



Dear Troop Leader and Scouts;

My name is Jerry Bayus. I am a BSA Counselor for the Scuba Diving and First Aid Merit Badges. In the past, I have sent out mailings introducing the Scuba Diving Merit Badge to Scouts. I was disappointed in the lack of enthusiasm that I received. In particular, comments that the Scuba Diving Merit Badge was too expensive for a scout and/or that other events had already been planned for the year. The Scuba Diving Merit Badge has even been compared to other merit badges like Camping. I guess if you as Scoutmaster/Leader (or a scout and his family) looks at it simply as a "Merit Badge", then yes, I could agree that it would be a costly endeavor.

When I first started Scuba Diving, I never looked at it as a "one-time" event. My plan was to keep diving, particularly on vacations, etc. A year later, my daughter, then age 11 wanted to learn and together it was an activity that her and I shared. Our training continued, first thru advanced open water. I then went on to Rescue, Divemaster and ultimately am an Instructor today. My hope is that Scout Leaders will look at the Scuba Diving Merit Badge as something more than 'just' a merit badge and introduce it to scouts, their friends, their families, as something that they can and may enjoy together for a lifetime. A scout learning scuba can lead to a multitude of career interests such as commercial diving and various marine sciences, research and ocean conservation.

I have enclosed literature that explains in more depth what is entailed in achieving Open Water Scuba Certification, the Merit Badge requirements and a brochure that more fully outlines my credentials and what I teach. I commit to help Scouts thru all of the requirements for completing the Scuba Diving Merit Badge as required by BSA standards. Others may only offer the "scuba certification" requirement of the merit badge, leaving all the other requirements for troop leaders to finish. The Merit Badge can take as little as two months to complete or could take up to a year if a scout so chooses to work on it at a relaxed pace.

The Scuba Diving merit badge can be combined with the First Aid Merit Badge. Though not required for the First Aid merit badge, I teach basic life support, CPR and AED classes, with participants earning BLS/CPR certifications. If a scout has interest in our oceans and ocean conservation, the PADI Project AWARE scuba certification can give a scout an extensive level of knowledge in this area also.

The cost for Open Water Scuba classes is \$350. Additionally, each participant must own or purchase their own mask, snorkel, fins and fin boots, which run approximately \$250-\$300 depending on the gear chosen. Class cost can be paid over the duration of the open water certification course. All other scuba equipment required to complete the course is provided to students to use throughout their certification. I add NO additional cost to completing the remaining requirements of the Merit Badge.

Thank you in advance for looking over the enclosed materials and again, I hope that you will consider introducing the Scuba Diving Merit Badge to the Scouts in your Troop along with their families.

Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions about the Scuba Diving and First Aid Merit Badge programs. I can be reached by cell, 330.720.0898 or email, gabayus@earthlink.net. Also visit my website at www.rectecdivers.com and look under the 'Training' tab.



**Gerald Bayus Jr.
PADI MSDT #253092**
**Master Scuba Diver Trainer
Open Water Scuba Instructor
Emergency First Response Instructor
Divers Alert Network Instructor (DAN)
Divemaster
Rescue Diver
PSI/PCI Visual Cylinder Inspector #24353**

RecTEC Divers LLC, Cortland, OH 44410

Gerald Bayus Jr., PADI MSDT/OWSI, (330) 720-0898 gabayus@earthlink.net

Providing all levels of PADI recreational dive instruction and a path for the Public Safety Dive Candidate

www.rectecdivers.com



Courtesy of PADI

In addition to the agencies listed by name, any current member of the World Recreational Scuba Training Council (WRSTC) is also recognized.

Each approved instructor must follow the training protocols established by his or her authorizing agency, including limitations and special provisions based on medical conditions and age. For Scout divers under age 15, this will include restrictions for maximum depth, buddies, and supervision ratios.

