

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE U.W.A. UNDERWATER CLUB (Inc.)

1. CURRENT FEES (EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2024)

1.1 Membership

Membership 1st November to 31st October			
	Student or WA Concession Card Holder	Full Member	Associate Membership (Non-Diving)
Full Year (1st November to 31st October)	\$50.00	\$150.00	\$20
Half Year (1st May to 31st October)	\$25.00	\$80.00	\$20
Temporary membership. Must be visiting WA or leaving WA imminently. Maximum 2 months.	\$20.00	\$60.00	NA

1.2 Scuba Equipment

Item	Week Hire 5 - 8 days	
	Student	Non-Student
Type of Member		
BCD + Reg	\$20.00	\$25.00
Tanks ⁱ	\$10.00	\$15.00
BC + Reg + 1 Tank + Weights	\$30.00	\$35.00
BC + Reg + 2 Tanks + Weights	\$35.00	\$55.00

- i. Tank must be returned full. Failure to do so will incur a \$30 fee.
- ii. Overdue equipment will be charged at Week Hire rate until returned. If members cannot return gear on time they must phone a committee member or shed volunteer to explain, which may save a late fee.
- iii. All gear must be washed on return to clubrooms; a \$50 fine will result otherwise.
- iv. Gear abuse will merit a \$50 fine plus repair costs.
- v. Failure to return weights will be charged at \$30 per half-week.
- vi. Wetsuits, fins, boots, masks and snorkels may be hired free of charge if renting a full set of equipment.
- vii. Gear hire may be provided for free at the discretion of the executive.
- viii. Tanks returned without DIN inserts will be charged at \$50.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE U.W.A. UNDERWATER CLUB (Inc.)

1.3 Metropolitan Club Boat Trips

Location	Student	Non-Student	
Single [^]	\$45.00	\$60.00	Minimum of 5* (including skipper)
Double	\$70.00	\$85.00	Minimum of 5* (including skipper)
Tech Trip	\$100.00	\$125.00	Minimum of 4* (including skipper)
Snorkelling or Rotto Day Trip	\$45.00	\$60.00	Minimum of 5* (including skipper)

[^] Single Dive must be closer to the departure point, i.e. No Rottneest west end due to fuel use.

* Minimum number of people on the boat can be varied with majority approval of the UUC Executive.

2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1 UUC membership follows below categories:

- a. Student or WA Concession Card Holder (Must hold valid full time student card, or WA Concession Card);
- b. Full Member (UWA Staff, UWA Graduates, Graduates of other Universities, General Public);
- c. Associate Member, Non-Diving membership which offers access to snorkelling trips and non-scuba events.

2.2 Persons applying to be diving members (excludes associate members) of the club must hold a minimum PADI Open Water scuba diving qualification or equivalent.

2.3 New members must send photos of certifications to uwauc.committee@gmail.com when applying for membership.

2.4 Members must agree to and sign to the following disclaimer:

I understand that scuba diving is a potentially dangerous sport which I undertake at my own risk.

Except to the extent hereinafter provided for, neither the University of W.A. Underwater Club (Inc.) (hereinafter referred to as the "the Club") nor its members, servants or agents shall be liable for any injury, loss or damage (including any indirect or consequential injury, loss or damage) howsoever caused whether resulting from negligence on the part of the Club and/or its members, servants or agents or otherwise.

Nothing in the preceding paragraph shall be taken to exclude liability on the part of the Club and/or its members, servants or agents for any injury, loss or damage (including any indirect or consequential injury, loss or damage) in circumstances where any policy of insurance covers the Club and/or its members, servants or agents but liability in such circumstances shall be limited solely to the risks and amounts recoverable under such policy or policies of insurance.

Nothing in the foregoing shall be taken to impose any duty howsoever arising on the Club or its members, servants or agents to effect any policy of insurance whatsoever.

The disclaimer contained in the preceding paragraphs shall extend to cover all activities carried on or organised by the Club or in which the Club otherwise participates and to all activities carried on, organised or otherwise participated in by persons acting in their capacity as members, servants or agents of the Club.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE U.W.A. UNDERWATER CLUB (Inc.)

