

BSAC Technical Instructor Status

BSAC has a series of "Technical" courses each of which needs a recognised Instructor to teach them. The Instructors must be actively involved in the type of diving they wish to teach and conform to the Standards and Procedures for each course. There must be a process to remove instructor status from individuals who do not comply with BSAC recommendations or do not comply with HSE regulations, if appropriate.

N.B. The term Technical Instructor is valid for only the courses that the Instructor is qualified and certified to teach.

Instructor status is split into 5 different classes as shown below:

1. Active Status

An Instructor given the designation of Active Teaching Status must agree and fulfil the following criteria:

1. Be a BSAC member
2. Comply with the BSAC Standards and Procedures for the courses they wish to teach.
3. Adhere to the BSAC document entitled Safe Diving whilst teaching.
4. Comply with any local regulations if engaged in teaching the course e.g. HSE regulations if teaching professionally within their area of remit.

All instructors must hold Active Teaching Status to be authorized to teach BSAC Technical courses and to certify BSAC Technical divers.

2. Temporary Active Status

This status is to give an instructor the ability to teach BSAC Technical courses if they are extremely remote from BSAC Technical Instructor Trainers, the following criteria apply:

1. Be a BSAC member
2. Comply with the BSAC Standards and Procedures for the courses they wish to teach.
3. Adhere to the BSAC document entitled Safe Diving whilst teaching.
4. Be an experienced Instructor Trainer or Instructor with an accepted alternative training agency.
5. Comply with any local regulations if engaged in teaching the course e.g. HSE regulations if teaching professionally within their area of remit.
5. Be extremely remote from a BSAC Technical Instructor Trainer
6. Be recommended as a BSAC Technical Instructor by a BSAC Technical Instructor Trainer.

7. Be a BSAC Advanced Instructor or National Instructor

All instructors holding Temporary Active Teaching Status are authorized to teach BSAC Technical courses and to certify BSAC Technical divers. This qualification is renewed on an annual basis or upgraded to Active Status on the visit of a BSAC Technical Instructor Trainer and upon fulfilling the Instructor Standards and Procedures.

3. Provisional Status

An Instructor is on Provisional Status for any of the following reasons:

1. Have failed to meet the obligations of Active Teaching Status.
2. Teaching under the supervision of a BSAC Instructor Trainer to gain Active Teaching Status.

An Instructor on Provisional Status is authorized to teach BSAC Technical courses under the supervision of a BSAC Technical Instructor Trainer with Active Teaching Status. Provisional status is granted so that an Instructor can qualify or re-qualify as active. A maximum of 3 attempts to gain or re-gain active status is allowed. Provisional status is awarded for a maximum of 2 years after which time the instructor will be placed on Suspended status. An annual extension to Provisional Status can be granted by agreement with the Technical Chief Examiner.

4. Non-Teaching Status

An Instructor can be placed on Non-Teaching Status for any of the following reasons:

1. Have been temporarily placed on suspension.
2. Have failed to meet the obligations of Active Teaching Status.

Instructors placed on Non-Teaching Status are not authorized to teach BSAC Technical courses and to certify BSAC Technical divers.

5. Suspended Status

An Instructor can be placed on Suspended Status for any of the following reasons:

1. Have failed to meet the obligations of Active Teaching Status.
2. Have violated teaching standards.

An Instructor placed on Suspended Status is not authorized to teach BSAC Technical courses or to certify BSAC Technical divers. Further standards violations can result in an Instructor being removed from the BSAC Technical Instructor Register.

Changing instructor status from Active

The Technical Chief Examiner can make the decision to change Instructor Status from Active to provisional, non-teaching or suspended status based on the following:

1. Feedback from Student Report Form
2. Failure to comply with BSAC Technical standards and procedures
3. Feedback from BSAC Instructor Trainer
4. Investigation by H.S.E., if appropriate

Disciplinary Process

Normally the Technical Chief Examiner will pursue this process although in serious cases the Technical Group Leader, Technical Chief Instructor and National Diving Officer will become involved. The process can take 3 forms as shown below:

Verbal – A simple telephone call to clarify the problem

Written – A formal written statement delivered by registered post

Grievance Meeting – A formal meeting to discuss the reasons for change of status and allow the instructor to make a formal response. The instructor may request the attendance of a fellow instructor to ensure fair play is applied.

Right of Appeal

Each instructor who is subject to the disciplinary process shall have the right to appeal to the BSAC Technical Group Leader and National Diving Officer. This should be in the form of a formal written reply stating the points of disagreement with the disciplinary process.

Re-instatement of Status

The Active Status of an instructor may be re-applied once the reason for change has been resolved. However removal from the Technical Instructor Register would need to be confirmed by a written statement that the instructor would not allow the breach of standards or procedures to happen again. If an

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instructor were removed from the register for a second time they would not be allowed to re-apply for Active Status again.