



## **3. Technical Divemaster**

### **3.1 Introduction**

This program is designed to develop the skills and knowledge necessary for an individual to lead certified technical divers in the open water environment.

### **3.2 Qualifications of Graduates**

Upon successful completion of this course, graduates may:

1. Assist an active TDI Instructor during approved diving courses provided the activities are similar to the graduate's prior training
2. Supervise and conduct dives for certified technical divers provided the activities are similar to the graduate's prior training
3. This program does not cover overhead environment with the exception of advanced wreck

### **3.3 Who May Teach**

1. Any active TDI Instructor may teach this program to the level they are qualified
  - a. For example: A TDI Decompression Procedures Instructor can qualify a student up to the level of TDI Technical Divemaster for Decompression Procedures

### **3.4 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 4 students per instructor; it is the instructor's discretion to reduce this number as conditions dictate

### **3.5 Student Prerequisites**

1. Minimum age 18
2. Certified as an SDI Divemaster (equivalent ratings from other agencies are not accepted for this TDI Divemaster prerequisite)
3. Provide copies of current CPR and first aid training
4. Have a current medical examination
5. Provide proof of 50 logged dives



6. Certified as technical diver for which they are applying as a divemaster in.

### **3.6 Course Structure and Duration**

#### **Open Water Execution**

1. Four dives are required with a minimum accumulated bottom time of 100 minutes

#### **Course Structure**

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

#### **Duration**

1. The minimum number of classroom and briefing hours is 10

### **3.7 Administrative Requirements**

#### **The following is the administrative tasks:**

1. Collect the course fees from all the divemaster candidates
2. Ensure that the divemaster candidates have the required equipment
3. Communicate the training schedule to the divemaster candidates
4. Have the divemaster candidates:
  - a. Complete the *TDI Liability Release and Express Assumption of Risk* form
  - b. Submit the *TDI Medical Statement* form signed by a licensed physician

#### **Upon successful completion of the course the instructor must:**

1. Issue the appropriate TDI certification by submitting the TDI Dive Leader application to TDI Headquarters

### **3.8 Required Equipment**

#### **The following are required for this course:**

1. *TDI Divemaster Manual*
2. *TDI Divemaster Instructor Guide*
3. *TDI Divemaster PowerPoint*
4. *TDI Divemaster* online course (optional)
5. TDI course specific user manuals

#### **The minimum equipment requirements for training by an instructor, divemaster and student are as follows:**

1. Mask and fins
2. Buoyancy compensator device (BCD) with low-pressure power inflator
3. Regulator with submersible pressure gauge; students wearing air integrated hose-less computers are not required to carry a separate submersible pressure gauge
4. Alternate air source
5. Weight system and/or weights



6. Personal dive computer
7. Exposure suit adequate for the training conditions
8. Compressed gas cylinder
9. Compass
10. Knife and rescue signal
11. A dive flag is required on all open water training dives unless otherwise specified by local laws or regulations
12. Extra equipment associated with the particular technical diving activity they are participating in

### **3.9 Required Subject Areas**

Instructor must use the current TDI *Standards and Procedures* Manual but may also use any additional text or materials that they may feel help present these topics. The following topics must be covered during this course:

1. Knowledge Development
  - a. Recreational dive leader
  - b. Diving physics
  - c. Diving physiology
  - d. Diving equipment
  - e. Personal dive skills
  - f. Professional skills

### **3.10 Required Skill Performance and Graduation Requirements**

Divemaster Performance Requirements:

1. Must give a minimum of 2 briefs/debriefs
2. Show preparation, planning, and control in dive management and technical diving activities
3. Four open water dives, at least 2 of which must be at the highest divemaster level being applied for
4. Training dives must not exceed the divemaster candidate's current experience
5. Upon successful completion of the dives, students must complete their logbooks and the instructor must sign off on the completed dives
6. Students must demonstrate all the skills required in the previous courses at divemaster quality in leadership level equipment. Skills include:
  - a. Diving equipment assembly and disassembly
  - b. Equipment inspection
  - c. Entries and exits
  - d. Proper weighting and buoyancy control
  - e. Regulator recovery
  - f. Controlled descents and ascents
  - g. Underwater swimming
  - h. Buddy system techniques
  - i. Weight /ballast system removal and replacement



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- j. Scuba system removal and replacement
  - k. Out-of-air emergency alternatives
  - l. Equipment care and maintenance

**In order to complete this course, students must:**

1. Satisfactorily complete the TDI written or online divemaster examination with a minimum score of 80 percent, 100 percent remediation
2. Satisfactorily complete the TDI written examination for the specific course they are applying for a divemaster rating in
3. Complete all water requirements
4. Demonstrate mature and sound judgment concerning dive planning and execution