21. Shore/Beach Diver

21.1   Introduction

The purpose of this course is to acquaint a diver with the necessary procedures and knowledge to safely dive from shore. The focus of this specialty must be on how to handle different types of surf and shore conditions.

21.2   Who May Teach

An active SDI Instructor or Assistant Instructor that has been certified to teach this specialty

21.3   Student to Instructor Ratio

Academic

1.   Unlimited, so long as adequate facility, supplies and time are provided to ensure comprehensive and complete training of subject matter

Confined Water (swimming pool-like conditions)

1.   N/A

Open Water (ocean, lake, quarry, spring, river or estuary)

1.   A maximum of 8 students per instructor;, it is the instructor's discretion to reduce this number as conditions dictate
2.   The instructor has the option of adding 2 more students with the assistance of an active assistant instructor or divemaster
3.   The total number of students an instructor may have in the water is 12 with the assistance of 2 active assistant instructors or divemasters

21.4   Student Prerequisites

1.   SDI Open Water Scuba Diver , SDI Junior Open Water Scuba Diver, or equivalent, or current enrollment in one of those courses
2.   Minimum age 18, 10 with parental consent

21.5   Course Structure and Duration

Open Water Execution

1.   Two dives are required with complete briefs and debriefs by the instructor
2.   Dive plan must include surface interval, maximum no-decompression time, etc. to be figured out and logged

Course Structure

1.   SDI allows instructors to structure courses according to the number of students participating and their skill level

21.6   Administrative Requirements

Administrative Tasks:

1. Collect the course fees from all the students
2. Ensure that the students have the required equipment
3. Communicate the schedule to the students
4. Have the students complete the:
    a. *SDI Liability Release and Express Assumption of Risk* Form
    b. *SDI Medical Statement* Form

Upon successful completion of this specialty the instructor must:

1. Issue the appropriate SDI certification by submitting the SDI Diver Registration Form to SDI Headquarters or registering the students online through member's area of the SDI website

21.7   Required Equipment

Basic open water scuba equipment as described in section three of this manual.

21.8   Approved Outline

Instructors may use any additional text or materials that they feel help present these topics. The following topics must be covered:

1. Dive Planning
    a. Map of shore
    b. Compass review
    c. Navigation
2. Emergency Procedures
    a. Surface emergencies, no scuba
    b. Scuba emergencies
    c. Rescue procedures
    d. Review of lifesaving skills
3. Shore Diving Procedures
    a. Set-up
    b. Navigation aids
    c. Land marks
    d. Site assessment
    e. Special procedures, i.e. keeping the water in fin pockets to wash off feet in sand
4. Diving Procedures
    a. Use of the dive flag
    b. Float handling and line attachment
    c. Surf zone considerations
    d. Buddy procedures

5. Things to Do off the Beach
    a. Underwater collecting and hunting
    b. Photography
    c. Wreck diving

21.9 Required Skill Performance and Graduation Requirements

Students are required to successfully complete the following:

1. Open Water Dive 1
    a. Site selection
    b. Dive plan
    c. Assess the conditions
    d. Navigation review
    e. Surf procedure practice
    f. Compass check
    g. Natural navigation check
    h. Descent and resurface
    i. Navigation
    j. Float control
    k. Return to beach
    l. Exit
    m. Log dive

2. Open Water Dive 2
    a. Site selection
    b. Dive plan
    c. Assess the conditions
    d. Surf procedure
    e. Underwater natural navigation
    f. Float control
    g. Return the group to the beach
    h. Exit
    i. Log dive