

Risk Assessment – Frequently Asked Questions

Q Do divers need to produce a formal Risk Assessment for every activity to comply with HSE?

A *No. Recreational divers are not required to comply with HSE regulations. However a basic 'duty of care' is always required. For BSAC members producing a thorough dive plan, logging the dive with a marshalling slate, diving according to BSAC Safe Diving Practices – this **is a Risk Assessment**.*

Q So what's the advantage in doing a Risk Assessment?

A *Some facilities (swimming pools and inland dive sites) require a more formal document as a condition of hiring. The process of preparing a RA may highlight a hazard previously not considered. A RA projects a very professional image and is reassuring to members.*

Q What qualifications are necessary to produce a Risk Assessment?

A *None – just commonsense, good diving and diver safety skills and reference to the BSAC RA Guidelines. The BSAC have also produced a PowerPoint presentation with Instructor Notes for Branches to present to members.*

Q We have members diving a variety of different sites. Do we have to do a RA for each one?

A *No. Once you have a 'generic' RA produced, the Dive marshal can add any other relevant considerations, as appropriate to the site – in conjunction with the usual marshalling duties.*