Scuba industry standards for Open Water Diver Certification require the student to be at least 15 years of age. Students under the minimum age who meet open water scuba performance requirements may qualify for a special certification that allows them to dive with an adult buddy who has, as a minimum, an open water scuba certification. Several of the scuba organizations recognized by the BSA offer "junior" open water certifications for those as young as 10; others have a minimum age of 12. Such junior open water diver certifications satisfy Scuba Diving merit badge requirement 4.

When scuba diving is taught in connection with any local council program, such as offering the Scuba Diving merit badge at summer camp, instructors should provide the training on a contract basis. Such instructors should have dive store or other commercial affiliation that provides liability coverage. Direct employment of scuba instructors is not recommended.

Local council programs may not compress or sell air for scuba use, or sell, rent, or loan scuba equipment (scuba cylinders, regulators, gauges, dive computers, weights, BCDs).

All air and scuba equipment for local council use must be obtained from professional sources (dive stores, resorts, dive boats, etc.) affiliated with a scuba agency recognized by the BSA.

The Boy Scouts of America Announces the

Scuba Diving Merit Badge

Start with a dash of swimming skills
(the Swimming merit badge).

Add equal measures of aquatics first aid,
safety, and conservation.

Douse liberally with
ADVENTURE!

Merit Badge Counselor

Gerald Bayus Jr.
PADI MSDT #253092
Master Scuba Diver Trainer
Open Water Scuba Instructor
Emergency First Response Instructor
Divers Alert Network Instructor (DAN)
Divemaster
Rescue Diver



Courtesy of PADI

RecTEC Divers

Dive Training and Specialized Gear
Recreational / Wreck / Digital / Public Safety / Cave



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

Requirements

1. Do the following:
 - a. Show that you know first aid for injuries or illnesses that could occur while scuba diving, including hypothermia, hyperventilation, squeezes, decompression illness, nitrogen narcosis, motion sickness, fatigue, overexertion, heat reactions, dehydration, injuries by aquatic life, and cuts and scrapes.
 - b. Identify the conditions that must exist before performing CPR on a person, and explain how to recognize such conditions. Demonstrate the proper technique for performing CPR using a training device approved by your counselor.
2. Before completing requirements 3 through 6, earn the Swimming merit badge.
3. Discuss the Scuba Diver's Code with your merit badge counselor, and explain the importance of each guideline to a scuba diver's safety.
4. Earn an Open Water Diver Certification from a scuba organization recognized by the Boy Scouts of America scuba policy.
5. Explain what an ecosystem is, and describe four aquatic ecosystems a diver might experience.
6. Find out about three career opportunities in the scuba industry. Pick one and find out the education, training, and experience required for this profession. Discuss this with your counselor, and explain why this profession might interest you.

The Boy Scouts of America is not a dive certification agency. Your merit badge counselor can help you find a scuba agency recognized by the Boy Scouts of America scuba policy so that you can fulfill requirement 4.

Scouts who have already earned an Open Water Diver Certification outside of a BSA activity from a scuba agency recognized by the Boy Scouts of America scuba policy may still earn the Scuba Diving merit badge by earning the Swimming merit badge and completing all other listed requirements.

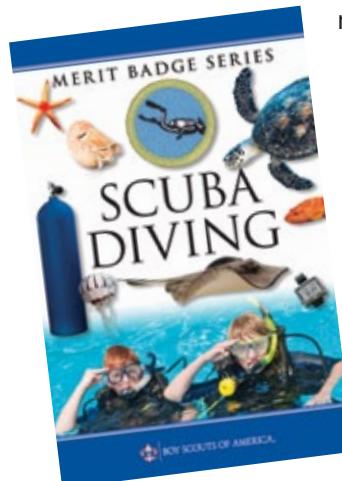


Courtesy of PADI

Note to the Scuba Diving Merit Badge Counselor

All scuba instruction must be conducted by recreational diving instructors in good standing with a scuba agency recognized by the Boy Scouts of America and approved by the BSA local council.