I have read the rules of the club and understand that it is my responsibility to comply with them at all times.

- 2.5 Life members are nominated through the UWA Sports and Recreation Association. All membership fees for life members will be met by the club as long as they remain active within the club (at the committee's discretion).

The Club will make available temporary membership for divers who are visiting Perth for a short period of time and also divers who will be leaving Perth, shortly. Temporary membership will last for 2 weeks, member's names will be placed on the membership list and they will be required to produce ID when hiring gear.

- 2.6 Membership is non-refundable after a two-week cooling off period. Refunds will incur a \$15 administration fee. Exceptions may be approved upon approval of a UUC Executive.

3. GEAR HIRE

- 3.1 All club equipment is only available for use by club members.
- 3.2 Club trips have priority on equipment hire.
- 3.3 Each club member may hire a maximum of 2 tanks, 1 regulator, 1 BC. Should a member require the gear for more than 8 days, a request must be approved by the Shed Co-ordinator.
- 3.4 When demand dictates, members may be asked to take 1 large and 1 small tank, or only 1 tank.
- 3.5 Members are responsible for:
- The gear signed out to them,
 - Returning it washed and in good condition, and
 - Securing it against theft.
- 3.6 Committee members and shed volunteers are the only persons authorised to rent out club equipment.
- 3.7 All fees to be paid strictly before the equipment is taken.
- 3.8 No refund for unused items of equipment except for cancelled club trips.
- 3.9 It is the member's responsibility to check gear you have hired before you leave club rooms, i.e. attach the regulator and BC to the tank and check that the tank is full and regulator and BC are working. Faulty equipment must be reported.
- 3.10 Non-approved members shall not carry out any repairs or mechanical adjustments to club equipment whatsoever. Any problems must be reported on return of gear.
- 3.11 The Club shall not be held liable for any ancillary or consequential damages or costs arising from the malfunction or failure of equipment leased or rented by the Club.

4. USE OF CLUB EQUIPMENT

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE U.W.A. UNDERWATER CLUB (Inc.)

- 4.1 The Club will meet only those costs incurred due to normal wear and tear to club equipment.
- 4.2 The Club will not meet costs incurred through loss or damage to private equipment.
- 4.3 No smoking on the boat or in the clubrooms.
- 4.4 When under way, the boat is only to be under the command of club approved skippers, or the Large Equipment Officer with RST, or club appointed contractors
- 4.5 Only financial club members may dive from the club boat. Social members can attend trips for non-diving purposes.
- 4.6 Skippers and club appointed contractors may tow the boat. Members who tow the boat not under the supervision of a skipper must be approved by the majority of the UUC Executive and Large Equipment Officer.
- 4.7 Boat skippers incur no boat fees for trips. There is only one free spot per boat outing.
- 4.8 Water skiing, wakeboarding, surfing or tube towing behind the Club boat is prohibited.

5. CLUB TRIPS

- 5.1 The criteria for Club Trips are:
 - a. Open to any current suitably qualified club member
 - b. All members are entitled to a place on the boat at all times, providing space is available. Divers will be given priority, subject to skipper/trip organiser's discretion.
 - c. Notice will be given to members via the club's communication channels in advance.
 - 5.2 Extended trip budget must have majority approval by the UUC Executive.
 - 5.3 Day Trip Refund Policy
 - d. If a trip is cancelled by the skipper, all booking payments for the trip will be refunded.
 - e. Member withdrawal or no shows are non-refundable, unless approved by a UUC Executive.
 - f. Members may find an alternative member to replace their spot, with approval of the Skipper, dive coordinator or a member of the UUC Executive, up to 48 hrs prior to dive. A \$15 administration fee will be charged.
 - g. All requests for refund must be made in writing to the UUC Committee via email within 7 days of the date of conclusion of the event.
 - 5.4 Extended Trip Refund Policy
 - a. Trip cancellation or trip alteration by the Club may receive a refund minus non-refundable club incurred expenses.
 - b. Member withdrawal or no shows are non-refundable, unless approved by a member of UUC Executive.
 - c. Members may find an alternative member to replace their spot with approval of Trip Coordinator or a member of UUC Executive, up to 72 hrs prior to trip departure. A minimum
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RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE U.W.A. UNDERWATER CLUB (Inc.)

