

# SNORKELLING AND SCUBA DIVING

## RELEVANT REGULATIONS AND RESOURCES

National Association of Underwater Instructors <[www.nauai.com](http://www.nauai.com)>  
Professional Association of Diving Instructors <[www.padi.com](http://www.padi.com)>  
American-Canadian Underwater Certification <[www.acuc.org](http://www.acuc.org)>  
Divers Alert Network <[www.diversalertnetwork.org](http://www.diversalertnetwork.org)>  
Ontario Underwater Council <[www.underwatercouncil.com](http://www.underwatercouncil.com)>

## QUESTIONS

IF THE CAMP OFFERS SNORKELLING AS AN ACTIVITY, ANSWER QUESTIONS SB1 – SB4  
IF THE CAMP OFFERS SNORKELLING AND SCUBA DIVING, ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.

**SB1 Are participants required to successfully complete a swimming evaluation before beginning instruction in snorkelling or scuba diving?**

It is recommended that participants be able to complete, as a minimum, a 50m distance swim, and a five-minute treading water test.

**SB2 Does the camp provide lifeguard supervision when snorkellers or divers are in the water?**

For the purposes of this section, lifeguard supervision means a staff member who holds a current Bronze Cross or higher and is trained in the camp's emergency procedures.

**SB3 Is the buddy system used for all in-water sessions?**

**SB4 Is snorkelling equipment inspected before each use?**

**SB5 Do participants complete a detailed medical questionnaire prior to involvement in scuba diving?**

Participants should be medically screened as suitable for recreational diving by an appropriate medical examination. However, this may not always be possible or feasible. If the participant is not examined by a physician, the parent or guardian of the participant (or the participant him/herself if over the age of 18) should be required to complete a medical questionnaire to identify diseases or physical conditions, which may constitute a diving-related risk.

**SB6 Are participants trained in snorkelling prior to the use of scuba equipment?**

**SB7 Do staff supervising and training divers hold current instructor certifications from NAUI, PADI or ACUC?**

**SB8 Is scuba equipment inspected before each use?**

**SB9 Are scuba tanks filled with air from an inspected source?**

Air sources must meet the Canadian Standards Association's standard for Compressed Breathing Air and Systems, and display a certificate of inspection. This standard sets out the allowable ranges of gases in compressed breathing air including oxygen (20-22% by volume), nitrogen and rare gases (78-80% by volume), and the maximum permissible concentrations of impurities such as carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, methane, volatile non-methane hydrocarbons, volatile halogenated hydrocarbons, as well as oils, particulates, and condensates, moisture, and odour.

**SB10 Do the scuba tanks have a current hydrostatic test and visual test?**

Tanks must be hydrostatically tested every five years, and visually inspected every year.

**SB11 Is a divers' flag used when divers are in the water?**

**SB12 Are all staff and campers made aware of the meaning of the divers' flag?**

**SB13 Has the camp reviewed the need for additional insurance for scuba diving instruction?**

See also Management and Administration MA8.