Counselors for the Scuba Diving merit badge must be registered with the Boy Scouts of America and be approved by the district/council advancement committee.



Like other merit badges, the Scuba Diving merit badge has been developed to teach and train youth in a manner consistent with the overall goals and values of the Boy Scouts of America. The merit badge counselor should be fair and consistent when presenting and evaluating the knowledge and skills specified by the requirements. None of the requirements may be modified or omitted.

Unlike many other merit badges, the Scuba Diving critical prerequisites, knowledge, and skills are not itemized in the requirements nor adequately covered in this pamphlet.

The requirement to earn Open Water Diver Certification means the Scout must meet training requirements set by outside agencies and must supplement the material in the pamphlet with an entry-level scuba diver manual.

All phases of scuba instruction—classroom, pool, and open water training—must comply with the minimum training standards for entry-level scuba certification adopted by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or the U.S. Recreational Scuba Training Council (RSTC). The RSTC is recognized as the ANSI Accredited Standards Developer for recreational diving instructional standards. The BSA acknowledges those standards by limiting scuba instruction only to instructors trained and sanctioned by recognized scuba agencies.

Agencies recognized by the BSA for scuba training are **PADI** (Professional Association of Diving Instructors); **NAUI** (National Association of Underwater Instructors); **SSI** (Scuba Schools International);

IDEA (International Diving Educators Association); **PDIC** (Professional Diving Instructors Corporation); and **SDI** (Scuba Diving International).

SCUBA DIVING COURSES

*Open Water Diver
Advanced Open Water Diver
Rescue Diver
Master Scuba Diver
Divemaster*

SCUBA DIVING SPECIALTY COURSES

<i>Enriched Air Diver</i>	<i>Underwater Navigator</i>
<i>Peak Performance Buoyancy</i>	<i>Dry Suit Diver</i>
<i>Digital Underwater Photographer</i>	<i>Deep Diver</i>
<i>Wreck Diver</i>	<i>Search & Recovery Diver</i>
<i>Boat Diver</i>	<i>Night Diver</i>
<i>Multilevel Diver</i>	<i>Drift Diver</i>
<i>Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV)</i>	

ADDITIONAL PADI 'SPECIALTY' COURSES

*PADI Emergency Oxygen Provider
AWARE-Fish Identification
AWARE-Coral Reef Conservation
Underwater Naturalist
Project AWARE Specialist
Discover Snorkeling
Bubblemaker (Kid's 8+)
Seal Team (Kid's 8+)*

Customized training for divers interested in working towards Public Safety Diver credentials



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RecTEC Divers, LLC
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Professional Association of Dive Instructors



"The Way the World Learns to Dive"



Learn to Scuba Dive

PADI OPEN WATER SCUBA DIVER COURSE

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Master Scuba Diver Trainer
Open Water Scuba Instructor
Emergency First Response Instructor
Divers Alert Network Instructor #14267
Divemaster
Rescue Diver
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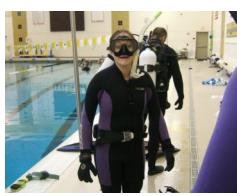
www.rectecdivers.com

PADI Open Water Certification Course offered by Jerry Bayus and Rec~~TEC~~ Divers

Cost of complete course is \$350 and includes all classroom materials and books, pool fees, instructor fees, certification card and all scuba gear except personal snorkeling gear as outlined below.

Classroom and Pool Sessions

Open Water Scuba Diver Certification with Rec~~TEC~~ Divers involves an average of 12hrs academic classroom instruction and 12hrs pool instruction, then one weekend of Open Water Diving at a local fresh water quarry. Scheduling is flexible, based upon class needs and students schedules. Cost includes textbooks and related materials, pool fees, instructor fees, certification card and all scuba gear EXCEPT snorkeling gear. Each student will need their own personal snorkeling equipment (mask, fins, fin boots, snorkel), of quality suitable for scuba. I provide recommendations and assist you with gear purchases. Students receive discounts on all gear purchases. Classroom sessions are held either at Rec~~TEC~~ Divers in Cortland and/or at the pool facility where your pool sessions are held. Pool sessions are commonly held at the Hubbard Community Pool. Rec~~TEC~~ Divers may also utilize a number of other area pool facilities.



