

# November 2014 | Newsletter

Hey Team,  
Here is your November Newsletter.

## Dive Ops News:

### - **Logging Staff Dives**

We've recently been training new staff and old staff in the GOT and I would like to review Logging Dives.

**Please record everything that went on the White Board onto the Paper Log before it is erased by the end of the day.**

***Including DPIC & Date***

***Multiple DPIC's w/ a Time Stamp should also be written down if that occurred.***

All dives for Staff, Intern, or Volunteer should be logged both on the White Board and Paper Log Sheet. This is the responsibility of the Dive Team operating that day.

Staff & Interns will Computer Log their own dives, but they need their info written on the Paper Log.

Please also erase the DPIC's name & Emergency Gear PSI on the Whiteboard at the end of the day.

### - **Solo GOT Dives**

As a reminder, Solo GOT Dives cannot happen unless the DPIC is notified. In addition:

1. DPIC has to approve the dive
2. Diver has to be Plugged into a Full Face Mask with Comms active.
3. Comm Box has to be Powered (Top 2 red Switches)
4. Standby Diver should be at the Comm Box
5. Tender should be controlling the Comm Line
6. The Dedicated Emergency Gear cannot be used by the Solo Diver

The Solo GOT Diver should **NOT** be using the dedicated Emergency gear to dive the GOT. Should the diver become entangled or wrapped in the rockwork it is then on the Standby diver to enter the tank and respond as necessary. Standby Diver must have a backup Scuba unit fully setup and ready for response, whether that is their own or the dedicated Emergency Gear.

The Tender should be monitoring the line and attempt to prevent any entanglement. If a situation develops Tender will communicate to the Standby, who will notify the diver by Comms to take action.

If the Diver cannot solve the problem, then the Standby Diver needs to respond.

**Be proactive and work to prevent risk to the Solo Diver.**

### - **Trip Hazards**

Be mindful to minimize Trip Hazards with the new Comm Rope & Vacuum Hose.

The GOT area shares foot traffic with other staff, in addition to Divers. There should always be a clear pathway where you do not need to step over anything.

Both should be coiled neatly immediately when you're retrieving them from the water. It is actually easier to coil them as you retrieve, rather than gathering the whole lot on the floor then stowing it afterwards.

During shows, the procedure to exit divers should go as follows:

1. Retrieve Dive Presenter's Gear on the deck
2. Disconnect and Plug both ends of the Comm Line Connection
3. Stow the Comm Line properly
4. Drop the Dive Ladder and help all divers exit

Following this procedure will reduce diver entanglement when the Comm Line is left in the water.

**Overall I do not want to see the Comm Line or Vacuum Hose left on the ground at any time. It is the Standby Diver's role to deploy and retrieve both.**

## Gear News:

### - **Guardian Purges Breaking**

We've recently been finding cracks developing in the support structure of our Guardians' Purge Assembly. The cracks cause the purge to not fully reset properly, leading to slight free flows or leaks in the Guardians.

I would ask for everyone to take care when pulling gear in and out of the tank.

Do not let the Guardian hit the floor.

When the Guardian hits the floor, the Purge Assembly often takes the whole impact.

Once again we have quick releases on all our Guardians, so you can release the mask, hang it, then haul gear wherever you need.

If we have not briefed you on the Release, please come to Arnold or I.

Below are a couple pictures

1. Cracked support structure next to a new one
2. Quick Release Check Valve



## Foam Fractionator Project:

- Foam Fractionators are now in their proper room and are waiting to be plumbed. We have approximately 2-3 weeks till GOT can be considered fully back to normal.

Plumbing should finish up in about a week and then we'll spend the remaining time acclimating the GOT back to its proper settings.

In the meantime it may start to look worse when we start acclimating.

Everyone has done a great job helping to keep the tank clean. Dive Ops really appreciates your hard work and flexibility as we made these changes.



## Fun Facts:

### - **Water Pulls for SCA**

Our Water Quality pulls approximately 18,000 gallons of water from the Harbor on a 6 day rotation. This has to be done at the highest tide which puts some unusual hours for our 2 WQ Staff.

Hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving and if you're traveling, don't forget to smile!



Cheers,  
- RY

---

**Ryan Yuen**  
Assistant Dive Safety Officer

**South Carolina Aquarium**  
100 Aquarium Wharf  
Charleston, SC 29401

Direct Line: (843) 579-8503  
[ryuen@scaquarium.org](mailto:ryuen@scaquarium.org)  
[www.scaquarium.org](http://www.scaquarium.org)