

WUC Scooter Guideline

This document outlines the arrangement that is in place for divers to use the Club scooters. Read this document in conjunction with the Wellington Underwater Club Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for scuba dive activities.

Prerequisites for Scooter Use

Before a Club member is allowed to use the Club scooters the person must full-fill the following prerequisites:

- You are a WUC member and you are current for the ongoing club year (e.g. have signed the latest member disclaimer and paid your subs).
- You are familiar and adhere to the WUC SOP for scuba dive activities.
- You are DPV certified by an international training agency.
- You have obtained and read the relevant manufacturer's manual (Halcyon DPV R14 scooter) and had an introduction to this specific scooter model.
- You have signed the WUC Scooter Disclaimer and understand the financial liability using the Club scooters (refer to insurance policy for events not covered in the policy and the insurance excess).
- You agree to follow the WUC guideline for scooter use.

Club Mentoring and Approval Scheme for Scooter Use

A mentoring scheme is set up to allow newly certified divers to gain more experience using scooters while diving with more experienced club members. Divers will get opportunities to plan dives, gain good basic skills and situational awareness while scootering. The number of dives under the mentoring scheme will depend on skill level and previous experience of the diver.

Approval of divers to be allowed to hire scooters for use with any other approved divers is a decision made by the WUC Committee on the basis of divers having gained practical experience in addition to a basic certification.

Definitions:

Certified: Divers have obtained a scooter dive certification are now allowed to scooter dive with club mentors only. If certification was obtained on another model to the Club scooters an introduction to the Halcyon DPV R14 has to be obtained by the mentors.

Approved: Divers who have obtained a certification and have gone through mentoring scheme or have obtained relevant experience. Divers have also been introduced to Halcyon DPV R14 during certification or mentoring.

Mentor: Divers who are approved by the committee to buddy up with newly certified scooter divers. The Club will be building up a group of divers experienced in use of scooters and with knowledge of the local dive sites.

Basic Maintenance: Scooter divers who are approved by WUC Committee to perform basic maintenance (e.g. change & charge batteries, fresh to saltwater weight adjustment, cleaning of O-ring surfaces and lubricating of O-ring, appropriate storage) and set up scooters for next use.

Advanced Maintenance: Refer to maintenance requirements in Halcyon DPV R14 manual.

How the WUC mentoring scheme works:

Divers that have obtained a recognised scooter certification are allocated the **certified scooter diver status**. Certified scooter divers have to go through the mentoring scheme as outlined below and dive with Club mentors gaining additional experience before the committee agrees to allocate the diver the **approved scooter diver status**. The number of experience dives required will vary with the individual skills and progress of the diver:

- Diver obtained a GUE DPV1 dive certificate and introduction to Club model:
The diver is fully capable of performing scooter dives as well as mentoring other divers.
- Diver with GUE Fundamentals (rec or tec pass) and PADI or SDI DPV course certificate (or equivalent):
A **minimum of two additional dives** with mentors before approval is required.
- Diver with PADI or other dive certificate by international dive organisation:
 - Diver with more than 100 logged dives in a variety of conditions, including cold water and local dive experience and with PADI / SDI DPV (or equivalent) course certificate:
A **minimum of two additional dives** with mentors before approval.
 - Diver with less experience than above:
A **minimum of four additional dives** with mentors before approval.
- The ongoing familiarisation requirements are: a refresher dive and introduction to scooter handling basics with Club mentors if the diver hasn't used a scooter in 6 months.
- The Club will organise regular scooter workshops (e.g. covering model specific introduction, basic maintenance, dive planning or specific skill focus) run with other club activities or through the mentoring scheme.

Maintenance of Club Scooters

Basic Maintenance – additional committee approval required

The following tasks are referred to as **basic maintenance and require specific committee approval**:

- Remove, replace and recharge batteries
- Adjust trim weights for use in fresh and salt water
- Clean O-ring support surfaces, apply silicon grease (no spray lubes!)
- Occasionally lubricate the lock knob screw with mineral grease.

Advanced Maintenance – only by professional service provider:

- Approximately every **50 uses**: remove the closing knob gasket with pliers, clean gaskets and lubricate with marine grease.
- Every **100h** or at least every **two years**: overhaul the HDV checking hydraulic seals and electrical circuits
- Scuba Equipment Servicing LTD (Wellington, Rob Edward), TecDive NZ (Tutukaka, Jamie Obern) and other professional service providers servicing Halcyon DPV R-14 models

Scooter Pick up and Return

Pick up Scooter & Pre-Dive Checks

Scooters are readily set up for the dives on pick up. Never open the scooter without being approved to perform basic maintenance by the committee. Scooters should be returned rinsed with freshwater and dry. If this is not possible, other arrangements have to be made beforehand.

Pre-Dive Check:

- Head cap is closed correctly
- Propeller can move freely (main switch off)
- Main switch and trigger: pull trigger for no more than 2 seconds
- Switch main switch off

Refer to transport section for scooter handling and transport

Return Scooter & Post-Dive Checks

Post-Dive Check:

- Confirm scooter is switched off when finishing the dive
- Check if foreign objects are caught in the propeller
- Rinse scooter with running fresh water and return dry
Specifically check the closing knob is free off sand
- Return tow harness and transport cod (if applicable)
- On return complete return section of the hire form:
 - Note your dive duration (approx. time of scooter use)
 - Note any observations (faults observed – sound / mechanical, slow sinking, collisions, scratches, accidents)

Reminders - Equipment Configuration:

In addition to your standard dive equipment you need to have a cutting device, hood for long hair, SMB/whistle or alternative communication device (e.g. nautilus);

The dive equipment needs to be set-up correctly (no elements should protrude or be left dangling), you need to be able to easily detach scooter at any time, you have to attach the scooter to the crotch strap of your harness;

Refer to Halcyon Scooter Manual for more details.

Reminders – Handling Scooters outside the water:

Refer to user manual on how to correctly transport and handle scooters (e.g. use transport cod, never put scooters nose down on the ground, carry them with one hand on the handle and the other on the propeller protector), don't leave scooter exposed to excess heat (e.g. in the car).

Transport

- Road Transport – Scooters have to be fully closed for transport. Details on how to handle scooter will be covered in the user manual and training workshop.
- If scooters are to be used outside the Greater Wellington Region the Club will have to be notified (e.g. club trips or multi day hire).
- There are special considerations regarding transport of scooters by plane. Club committee approval for transport by plane must be thought

More information will be made available on WUC scooter use scheme. In the meanwhile please contact wellington.underwater@gmail.com or call Rob Edward (021 535378) or Nicole Miller (0210 549865).