

Commonly encountered Problems PADI Advanced and Rescue Courses

Whether working towards a PADI IDC program or preparing to teach as a scuba instructor, it is good to be ahead of the game and have an idea of what problems may arise when you are focusing on certain skills. For this reason, I have listed here some of the more commonly encountered problems for some of the standard skills from the Advanced and Rescue diver programs

Advanced open water diver course

Search and Recovery

Tying Knots - Sheet bend

*Tying a square knot instead of a sheet Bend
Not tying the Knot correctly*

Rig a Lift Bag

*Overfilling with regulator
Placing whole hand inside to fill lift bag
Not securing weight belt to lift bag properly*

Peak Performance Buoyancy

Hover for 1 min

*Sculling or finning
overfilling BCD
Not completing for 1 minute*

Efficient fin kicks

*Using hands
Bicycle kicking
Not staying neutrally Buoyant*

UW Navigation

Compass swims

*Not holding the compass flat
Swimming to the surface - not maintaining depth
Not keeping North between the "two marks"
Not adjusting the Bezel correctly
Not looking at the compass*

Rescue Diver Course

Ex1: Tired Diver Tow

*Not inflating divers BCD
Not communicating with diver on approach
Not putting regulator in mouth (rescuers) on approach
Not towing correctly*

Ex2: Panicked Diver on the surface

*Not inflating divers BCD
Not communicating with diver on approach
Not putting regulator in mouth (rescuers) on approach
Not towing correctly*

Ex3: Response from Shore/Quick Reverse

*Not communicating with diver on approach
Not placing regulator in mouth (rescuers) on approach
Getting too close to victim
Not effectively kicking back
Not keeping eyes on victim on approach*

Ex4: Overexerted diver UW

*No physical contact with panicked diver
Too much physical contact
No hand signals to panicked diver*

Ex6: Unconscious Diver to Surface

*No audible contact on approach
No hand signals to diver on approach
No physical contact to check status before attempting lift
No checking of air in BCDs before lifting victim
Incorrect hand placement on victim
Over-inflating either the victim or your BCD*

Ex7: Unconscious Diver on Surface

Approach	<i>No verbal or physical contact on approach No regulator on mouth or rescuer on approach No inflation of BCDs No weight dropping Dropping of weight over victims body</i>
Assessment	<i>No removal of masks No opening of airway No look, listen, Feel</i>
Rescue breaths	<i>No two packing breaths</i>

*Breathing either too early or too late on rescue breaths (remember it is
1....2....3...4....BREATHE!)
Submerging divers face underwater on rescue breaths
Not protecting the airway
Not completely removing dive equipment
Not sealing the nose or pocket mask on the breaths
Missing rescue breaths*

Pocket Mask

*Mask upside down
Not sealing mask on breaths
Incorrect positioning of the pocket mask*

Ex8: Egress of Diver

*No two packing breaths
Not protecting airway of victim
Submerging victims face when moving
Not keeping rescue breaths continual
Taking longer than 30 seconds between each set of packing breaths.*