

TSAC COVID 19 Advice 28 July 21

See also: BSAC Guidance on Covid 19; and TSAC Reducing Risk during Covid-19, some practical steps

Considerations

Whilst government restrictions have been lifted and infection rates are dropping, they are still very high, may get worse during the school holidays and even a mild Covid infection can stop you diving for several months.

We have introduced the added risk of meeting again on a Wednesday evening and this carries the biggest risk of spreading the disease within the club.

Loading the boats is another risk area where people are handling each other's equipment. Once a boat is underway and kit has a coating of sea water the risk is considered less.

Everyone in the club has had the opportunity to have one vaccination and the few that have not been able to get two injections yet should be able to do so soon. COVID passports are now available on the NHS app.

Self-administered Lateral Flow Tests are now available to everyone, and many members are already testing themselves twice a week.

We have downgraded our 'Guidance' to 'Advice' but hope that everyone will act responsibly and remember that we have several members that could be seriously ill if they become infected.

Meetings in the upstairs bar and activities around the boatshed

- Please wear a face covering when in an enclosed space. (This includes the boatshed with the doors open.)
- Please wash or disinfect your hands regularly and wipe down touch surfaces with suitable cleaner after use.
- Please carry out two Lateral Flow Tests a week. Preferably before the Wednesday meetings.

Divers

Before diving from the club boats please

- Take full advantage of the available Vaccinations and Lateral Flow Tests
- Inform the dive manager whether you have been vaccinated and whether you have taken a Covid Test in the last day or so.

When preparing launching and loading club boats, and driving the Shogun please

- Wear a face covering, wipe down touch surfaces after use and disinfect your hands regularly. (Face covering may not be practical when driving)

When traveling to and from dive site, preparing to dive and returning to the boat please

- Minimise the need for others to handle your equipment
- Maintain your distance from other divers as far as is practical
- Avoid breathing from your octopus rig to test it. *It's for your buddy not you.*
- Attach your BCD to the carabiners provided before removing equipment

Dive Managers and Coxes please

- Try to keep to no more than 6 in a boat at any time
- If a diver is particularly worried about catching Covid try and put them in a boat with people that are both fully vaccinated and have taken a Covid test in the last day or so
- Wipe the seat and console before changing boat handler