

Official WUSAC code of conduct

This code of conduct relates to members, instructors and alumni representing or affiliated with Warwick sub-aqua club at training, trips and events. This document informs members of Sub-Aquas requirements for safe participation in our activities. Please read it carefully.

Warwick SU does not condone any activity outside the remit of this code of conduct and encourages individuals, in the interest of their personal safety, not to participate in activities not covered by this document.

General:

- Members must disclose to the Diving Officer (if involved in Diving activity) or the Octopush Officer (if involved in octopush activity) any medical condition that may affect any first aid situation should it arise
- Members should not eat or drink large quantities at least 1 hour prior to training or participating
- Members are required to abide by the rules and regulations set down by the Department of Physical Education and Sport when using University facilities
- You are expected to conduct yourself in a reasonable and responsible manner whilst representing or acting on behalf of the Sub-Aqua club
- Treat others with respect and dignity; treat them fairly and without unfair or legal discrimination
- Not offend others with foul language, anti-social behaviour or discriminatory behaviour
- Treat the sub-aqua environment with respect
- Do not interfere with other people's enjoyment of sub-aquas activities or facilities
- Do not engage in activity or behavior likely to bring sub-aqua into disrepute
- Comply with the reasonable requests of the sub-aqua exec
- Respect the confidentiality and reasonable privacy of others
- Use sub-aqua resources responsibly and honestly
- Undergo any training required
- Do not condone or encourage the use of illegal substances whilst in a sub-aqua environment
- Make Sub-Aqua a safe and welcoming place for all

Scuba Diving Training:

- Full payments must be received before starting your open water training.

You will not be permitted to begin until at least a part payment has been received for the part of the training that you are currently undertaking.

- It will be stated what is and isn't included in course costs prior to signing up. However, if you require further dives to complete your training, then you will be liable for the cost. All higher levels, cost must be met in agreement with those doing you training
- Please be aware that instructors are volunteers, they give up time to teach you.
- Lectures and pool sessions are compulsory without one weeks notice or for a valid reason. Open water sessions are a case of first come first served.
- A timetable for training will be created at the start of the academic year, although this may be subject to change at reasonable notice. Ad hoc trips will also be provided beyond that. These will be at short notice. If you would like to train on these trips, it is your responsibility to notify the training officer of your intention.

- You will be issued with kit for the duration of your training. The care of this kit will be your responsibility and what was damaged is expected to be replaced or repaired within reason.
- There will be a number of exam sessions each year. You will only be permitted to attempt it three times in any one session and in accordance to BSAC guidelines your final dive cannot be completed until the exam has been passed.
- If you are not qualified with BSAC, we require you to perform a crossover. You will not be permitted to dive with the club until such time as your diving activities have been cleared with the Diving Officer. This is a less painful process than it sounds.

Affiliations:

- The club is a branch of the British Sub Aqua Club. This allows the club to run BSAC approved courses as well as send members to other BSAC branches for any courses the club is itself unable to run.
- The club is affiliated to the British Octopush Association. This allows the club to participate in the University Octopush Student Nationals each year as well as giving it access to a network of other BOA affiliated clubs.

National Governing Body Code of Practice:

- The BSAC Divers Code of Conduct is available from:
www.bsac.com/core/core_picker/download.asp?id=9887
- The BOA Club Code of Conduct is available from:
<http://www.gbuwh.co.uk/index.php?component=page&id=55>
- The BOA Rules of Play for Octopush are available from:
<http://www.gbuwh.co.uk/UserFiles/File/Reference%20Area/Referee/Rules/BOA%20Rules%2011.4a.pdf>

Coaching:

- Club sessions will be run by the Diving Officer or a nominated representative (for diving activities) and the Octopush Officer or a nominated representative (for octopush activities).
- Novices will be supervised by a qualified instructor (if undertaking diving activity) or by an experienced member of the club (if playing octopush).
- All members must follow the instructions of the coach during training sessions

Equipment:

- Members are advised that a swimming costume is essential for all of the club's water-based activities.
- The club is able to provide all additional equipment necessary for both scuba diving and octopush. There is a charge for the use of scuba diving equipment to cover the cost of maintenance of said equipment
- It is recommended for club members to at least own or purchase a mask and pair of fins, since the club's activities will be much more enjoyable if both of these pieces of equipment fit the participant. Advice on what to buy and opportunities to purchase equipment will be available.
- The Equipment Officer is in charge of all of the club's scuba diving equipment and is responsible for all safety checks and maintenance not required for the typical use of such equipment (such checks are the responsibility of the user). Records of equipment maintenance will be filed
- Club equipment is only to be used with the prior permission of the Equipment Officer and must be logged out.

- Club equipment must be rinsed after every pool and sea dive. After a dive in freshwater, common sense is to be applied and the gear is to be rinsed when deemed necessary.
- Specialist equipment may only be used by those trained to use it, this includes but is not limited to full face masks, closed and semi closed rebreathers. Use of such equipment must be authorized by the Diving Officer.
- The Equipment Officer is to be consulted on how to store the equipment safely. Their instructions are to be followed at all times, failure to do so may make the club member in question liable for any damage to club equipment that results.
- The safe handling of equipment is explained as part of the diving qualifications offered by the club. Equipment should not be handled unsupervised by members who have not received this training.
- Equipment should be used under the supervision of the coach or most senior member of the club present, who must have been previously approved by the Equipment Officer as the supervisor of such activity.
- Members may use their own equipment if they can satisfy the Diving Officer that the requisite safety checks have been carried out. Any refusal to meet the requirements of this procedure may result in disciplinary action.
- If the Diving Officer is not satisfied that the equipment has been adequately checked they will prevent the usage of this equipment by any member of the Club.

Facilities:

- Members are required to abide by the rules and regulations set down by Warwick Sport when using University facilities
- Members are required to abide by the rules and regulations of each and any operator of facilities used by the Club
- Members should leave the facilities in the condition that they found them in as far as is reasonably practicable
- Any member is entitled to use the pool during the booked sessions. This is on the condition that the use is authorized by both the Octopush and Training officers. The aforementioned officers also have the right to eject anyone they feel is putting other pool users at risk or inconvenience.

Health and Safety Responsibilities:

- The lead instructor is responsible for the health and safety of all diving activities.
- The president is responsible for the health and safety of all octopush activities
- Training in the pool is supervised by Warwick Sport lifeguards, their instructions should be followed on safety-related issues. Octopush matches are likewise supervised by the lifeguards at the pool where the match is played. On diving trips BSAC regulations require a level of first aid and rescue training to be present depending on the activity and level of training of the participants.
- The Club undertakes an annual risk assessment of the hazards involved in their activity. It is the responsibility of the Club President to ensure this takes place.
- Each individual member should ensure they familiarize themselves with the risks inherent in the activity and should take every recognized precaution to avoid risk to themselves and others, as detailed in the club's risk assessment.
- The Club Coach can act as an advisor in respect of assessing risks and should be consulted in this respect.

First Aid/ Accident Reporting:

- When away from Warwick, the trip leader will be responsible for the first aid kit. When training, first aid is available from the Warwick Sport lifeguards (if in the pool) or from dive-site staff or a qualified club member (if on a diving trip).
- Any injuries/incidents or near misses whether at training, during matches/events home or away must be reported to the Diving Officer or the Octopush Officer (depending on the activity undertaken) who will ensure that they are reported to the Sports Administrator.

Social Activity:

- Club members are reminded that when participating in Club's social activities they are representing the University of Warwick Students' Union and the University itself.
- Behaviour deemed to be unacceptable by either the Students' Union or the University may result in disciplinary action taken against individuals or the Club as a whole.