

Standard Number: 2.B.35 / BOD no 193 (05-05-2016)

CMAS Cave Diver 1(Cavern Diver) Standard

1. Aim of the training programme

1.1 The CMAS Cave Diver 1 Training Programme is designed to develop the minimum skills and knowledge for cavern and overhead environment diving within the limits of light penetration, in addition it outlines specific hazards associated with cave diving. The objective of this course is to train divers in the proper planning, procedures, techniques and hazards of cavern diving. It provides non-CMAS trained divers with a gateway to CMAS training.

2. Classification

2.1 The CMAS Cave Diver 1 Training Programme is classified as an entry level for speciality diver training programme.

2.2 The CMAS Cave Diver 1 course is in no way intended to provide instruction for cave diving.

3. Instructor and Assistant Requirements

3.1 The CMAS Cave Diver 1 Training Programme may be presented by any CMAS Cave instructor in active status with a minimum of a CMAS ONE Star Instructor grading.

3.2 CMAS Cave Diver 3 (Full Cave Diver) level may be presented by an assistant but not more than one (1) assistant per one (1) instructor

3.3 Student - Instructor ratios:

3.3.1 In open water, confined area: max. four (4) students per one (1) instructor

3.3.2 In Zone 1: max. three (3) students per 1 instructor under normal (average) or above average conditions. Max. 2 students per 1 instructor under less than average conditions but still within the frame of Zone 1 definitions.

3.3.3 It is in the responsibility of the instructor to monitor all students at all times during the dive.

4. Competencies of a certified CMAS Cave Diver 1

4.1 A CMAS Cave Diver 1 upon successful completion of this course may engage in cavern diving activities without direct supervision as long as the following limits are adhered to:

4.1.1 Two (2) up to a maximum of three (3) certified Cave Divers 1 (Cavern Divers) are competent to dive without supervision or guidance of a cave diver of higher qualification level;

4.1.2 In the Daylight Zone (Zone 1), i.e. within sight of the cavern entrance. The cavern has all the characteristics as defined for Zone 1 (size of passages, guidelines etc.);

4.1.3 The dive site is familiar to them;

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- 4.1.4 The actual circumstances at the dive site (visibility, current etc.) are identical or at least come close to those encountered during their training;
- 4.1.5 Penetration is limited to one-third (1/3) of available gas volume;
- 4.1.6 Maximum fifty (50) linear meters from the surface;
- 4.1.7 Maximum twenty (20) meters in depth;
- 4.1.8 No decompression diving;
- 4.1.9 No restrictions: No areas too small for two (2) divers to pass side-by-side;
- 4.1.10 No jumps;
- 4.1.11 Safety stops as appropriate or necessary;
- 4.1.12 Maintain a continuous guideline;
- 4.1.13 Proper Cavern diving equipment is used.

5. Prerequisites for participation in the training programme

- 5.1 In order to gain access to the Cavern Diving Training Programme, the participant shall:
 - 5.1.1 Be at least sixteen (16) years of age; there is no upper limit;
 - 5.1.2 Hold a CMAS Two Star Diver or equivalent certification;
 - 5.1.3 Hold recommended specialty certificates: CMAS UW-Orientation / Navigation, CMAS Night Diver or equivalent
 - 5.1.4 Have the aptitudes as described in the CMAS Advanced Skill course;
 - 5.1.5 Have logged a minimum of (twenty five) 25 open water dives of which (five) 5 are night dives;
 - 5.1.6 Complete the medical history/statement form required by the CMAS Federation prior to participating in any in-water activities.
 - 5.1.7 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 Cave Diver 1, the student shall:
 - 6.1.1 Comply with all the prerequisites for participation in the training programme according to the CMAS standards.
 - 6.1.2 Successfully complete the theoretical assessment according to the CMAS standards.
 - 6.1.3 Successfully complete the practical skills assessment according to the CMAS standards.

7. Required theoretical knowledge and diving skills

- 7.1 The participant shall receive tuition in the theoretical knowledge and practical skills according to the CMAS standards.

8. Theoretical training parameters

8.1 The CMAS Instructor shall comply with the theoretical training parameters according to the CMAS standards.

9. Practical training parameters

9.1 The CMAS Instructor shall comply with the practical training parameters according to the CMAS Standards.

10. Assessment

10.1 Knowledge

10.1.1 The participant shall demonstrate to the CMAS Instructor knowledge of CMAS Cave Diver 1 (Cavern Diver) diving theory and techniques by taking and passing a written examination. This examination shall measure Cavern Diver diving theory and techniques.

10.2 Practical skills

10.2.1 The participant shall demonstrate to the CMAS Instructor their mastery of CMAS Cavern Diving practical skills during a practical skills assessment session.

11. Certification

11.1 Upon successful completion of the training programme the participant shall be awarded with a CMAS Cave Diver 1 C-card.