DIVER DOWN NEWS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE DIVE CLUB

President's Letter - October 2025

Hello all and happy fall! As we dive into October and the cooler months ahead (pun intended), it is always nice to look back on the summer- the dives we had and the memories we made. It was a really great season for our weekend beach dives, with very few inclement weather cancellations. Unfortunately, I can't say the same about wreck diving. Our leaderboard is coming to an end, and congratulations are soon on the way to our leaders.

This weekend is a very exciting event that we have every year, our underwater pumpkin carving contest! This year, we will be hosting it on Saturday, October 4, at 10 am at Cedar Beach in Mt. Sinai. Don't forget to BYOCOP (bring your own carved-out pumpkin).

Another exciting evening is planned for Wednesday October 22, our Death by Diving dinner to celebrate our winners who completed the challenge and all who participated. Even if you weren't able to make it to DBD this year, you're still welcome to join the dinner. This year, it will be at Sake Asian in West Babylon at 6:30 pm. Please let me know if you plan on attending so I can give the restaurant a head count.

See you all at our next meeting on Tuesday, October 7, with special guest speaker – photographer, experienced wreck diver, and operations manager of Backscatter Underwater Video & Photo, Becca Boring!

~Courtney Lyons, President



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MONTHLY MEETING

The Dive Club holds monthly meetings monthly on the first Tuesdays.

Location: The Tap Room in Bayshore

EST 2011

TAP ROOM

44 E Main St. #46 Bay Shore, NY 11706 (631) 665-2000

Support our host and wait staff. Additional "Event Gratuity" on each bill.

And don't forget cash for our 50/50 raffle!

Arrive for dinner as early as 6:30pm. Meetings commence at 8pm.

Cirching with the



October 7, 2025

The Dive Club presents

Becca Boring



BACKSCATTER

"Remote Dive Travel Gone Somewhat Sideways"



Join us at our upcoming meeting in welcoming Becca Boring. Raised on wreck diving and photography, Becca Boring has been the Operations Manager of Backscatter Underwater Video & Photo for the last decade. She is passionate about documenting and helping others capture the beauty of the underwater world and has a particular fondness for the wrecks of the Pacific.

After a spectacular trip to one of the world's best wreck diving destinations - Bikini

Atoll, Super Typhoon Mawar left an already travel-weary group of divers stranded for ten days on one of the most densely populated and least visited places on earth, Ebeye Island. With no tourism infrastructure and little infrastructure in general, the island offered more than they could have imagined in the way of lessons they will all carry with them on future remote travel.





MEMBERSHIP

The Club Membership year is January 1 to December 31, and each year club members must fill out an application form and waiver specific to that year along with submitting annual dues. Forms must be filled out and submitted for your safety as well as the Dive Club's and are necessary to participate in our club dives and activities. These forms and timely payment of your dues keep you in good and active standing with the club.

2026 Applications are in! 2025 is obsolete!

Enjoy a \$5 discount on dues for forms submitted with payment by or before January 6, 2026.



TDC APPLICATION INFO & INSTRUCTIONS

Fill out the application, which is available for download on the The Dive Club's webpage (thediveclub.com/membership) and at the end of this newsletter. Please fill out the application on your computer, print to sign, and then scan and email to Bill Cadden (below).

ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE HAND SIGNED, NO ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES ACCEPTED.

The application consists of the <u>Data Sheet</u>, <u>Wavier</u>, and <u>Membership Directory</u> (4 pages total)

The Data Sheet keeps your information current and updated, including emergency contacts (who should be someone other than your typical dive buddy). The waivers is needed for safety and protection year over year. Finally, the Directory sheet is to add you to our membership directory and keep that fresh as well.

For Family Memberships, EACH PERSON IN THE FAMILY UNIT needs to fill out a Form and Sign it. Print out the form so you can sign **ALL Pages**, **and Initial the Waiver** where indicated. **PARENTS**, you must sign the Waiver for your Children under the age of 18. **No Digital Signatures please**.

When you sign the Waiver, PLEASE DATE IT January 1 of the waiver year.

Scan the pages and save as a *.pdf, using your Last Name for the File Name (ex: Cadden.pdf), and email it to Corresponding Secretary, Bill Cadden at Membership.Thediveclub@GMail.com

Individual memberships for 2025 are \$25. Family memberships are \$35.

You can Pay your Dues by one of 3 ways:

- 1. Pay Cash at the meeting or if you run into an Officer (President, Vice-Presisdent, Treasurer, or Corresponding Secretary).
- 2. Pay by Check, either at a Meeting, to an Officer, or via mail to the P.O. Box.
 - * If you use a Business Check, make sure you include a note telling us who it is for.
 - * If your Family Unit has multiple Last Names, please let us know who is included.
- 3. Venmo to the Treasurer, Gus Bricker.
 - * If you need Venmo directions, please contact the Treasurer at info@thediveclub.com.
 - * If your Family Unit has multiple Last Names, please let us know who is included.





MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER, 9 2025

RECORDED BY NORMA LEON

1. August Minutes: Approved.

2. Event Recap - Death by Diving (Mid-August)

Event occurred slightly later than usual this year.

Weather: Excellent—no dives canceled.

Dive Sites: Oak Beach, Cedar Beach, Secret Beach, USS Ohio, Noyak Bay, Ponquogue Bridge

Schedule: Friday evening - Sunday afternoon.

