



Planning For The Future

ScotSAC officials have been thinking about the future of the organisation and some of the key issues that we face ...

BRANCHLINES



DURING THE latter half of 2007, the General Committee of the Scottish Sub Aqua Club (ScotSAC) carried out a lot of work in forming plans for the coming three years. This exercise was designed to coincide with our investment application to SportsScotland and also incorporated many of the comments received from members in the 2006 member survey.

The plan is now complete and underway and a copy can be found on our website. Of course, the formation of the plan is only the first stage, and we can only achieve our aims with the exceptional contributions of our branch members and volunteers.

Minimum Diving Age

We have one proposal for this years AGM relating to the minimum age for aqualung training. The existing training schedule states that the minimum age is 15 years, with discretion given to the National Diving Council (NDC) and the ScotSAC Medical Advisor to permit 14 year olds in exceptional circumstances.

It is now proposed to lower the minimum age for aqualung training to 14 years without the need for such special permission. Branches would of course be permitted to set a minimum age higher than 14, although no higher than 18 years, and the ScotSAC child protection policy and guidelines exist to protect the children and instructors taking part in all our activities.

The AGM will take place on

Sunday, March 16, 2008 at Stirling University.

AGM papers and ballot papers have been sent to all Members and anyone wishing to vote by post must return their form by March 7.

Child Protection Policy
ScotSAC has now adopted a new Child Protection Policy, replacing the previous Child and Vulnerable Adult Policy 2003. A quick guide is available on our website along with the full policy and associated documents.



Within our sport, we have opportunities for child participation and a variety of levels and every child should have the opportunity to take part in the sport in the knowledge that he or she will be safe, secure and respected.

The new guidelines apply to all children and young people under the age of 18 years, and apply across all Branches and Members of ScotSAC. Training opportunities are also available for Branch Child Protection

Officers, and others working in childcare roles.

New Website

In the coming months, we plan to launch our new website and remove the previous site. With a fresh look and new layout we hope all visitors will find it easier to navigate. If you have a Branch website with links directly to the ScotSAC site, please update with new links, or simply link direct to www.scotsac.com

New Membership Database

Our existing membership database does not meet our future needs and we have commenced an upgrade. When implemented, the new database will have the ability to send automatic renewal reminder information to members and allow implementation of electronic communication. In preparation for this, please ensure you inform us of your current email address by including it on your membership renewal form.

Staffing

We are currently recruiting for an additional part time administrator to support Hazel, who has been very busy over recent months keeping headquarters running. In the meantime, we have hired a temp to provide additional support for Hazel. Hazel is only in Monday, Wednesday and Friday so please be patient.

Also included in our plans for the coming year is the development of new Master Diver lectures, in a similar format to the Sport Diver series launched in 2006.

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