



Diver Code of Conduct

Introduction:

As a financial member of Nautilus Scuba Club (Club) and a scuba diver, it is important to follow a Diver Code of Conduct to ensure your safety, protect the environment, and maintain a positive experience for yourself and fellow divers. This will ensure that all club members behave in a respectful and consistent manner when scuba diving and that our diving operator sponsors understand the Club has a Diver Code of Conduct in place.

By committing to this Diver Code of Conduct you can contribute to the enjoyment and long-term sustainability of the sport and ensure that the reputation of the Nautilus Scuba Club is maintained at the highest possible standard within the Far North Queensland dive industry and with our sponsors.

Members agree that failure to follow these guidelines may result in cancellation of their club membership by the Club committee of management.

Code of Conduct Guidelines:

- 1. Follow Diving Operators Rules and Procedures.** At all times it is required that club members follow the Diving Operators rules and procedures. Members who fail to follow the rules and procedures of Dive Operators or Dive Trip Leaders may be excluded from further diving for the remainder of the Dive Trip. Any incident that requires intervention by either the Dive Operator or the Dive Trip Leader will be reported to the Club Committee and may result in the cancellation of the diver's club membership.
- 2. Dive within Your Limits:** Only dive to depths that match your certification and experience level. Do not push beyond your comfort zone or engage in activities for which you are not adequately trained or qualified.
- 3. Complete Pre-Dive Checks:** Always conduct pre-dive safety checks, including proper gear inspection and setup. Ensure that your equipment is in good working order, your tank is filled correctly, and all safety devices are in place.
- 4. Respect Marine Life and Environment:** Treat the underwater environment with respect and care. Do not touch, harass, or disturb marine life or coral formations. Avoid kicking up sediment and damaging the reef. Do not collect items or artifacts from the dive site as souvenirs.
- 5. Cultural Sensitivity:** When participating in diving trips in different locations, divers should respect local customs, cultures, and traditions. They should inform themselves about cultural sensitivities and guidelines specific to the dive destination.
- 6. Respectful Behaviour:** At all times divers should respect the role of the Club Trip Leader and the Dive Operator and follow the rules of trip participation and diving operation as directed.



Diver Code of Conduct

The diver should also show respect and consideration to the other trip participants and members of the public.

- 7. Dive Buddies and Communication:** Dive with a buddy and maintain regular communication throughout the dive. Practice the buddy system and ensure you are aware of each other's location and well-being. Establish and agree upon hand signals before the dive.
- 8. Plan and Execute Safe Dives:** Plan your dives carefully, considering factors such as currents, visibility, and depth. Follow proper ascent and descent rates and maintain proper buoyancy control. Monitor your air supply and always end the dive with enough breathing gas for a safe ascent and safety stop.
- 9. Observe Dive Site Rules and Regulations:** Respect local dive site rules, regulations, and any restrictions imposed by authorities. Obtain the necessary permits or permissions, and adhere to specified entry and exit points, mooring buoys, and dive flags.
- 10. No Decompression Limits:** Always follow proper safety stops as recommended for your dive profile and your decompression limits.
- 11. Alcohol and Drug Policy:** No consumption of alcohol or drugs before or during dives. These substances can impair judgment, coordination, and response times, thereby increasing the risk of accidents.
- 12. Take Care of Your Health:** Ensure you are physically fit and in good health before diving. If you have any medical conditions that could affect your diving, seek advice from a qualified medical professional. Stay properly hydrated and avoid diving if you are feeling unwell or excessively fatigued.
- 13. Continued Education and Training:** Engage in ongoing training and education to enhance your diving skills, knowledge, and safety awareness. Consider pursuing advanced certifications and specialty courses to expand your diving capabilities.

By applying for financial membership of the Nautilus Scuba Club Inc you agree if accepted as a financial member you will follow this Diver Code of Conduct at all times. This includes but is not limited to:

1. Purchasing of equipment, products or servicing of all diving related equipment.
2. Club organised diving trips local or overseas.
3. Local operator organised diving trips.
4. Sponsor organised diving trips.