Sea Fox Diving Vessel Distinctive Specialty

Student Handbook

Student Prerequisites: PADI Open Water Diver or qualifying prerequisite
Minimum Age: 15 years

The goals for the Sea Fox Diving Vessel training are:

A. Development of Knowledge regarding boat terminology, safety procedures and equipment specific to the Sea Fox diving vessel.
B. Development of Knowledge regarding piloting procedures for the Sea Fox diving vessel, including use of boat specific equipment.
C. Practical experience piloting the vessel and diving from the vessel.

Knowledge Development Teaching Outline

Topic One: Safety procedures

Learning Objectives:

By the end of knowledge development, the student diver will be able to explain:
Boat terminology, boat safety, and emergency equipment specific to the Sea Fox

• What are a boat’s bow, stern, starboard side and port side?

• Which is the windward side and which is the leeward side of a boat?
• What do the following terms refer to on the boat: wheel house, head, galley, rail, cylinder racks, and swim step?

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• What are four safety considerations while on the Sea Fox?

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• What eleven pieces of safety equipment do you find on the Sea Fox boat and where are they located?

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• How do you operate the engine fire safety system?

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• How do you monitor the engine performance with Detroit Diesel readouts?

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• What is a bilge pump and how do you operate it?

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• What is a high water alarm and how does it work on the Sea Fox?

• How do you operate the marine radio on board the boat according to local regulations and procedures, and what is considered as an emergency?

• What line system is used on board the Sea Fox when diving from a mooring and how is it used?

• What should a diver consider while boarding the boat using the Christmas tree ladder?

• What safety considerations are there when a dive boat leaves and returns to the dock?

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**Topic Two: Boat navigation and Piloting**

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of knowledge development, the student diver will be able to explain:
Basic etiquettes of piloting on the open ocean, navigational aids for locating or relocating a dive site, boat piloting, how to tie up and to release from a mooring, docking, and dive site approach

- What does the term piloting means?

- What is a GPS and some of its functions?

- Where is the steering and gear controls of the Sea fox located, how do you identify them, and what are their proper usage?

- How do you navigate from outside the channel to the first dive site then to dive site two, properly using the GPS?

- How do you approach a mooring/dock?

- What are four considerations when selecting a dive site?
• How do you release from a mooring?

• What should a diver in the water know about the captain’s piloting considerations when picking up drift divers?

Open Water Dives

Dive One

Briefing

1. Attend the vessel Sea Fox boat captains safety briefing
2. Evaluation of conditions
3. Entry technique
4. Exit technique
5. Bottom composition and topography around site
6. Maximum depth
7. Ending tank pressure – when to terminate the dive
8. Interesting and helpful facts about the dive site
9. Dive sequence
   a. Suiting up
   b. Predive safety check
   c. Predive procedures
   d. Safely descent using the lines system specific to Sea Fox
   e. Dive for fun and pleasure
   f. Ascent and exit technique by proper use of the Sea Fox Christmas tree style exit ladder
10. Post-dive procedures
Dive Two

Briefing

1. Evaluation of conditions
2. Entry technique
3. Exit technique
4. Bottom composition and topography around site
5. Maximum depth
6. Ending tank pressure – when to terminate the dive
7. Interesting and helpful facts about the dive site
8. Dive sequence
   a. Suiting up
   b. Predive safety check
   c. Predive procedures
   d. Safely descent
   e. Dive for fun and pleasure
      (optional) if conducting a drift dive, conduct a safety stop simultaneously with the dive leader and break the surface with 15 seconds of their ascent to the surface
   f. Ascent and exit technique by proper use of the Sea Fox Christmas tree style exit ladder
9. Post-dive procedures