Next, on to Open Water Dives.....

Open Water Dives

Your Scuba Certification isn't complete until you perform 4 Open Water Dives in an actual "Open Water Environment". These dives are required for certification and allow you to demonstrate skills learned in the pool. For this we plan a weekend and travel west, to White Star Quarry in Gibsonburg, OH and Gilboa Quarry, outside of Findlay, OH. We plan to spend a day at each quarry, as each provides a unique underwater dive experience. Both Quarry's are exclusively designed for Open Water Dive Training and feature training platforms and underwater attractions. Visibility at the Quarry's commonly range from 40ft up to 80ft or more. Information on each Quarry can be found at the following websites:

White Star Quarry:

<http://www.whitestarquarry.com/>



Gilboa Quarry:

<http://www.divegilboa.com/>



You're now an...OPEN WATER SCUBA DIVER !

CONGRATULATIONS

and welcome to our Underwater World !!!!!!



Oxygen First Aid for Scuba Diving Injuries

- Recognize a dive injury
- Respond with emergency oxygen first aid
- Relay with emergency medical service (EMS and DAN)

Entry level training to better recognize possible dive-related injuries and to provide emergency oxygen first aid while activating the local emergency medical services



Advanced Oxygen First Aid for Scuba Diving Injuries

Trains participants to use the MTV-100 (flow-restricted, oxygen powered ventilator) or Bag Valve Mask while providing care for non-breathing injured divers. This is an additional training module for DAN Oxygen Providers.



Basic Life Support and First Aid

Basic Life Support, or BLS, includes airway management skills such as the log roll and recovery position, one rescuer cardiopulmonary resuscitation and additional skills like caring for a choking patient, controlling bleeding and caring for a patient in shock. The first aid portion of this program includes key skills such as illness and injury assessments, bandaging and splinting skills and emergency moves.



DAN Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) for Scuba Diving

More than 10 percent of all dive fatalities are actually caused by cardiovascular disease, according to DAN dive accident and fatality statistics. This course teaches divers and other interested parties to provide care for sudden cardiac arrest including the use of an automated external defibrillator (AEDs).



Recreational dive training and instruction from Open Water thru Divemaster.

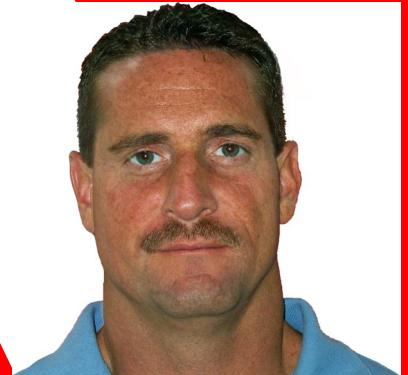
Customized training for divers interested in working towards Public Safety Diver credentials.

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PADI
padi.com

"The Way the World Learns to Dive"



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INSTRUCTOR

Master Scuba Diver Trainer

PADI Open Water Scuba

PADI Scuba Specialties

Emergency First Response (EFR)

Divers Alert Network (DAN)

Boy Scouts of America, Merit Badge Counselor for Scuba Diving and First Aid Merit Badges

Why aren't we diving ?



SCUBA DIVING COURSES

Open Water Diver

This is where it all begins! Experience your first breath underwater and change your life forever. You breathe underwater for the first time (something you'll never forget) and learn what you need to know to become a certified diver. During the course, you'll make at least five pool dives and four dives at local dive sites under the supervision of your PADI Instructor. Kids age 10 thru 14 earn Junior Open Water Certification.

