

Standard 2.A.4

CMAS Introductory SCUBA Experience Training Programme

1. Aim of the training programme

1.1 This training programme aims at providing interested persons with an introductory SCUBA diving experience, to a maximum depth of ten (10) meters under the direct supervision of a CMAS Instructor, whilst using air as a breathing gas, in a safe manner.

2. Classification

2.1 The CMAS Introductory SCUBA Experience Training Programme is classified as an entry-level sport diver training programme that is commonly referred to as a “resort course”.

3. Instructor and Assistant Requirements

3.1 The CMAS Introductory SCUBA Experience Training Programme may be presented by any CMAS Instructor with a minimum of a CMAS One Star Instructor grading that complies with the requirements as prescribed by Clause 2.1.20 of the definitions in Chapter 1.

3.2 The CMAS One Star Instructor may be assisted by a CMAS Dive Leader that complies with Clause 2.1.21 of the definitions in Chapter 1.

4. Competencies of a certified CMAS Introductory SCUBA Experience Diver

4.1 A CMAS Introductory SCUBA Experience Diver shall be trained such that when assessed by a CMAS Instructor, he shall be deemed to have sufficient knowledge, skill and experience to participate in an open water introductory SCUBA dive.

4.2 A CMAS Introductory SCUBA Experience Diver may only dive under the direct supervision of a CMAS Instructor and is not qualified to procure air, equipment, or any other diving services.

5. Prerequisites for participation in the training programme

5.1 In order to gain access to the CMAS Introductory SCUBA Experience Training Programme, the participant shall:

5.1.1 Be at least fourteen (14) years of age; there is no upper limit;

5.1.2 Effectively demonstrate his basic watermanship ability by performing, to a CMAS Instructor, the prescribed physical conditioning and watermanship evaluation of the CMAS Federation or CDC;

5.1.3 Complete the medical history/statement form required by the CMAS Federation or CDC prior to participating in any in-water activities; and

5.1.4 Sign the appropriate form(s) as required by the CMAS Federation or CDC acknowledging and assuming the risks of SCUBA diving prior to participating in any in-water activities. Parental or legal guardian signature is required on the appropriate form(s) when the applicant is a minor.

6. Requirements for certification

6.1 In order to be certified as a CMAS Introductory SCUBA Experience Diver, the student shall:

- 6.1.1 Comply with all the prerequisites for participation in the training programme as prescribed by Clause 5 of this Standard;
- 6.1.2 Successfully complete the theoretical assessment as provided for in Clause 10.1 of this Standard;
- 6.1.3 Successfully complete the confined water assessment as provided for in Clause 10.2 of this Standard; and
- 6.1.4 Successfully complete one (1) open water training dive at depths between five (5) to ten (10) meters with a minimum underwater duration of fifteen (15) minutes, as provided for in Clause 10.3 of this Standard.

7. Required theoretical knowledge and diving skills

7.1 The participant shall receive tuition in the theoretical knowledge and diving skills as prescribed in Syllabus 3.4 in Chapter 3.

8. Theoretical training parameters

8.1 The CMAS Instructor shall conform to the standard theoretical training parameters as prescribed by Clause 4.5 of Chapter 1.

9. Practical training parameters

9.1 The CMAS Instructor shall conform to the standard practical training parameters as prescribed by Clause 4.6 of Chapter 1 with the following exceptions:

- 9.1.1 The **maximum** number of students for confined and open water training is four (4) students per CMAS Instructor. Two (2) additional students per certified CMAS Dive Leader may be added up to a maximum of six (6) students per CMAS Instructor. Although additional CMAS Dive Leaders may be used, no additional students may be added to the responsibility of the individual CMAS Instructor. **These ratios are considered maximum and can be reduced by CMAS Federations and CDC's to suit the environmental conditions or other factors in their respective countries.**
- 9.1.2 During any introductory SCUBA dive, the CMAS Instructor may not engage in any other activities other than direct supervision. If other activities such as video or photography are conducted, then a separate certified assistant is to be used for such activities.

10. Assessment

10.1 Knowledge

10.1.1 The participant shall demonstrate to the CMAS Instructor knowledge of SCUBA diving by taking an oral or written examination. As the CMAS Introductory SCUBA Experience Diver is not recognised as a certified diver this examination shall test elementary theoretical knowledge and knowledge of SCUBA skills as prescribed in Syllabus 3.A.4 in Chapter 3.

10.2 Confined water SCUBA skills

10.2.1 The participant shall demonstrate to the CMAS Instructor his mastery of the confined water SCUBA skills, as prescribed in Clause 2.1 of Syllabus 3.4 in Chapter 3, during one or more of the confined water lessons.

10.3 Open water SCUBA skills

10.3.1 The participant shall be required to participate in one (1) introductory SCUBA dive.

11. Certification

11.1 Upon successful completion of the training programme the participant shall be awarded with a CMAS Introductory SCUBA Experience C-card.