refresh skills and learn new ones.

The opportunity to meet other divers and snorkellers and share ideas is a further advantage.

Instructor Training Courses

The BEST way to ensure that you remain practiced in all diving and snorkelling skills is to teach them regularly. The Instructor Training Scheme provides the means to achieve this and shows you how to pass on your well earned skills and experience.

Safety Checklist

CHECK WEATHER FORECAST BEFORE LAUNCHING.

NOTIFY SOMEONE OF PLANS AND EXPECTED RETURN TIME.

- Car and trailer properly parked and secured.
- Tubes inflated and no leaks.
- Alternative propulsion - oars/paddles or spare engine.
- Anchor, chain, warp and buoy.
- Bailer or bilge pump.
- First aid kit.
- Oxygen kit.
- Engine spares and tools.
- Fire extinguisher and flares.
- Navigation Aids (Compass, GPS, Charts etc).
- Radio checked and Coastguard notified.
- Sufficient fuel plus reserve tank.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Safety First

Promoting
safe
diving



Personal Preparation

Get Dive Fit

Prepare for the new season by doing some refresher training in the pool. Also, do some shallow warm-up dives before picking up where you left off at the end of last season.

Get your skills up to date

Revisit some of your original training to ensure that key skills such as mask clearing and buoyancy control are still automatic responses, and you are comfortable doing them in the pool and open water. Skill Development Courses are an excellent opportunity to revise skills and learn new ones at the same time.

Practice, Practice, Practice

It is clear from past experience that when skills are not practised regularly then they deteriorate. Skills should be practised regularly (even continually) to ensure that when required, they are automatic.

Equipment Preparation

Have your Equipment serviced

The winter layoff for many divers is the ideal time to have your equipment properly serviced. Check it out for proper function, in the pool or shallow open water, before committing to a full dive.

Training with New Equipment

Before using new equipment for the first time practice with it in the pool and shallow water before using it on that deep wreck!

Carry Surface Location Aids

Delayed surface marker buoys, flags, strobes, air horns, personal flares, EPIRBs etc.

Safeguard your Equipment

Diving equipment is expensive and there is a growing trend in the theft of substantial amounts of equipment from popular dive sites. Safeguard against a major loss by insuring your equipment with the BSAC Equipment Insurance Policy (call BSAC for more details).

Boat Preparation

Servicing

As with personal equipment, winter is the ideal time to get the boat and engine properly serviced. Ensure it is done by a reputable dealer and service agent.

Boat Checks

Before loading the boat for the first trip of the season, carry out some checks of the boat and engine to ensure that everything functions properly, as well as ensuring you have sufficient fuel before setting off.

Use of the Emergency Services

Make sure you are familiar with the means of contacting the emergency services and inform the Coastguard of your plans and remember to report your return to shore to them as well!

