

Australian Standard™

**Training and certification of recreational  
divers**

**Part 4: SCUBA instructor**



**S t a n d a r d s** Australia

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee CS/83, Recreational Underwater Diving. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 17 January 2000 and published on 1 March 2000.

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The following interests are represented on Committee CS/83:

Australian Dive Council  
Australian Medical Association  
Australian Underwater Federation  
Australian Underwater Scuba Instructors  
British Sub-Aqua Club  
Department of Employment, Training and Industrial Relations, Qld  
Department of Sport and Recreation, N.S.W.  
Dive Queensland  
Divers Alert Network SE Asia-Pacific  
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National Association of Scuba Diving Schools Australasia  
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PADI Asia Pacific  
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## PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee CS/83, Recreational Underwater Diving.

The Standard was prepared in response to a need to clearly differentiate between the training requirements for occupational divers working in the recreational SCUBA diving industry and those for other occupational SCUBA divers. The Standard is based on the American Recreational Scuba Training Council Minimum Course Content for Recreational SCUBA Instructor Certification (1 January 1989).

While Part 1 of the AS 4005 series covers entry-level recreational SCUBA diver training, this Part and Parts 2, 3 and 5 are for SCUBA divers who have progressed to supervisor or teach others. The Committee acknowledges that the course described in this Standard is also undertaken by recreational divers wishing to continue their diving education.

Additional training for other special types of recreational diving may also be required in addition to certification as a SCUBA instructor if the diver is to teach specialty courses or supervise specialty dives. Some of these specialties are cavern, deep, ice and night diving, underwater naturalist and underwater photography.

The Parts in the AS 4005 series are as follows:

- Part 1: Minimum entry-level SCUBA diving
- Part 2: Recreational SCUBA dive supervisor
- Part 3: Assistant SCUBA instructor
- Part 4: SCUBA instructor (this Standard)
- Part 5: SCUBA instructor trainer

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## FOREWORD

This Standard provides minimum content requirements for the training course for SCUBA instructors. These requirements should not be considered as specifying optimum training for SCUBA instructors. Instructional programs which extend beyond these requirements are, in fact, encouraged. The requirements of this Standard are meant to be comprehensive but general in nature. That is, the Standard presents all of the subject areas essential for minimum training of a recreational SCUBA instructor, but it does not give a detailed listing of the skills and information encompassed by each area. It assumes that detailed course outlines which meet this Standard would be prepared by training organizations and these would include specific techniques.

Although the information categories are outlined in a given sequence, the outline should not be viewed as a lesson plan. Similarly, the requirements presented in this Standard do not indicate the emphasis which should be placed upon a particular subject area, or the manner in which the subjects are to be taught. Course outlines, lesson plans and other training aids prepared by the training organization should set out the sequencing and emphasis of a course. Decisions as to sequencing and emphasis should be made within the context of environmental factors, instructor characteristics and other relevant considerations.

A certified SCUBA instructor is qualified to apply the knowledge and skills outlined in this Standard to conduct educational and SCUBA skills training of recreational SCUBA divers, to provide training in the use of SCUBA and to conduct supervised diving activities.

## STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

### Australian Standard

## Training and certification of recreational divers

### Part 4: SCUBA instructor

#### SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

**1.1 SCOPE** This Standard specifies the minimum training activities and terminal objectives required for training and accreditation of persons who may teach recreational SCUBA divers, and organize and supervise recreational SCUBA diving activities.

NOTE: Persons wishing to instruct, organize or supervise other forms of recreational diving or use equipment other than compressed air SCUBA will require training other than that covered in this Standard.

**1.2 OBJECTIVE** The objective of this Standard is to describe the organizational and syllabus requirements to train recreational SCUBA instructors to operate safely and competently.

**1.3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS** The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS

2030 The verification, filling, inspection, testing and maintenance of cylinders for the storage and transport of compressed gases

2030.1 Part 1: Cylinders for compressed gases other than acetylene

4005 Training and certification of recreational divers

4005.1 Part 1: Minimum entry level SCUBA diving

4005.2 Part 2: Recreational SCUBA dive supervisor

4005.3 Part 3: Assistant SCUBA instructor

4005.5 Part 5: SCUBA instructor trainer

AS/NZS

2299 Occupational diving operations

2299.1 Part 1: Standard operational practice

**1.4 DEFINITIONS** For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

**1.4.1 Assistant SCUBA instructor**—an individual who has undergone formal training to assist a SCUBA instructor for skills training in classroom and pool or confined water sessions.

NOTE: AS 4005.3 covers training of assistant SCUBA instructors.

**1.4.2 Confined water**—any body of water offering swimming-pool-like conditions with respect to clarity, calmness, current, depth and adequate access to water shallow enough to stand up in.

**1.4.3 Direct supervision**—the in-water visual observation and evaluation of trainee skill performance by a SCUBA instructor in a position to render assistance and guidance.