

## WATERFRONT DIVING CENTER TRAINING AND SHOP PROTOCOLS

Waterfront Diving Center has developed a set of safety protocols for teaching SCUBA and snorkeling in the era of the Covid-19 pandemic. Several research-based sources were consulted to arrive at these guidelines, including the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Divers Alert Network (DAN) and the Vermont Department of Health (VDOH).

Although SCUBA diving is not specifically addressed in the CDC or VDOH material, their guidance was incorporated into all the shore-side aspects of learning to dive. DAN does have specific guidelines for diving activity itself. Although no single set of protocols is perfect, Waterfront Diving Center has adopted those guidelines which we feel are most appropriate and provides the greatest degree of safety and peace of mind for the activity of diving. Ultimately, it is up to the individual, or the parents, to decide on their own level of risk tolerance.

Following are protocols which we expect students to follow while enrolled in any of our on-site courses.

- Face coverings must be worn at all times while in the shop, or outside when social distancing is not possible.
- Temperatures will be taken with a non-contact thermometer prior to entering the building. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will not be allowed in the building.
- Hand sanitation stations are placed at each entrance of our building and must be used prior to entering. Sanitizing hands frequently during the day is highly encouraged.
- Anyone who has had close contact with an individual with Covid-19 is asked not to enter the building and wait for 14 days without symptoms before doing so.
- Anyone who is not feeling well, or has symptoms consistent with Covid-19, such as a cough, fever, muscle pain, chills, respiratory problems, or a loss of taste or smell, is asked not to enter the building.
- Students should have their own diving mask, fins, snorkels, and booties.
- All students should sanitize their equipment prior to and after use. Instructors will provide instruction on how to do this properly.
- Students should not share personal equipment with others during classes and it is recommended sharing outside of classes be discouraged.

In addition to the safety protocols for training mentioned above, we have instituted some changes in the way we conduct business in the shop to enhance safety. These measures include:

- Sanitizing frequently touched surfaces at least three times during the day
- Increasing air-flow throughout the shop and leaving doors and windows open whenever possible.
- Spreading out tables and chairs to maximize social distancing possibilities.
- Limiting the maximum number of occupants in the shop to ten.

Following all the above guidelines does not ensure that a person will not become infected by the Covid-19 virus. As mentioned above, individuals must determine the level of risk they are willing to accept. Please feel free to call with any questions, or concerns.