

## **3. Scubility Snorkel Diver Course**

### **3.1 Introduction**

This snorkeling course is designed to give students the necessary skills to safely snorkel in conditions similar to their training without the direct supervision of an instructor.

**Note:** Snorkeling under the supervision of a qualified SDI Scubility Dive Buddy may be required

### **3.2 Qualifications of Graduates**

Upon successful completion of this course, graduates may:

1. Snorkel in conditions similar to their training
2. Enroll in an SDI Open Water Scuba Diver Course

### **3.3 Who May Teach**

An active SDI Scubility Instructor

### **3.4 Student to Instructor Ratio**

#### **Academic**

1. Unlimited, so long as adequate facility, supplies and time are provided to ensure comprehensive and complete training of the subject matter

#### **Confined Water (swimming pool-like conditions)**

1. A maximum of 2 students per instructor
2. Instructors have the option of adding 2 more students with the assistance of an active SDI Scubility trained Divemaster, for a total of 4 students

#### **Open Water (ocean, lake, quarry, spring, river or estuary)**

1. A maximum of 2 students per instructor; it is the instructor's discretion to reduce this number as conditions dictate
2. Instructors have the option of adding 2 more students with the assistance of an active SDI Scubility trained Divemaster, for a total of 4 students

### **3.5 Student Prerequisites**

1. Minimum age 18, 8 with parental consent

## 3.6 Course Structure and Duration

### Open Water execution

1. Students must complete 1 snorkeling trip and remain in the water for 20 minutes
2. All snorkeling trips must be completed during daylight hours

### Course Structure

1. SDI allows instructors to structure courses according to the number of students participating and their skill level

### Duration

1. The suggested number of training hours is 4

## 3.7 Administrative Requirements

### Administrative Tasks:

1. Collect the course fees from all the students
2. Ensure that the students have the required equipment
3. Communicate the schedule to the students
4. Have the students complete the:
  - a. *SDI Liability Release and Express Assumption of Risk Form*
  - b. *SDI Medical Statement Form*

### Upon successful completion of the course the Instructor must:

1. Issue the appropriate SDI certification by submitting the *SDI Diver Registration* form to SDI Headquarters or registering the students online through member's area of the SDI website

### Or

1. Issue the SDI Snorkel card through the facility

## 3.8 Required Equipment

Basic SDI snorkeling equipment, including mask, snorkel and fins

### 3.9 Required Subject Areas

**Instructors may use any additional text or materials that they feel help present these topics. The following topics must be covered during this course:**

1. The Aquatic Environment
  - a. Vision
  - b. Light
  - c. Sound
  - d. Heat loss
  - e. Tides
  - f. Currents
  - g. Waves
  - h. Surge
  - i. Marine Life injuries
2. Physics and Physiology
  - a. Buoyancy
  - b. Pressure
  - c. Equalization Techniques
3. Snorkeling Equipment
  - a. Mask, fins, and snorkel
  - b. Exposure protection
  - c. Buoyancy compensator device or snorkeling vest
  - d. Weight systems
4. Accessories
  - a. Dive flag
  - b. Rescue signal
  - c. Knife or cutting device
5. Planning your dive
  - a. Diver fitness and overexertion
  - b. Buddy system
  - c. First aid

### **3.10 Required Skill Performance and Graduation Requirements**

**Students are required to successfully complete the following snorkeling skills:**

1. Properly prepare, don, and adjust all snorkeling equipment
2. Perform a buddy check, and demonstrate good use of the buddy system
3. Safely conduct exits and entries either from land or boat; with minimum assistance if required
4. Achieve neutral buoyancy
5. Proper breathing and clearing of a snorkel
6. Swimming; proper use of fins or webbed gloves
7. Proper use of buoyancy compensator device (BCD) / snorkel vest
8. Surface dives
9. Proper use of hand signals

**In order to complete this course, students must:**

1. Demonstrate mature and sound judgment concerning dive planning and execution