\$30 administration fee will be charged. If it is greater than this the amount will be specified on the trip booking.

- d. All requests for refund must be made in writing to the UUC Committee via email within 7 days of the date of conclusion of the event.

6. CERTIFICATION OF BOAT SKIPPERS

6.1 The approval of boat skippers requires:

- a. A Western Australian Recreational Skippers Ticket (RST);
- b. A Short Range Operator Certificate of Proficiency (SROCP) or higher;
- c. Practical experience with the club boat, under the instruction of an approved skipper;
- d. Nomination by two club skippers;
- e. Approval by the majority of the UUC Executive.

6.2 The Exec may, at its discretion, award active skippers free annual membership based on their contribution to the club.

7. FUEL CARDS

7.1 Fuel cards are issued exclusively to certified approved members and are intended for the purpose of refuelling the club boat and truck.

7.2 The fuel card must not be used for any personal transactions or any vehicle/equipment not belonging to the club without prior approval from the UUC Executive.

7.3 Lost or stolen fuel cards should be immediately reported to the Large Equipment Officer and/or the UUC Executive.

7.4 Skippers are accountable for the safekeeping and appropriate use of the fuel cards. Misuse or unauthorized transactions may result in revocation of the card and potential disciplinary actions.

7.5 Fuel cards are non-transferable. Skippers must not lend, share, or otherwise permit use of the card by anyone other than the cardholder.

7.6 Any discrepancies, suspected misuse, or unauthorized transactions should be promptly reported to the UUC Executive.

7.7 All disputes regarding fuel card use or transactions will be reviewed by the UUC Executive. Their decision on such matters will be considered final.

7.8 Skippers are expected to ensure that the club boat and truck are refuelled after use, so they are ready for subsequent trips or events.

7.9 Misuse of the fuel card which results in financial loss to the club may result in the skipper being liable for the full amount of the unauthorized transaction(s).

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE U.W.A. UNDERWATER CLUB (Inc.)

8. BOAT DIVING PRACTICES

- 8.1 The skipper will nominate a member onboard to maintain the boat dive log on the club boat. It is the responsibility of each diver to ensure that their dives are recorded in the boat dive log. The boat dive log will record (as a minimum):
- a. Time entering water
 - b. Time exiting water
 - c. Tank pressure at start of dive
 - d. Tank pressure at the end of dive
 - e. Maximum depth
- 8.2 It is the responsibility of Members to observe safe diving practice and to dive within the limits of their qualifications and their experience. Safe diving practice includes adhering to the buddy system, ascending at a safe rate and completing a safety stop on all dives.
- 8.3 Upon approval of the Skipper, solo diving is permitted if an individual is appropriately certified and has all the necessary equipment for solo diving. The dive must be planned prior to entering, and the dive plan shared with the skipper and boat watch.
- 8.4 Divers without decompression dive qualifications shall not perform decompression dives.
- 8.5 It is the responsibility of Members to dive with appropriate equipment, including BC, regulator, dive computer, and Surface Marker Buoy.
- 8.6 It is the responsibility of Members to know how to use their equipment.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE U.W.A. UNDERWATER CLUB (Inc.)

9. CONSERVATION

- 9.1 The club adopts the ethic that edible marine life is for consumption by club members and not sold or traded for financial gain.
- 9.2 No member is allowed to return from a club outing with more than one day's bag limit of edible fish, shellfish or crustaceans, regardless of the length of the outing.
- 9.3 On club outings no live shellfish may be taken for collecting purposes, unless for scientific research with appropriate collecting permit.
- 9.4 All state and federal rules and regulations are to be strictly adhered to.
- 9.5 A club skipper or trip organiser has the right to declare more stringent restrictions on club outings that they are organising, including no catching.
- 9.6 Spearfishing is not permitted on club trips.

10. SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION

- 10.1 A member may be suspended or expelled as per Section 13 of The University of W.A. Underwater Club Incorporated Constitution