Advanced Open Water Diver

Get more comfortable in the water by completing five adventure dives under the supervision of your PADI Instructor. If you're looking to build your confidence and gain more experience, this is the natural next. Kids age 10 thru 14 earn Junior Advanced Open Water Certification.

Rescue Diver

Expand on what you already know about how to prevent problems, and how to manage them if they occur. Learn techniques for self rescue, rescuing panicky divers and unresponsive divers.

Master Scuba Diver

Join the best of the best in recreational scuba diving. Earn your Master Scuba Diver rating, which distinguishes you for acquiring significant training and experience in a variety of dive environments.

Divemaster

The PADI Divemaster course is your first level of professional training. As a Divemaster, you can demonstrate exemplary diving skills, rescue skills, dive management and supervision abilities. For many Divemasters, this is just the beginning of their professional journey. Working closely with a PADI Instructor, in this program you expand your dive knowledge and hone your skills to the professional level. PADI Divemaster training develops your leadership abilities, qualifying you to supervise dive activities and assist instructors with student divers.



SCUBA DIVING 'SPECIALTY' COURSES

- **Enriched Air Diver** - Stay down longer and get back in the water sooner
- **Underwater Navigator** - Be the diver everyone wants to follow and make your sense of direction legendary
- **Peak Performance Buoyancy** - Neutral buoyancy is the key to conserving your air consumption and leaving minimal impact on the aquatic environment
- **Digital Underwater Photographer** - One of the most popular diving specialties, DUP gets you going quickly with today's modern digital equipment
- **Dry Suit Diver** - Stay warm and cozy on your dives
- **Deep Diver** - Explore the wonders of the deep. Learn techniques for diving in the deeper ranges of 18-30 metres / 60-100 feet
- **Wreck Diver** - Learn how to explore mysterious sunken shipwrecks, planes and even automobiles
- **Search & Recovery Diver** - Learn effective ways to find objects underwater and bring them to the surface. Small, large or just awkward, there is a way to bring them up
- **Boat Diver** - Whether you've never made a boat dive or you've logged dozens, the PADI Boat Diver Specialty course can benefit almost every diver because different boats in different parts of the world do things differently
- **Diver Propulsion Vehicle (DPV)** - DPVs offer a thrilling way to see a lot of underwater territory in a brief amount of time
- **Night Diver** - Learn about night dive planning, equipment and navigation. Plus, see a whole new cast of critters that comes out at night
- **Multilevel Diver** - Learn how to plan dives that extend your bottom time by crediting you for slower nitrogen absorption when you ascend to a shallower depth
- **Drift Diver** - This course shows you how to enjoy rivers and ocean currents by "going with the flow," staying with your dive partner, communicating with the dive boat and knowing where you are the whole time

ADDITIONAL SCUBA SPECIALTY COURSES

- **PADI Emergency Oxygen Provider**
- **AWARE-Fish Identification**
- **AWARE-Coral Reef Conservation**
- **Underwater Naturalist**
- **Project AWARE Specialist**
- **Discover Snorkeling**
- **Bubblemaker (Kid's 8+)**



- BLS (Basic Life Support) CPR and rescue breathing at the layperson level
- AED (automated external defibrillator) use (optional)
- Preventing and caring for shock
- Spinal injury management
- Use of barriers to reduce disease transmission risk
- Basic first aid and first aid kit considerations

Creating Confidence to Care

Emergency First Response is the fastest-growing international CPR, AED and first aid training organization. With more than 31,000 instructors worldwide, Emergency First Response is backed by 36 years of experience in the development and delivery of instructional courses, training materials and educational curricula. Emergency First Response courses have gained widespread international acceptance.

Emergency First Response's course curricula are based on patient care standards as published in the American Heart Association Guidelines 2005 Standards for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care, and the consensus view of the Basic Life Support (BLS) Working Group of the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR). ILCOR is an international standards group representing most of the world's major resuscitation organizations.