Attendance: 28 members participated across the dives.

Achievement Recognition:

7/7 dives completed (dinner earned): Norma Leon, Alyssa Armour, Nick Loppano, Linda Gotti, and Dan Corcoran

6/7 dives completed: Ron Prybella and Mary Davis

Congratulations extended to all participants!

Dinner Celebration:

To be held sometime next month (exact date TBD).

Open to all members, including those who didn't earn dinner or dive.

RSVP required—members should notify Courtney for headcount purposes.

3. Beach Dive Report

Season: Nearing end but still active.

Recent Dive: Stelhi Beach, Bayville (North Short)

off-season parking access available

Easy sand entry and showers available.

Report by Mary Davis:

Good turnout; calm water (73°F).

Visibility poor with not much to see but enjoyable dive.

Found and photographed cages—shared on Facebook.

4. Upcoming Dive - Culloden Dive with LIDA | Date: Saturday, September 13

Site: HMS Culloden, Montauk

250-year-old Revolutionary War shipwreck.

Remnants include cannonballs and hull structure.

Depth: 15-20 ft (shallow dive).

Access & Logistics (Report by Barry Lipsky):

Meet at site by 12:00 PM.

1:00 PM: Dedication of historical sign (designed, funded, and donated by club).

Short walk through woods and down stairway

Dive site located off beach near large rock (330 $^{\circ}$ bearing).

High tide: 2:00 PM planned dive start.



MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER, 9 2025

RECORDED BY NORMA LEON

Culloden (con't):

Overflow parking available at Gossman's Restaurant (1 mile away) with shuttle service.

Publicity & Attendance:

Media: Local newspapers, possibly News 12 (filming confirmed).

Attendees: Town of East Hampton officials, Fire Dept., Police Dept., Coast Guard.

Members encouraged to attend and participate.

5. Future Dive - *Shelter Island Dive* | **Date:** Saturday, September 20 **Details:** To be presented by speakers David and Glen.

6. Oak Beach Weekly Dives: Every Wednesday through end of the month.

Participation: Attendance tapering off, but consistent core group.

Recent Dive: Report by Norma: 2 ft visibility, Spotted a pufferfish, No tropicals observed.

Timing: Start at 4:00 PM, finish around 6:00 PM.

Members encouraged to join for a final few dives and post-dive food.

7. Upcoming Events

Pumpkin Carving Dive | Planned for second week of October.

Possible locations: Cedar Beach (by basketball courts) or Noyak Bay.

LIDA Film Festival | Date: October 25 at 4:00 PM.

Organizer: Barry Lipsky.

Highlights: Quality presenters, Raffle prizes, Community networking—divers, dive shops,

and boats all represented.

Purpose: To promote diving on Long Island and support the local dive industry. Club

members encouraged to attend and show support.

8. Guest Speaker

Speaker: David Hochman

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS Patrick Byrnes Aaron Kruse



Patrick Byrnes
Bill Cadden
Dawn Dawson
Joey Feldbaum
Ryan Feldbaum
Linda Gotti
Jennifer Grosso
Louis Guardino
Ellen Hirsch
John R. Hochenberger

Aaron Kruse
Gintare Kulikauskas
Kris Kulikauskas
Pierre-Ytues Le Coq
Luke Mastrandera
Saverio Pispisa
Jason Portnoy
Janice Raber
Brett Raso
Martin Shaiman
Terry Snyder
Marc Zysman

LEADERBOARDS (AS OF 10/1) Volume 36, Issue 10

BEAUN	OBI
Mary Davis8	Eric Cregeen
Christopher Antonison8	Nick Lappano 8
Dan Corcoran	Norma Leon 8
Nick Lappano5	Kevin Ryan
Nick Sinnott5	
Ron Prybella4	Chelsea Ryan
Rick Baresich4	Vadim Paley
Michael Feldbaum	Linda Gotti
Jack Griffin	William laconetti
Henry Serra2	Mary Davis
Tim McMahon2	Rick Baresich
Tom Riedman2	Jack Frost
Jack Frost2	Ron Prybella
Ken Murphy2	Bob Stamm
Eric Cregeen	Henry Serra
Louis Buda1	
Travis Brady1	Dan Corcoran
Courtney Lyons1	Kayla Arbuckle
Vadim Paley1	Marco Drazic
Ozan Ersoz1	Rayhan Mohammed
Norma Leon	Jugaad Nagi 1
Jeff Cardillo 1 Barry Lipsky 1	Megan Barrow
Kevin Ryan1	Tim McMahon
Chelsea Miller 1	Travis Brady
Bob Stamm1	Jake Griffin
Alyssa Armour1	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
WRECK DIVING F	INAL LEADERBOARD
Kris Kulikauskas 4	Jen Gineau 2
Andrey Krasnov 2	Bill Strauss 2
Alex Stengey 2	Jim Lisle
Bill Cadden 3	Bobby Reith 1 Nick Sinnott 1
Jim Vafaes 2	
Mary Davis 2	Tracy Cloherty 1
Ryan Christie 2	Andrew Solomon 1



DEATH-BY-DIVING October 2025 Volume 36, Issue 10 DINNER 2025

Wednesday October 22 ~ 6:30 pm

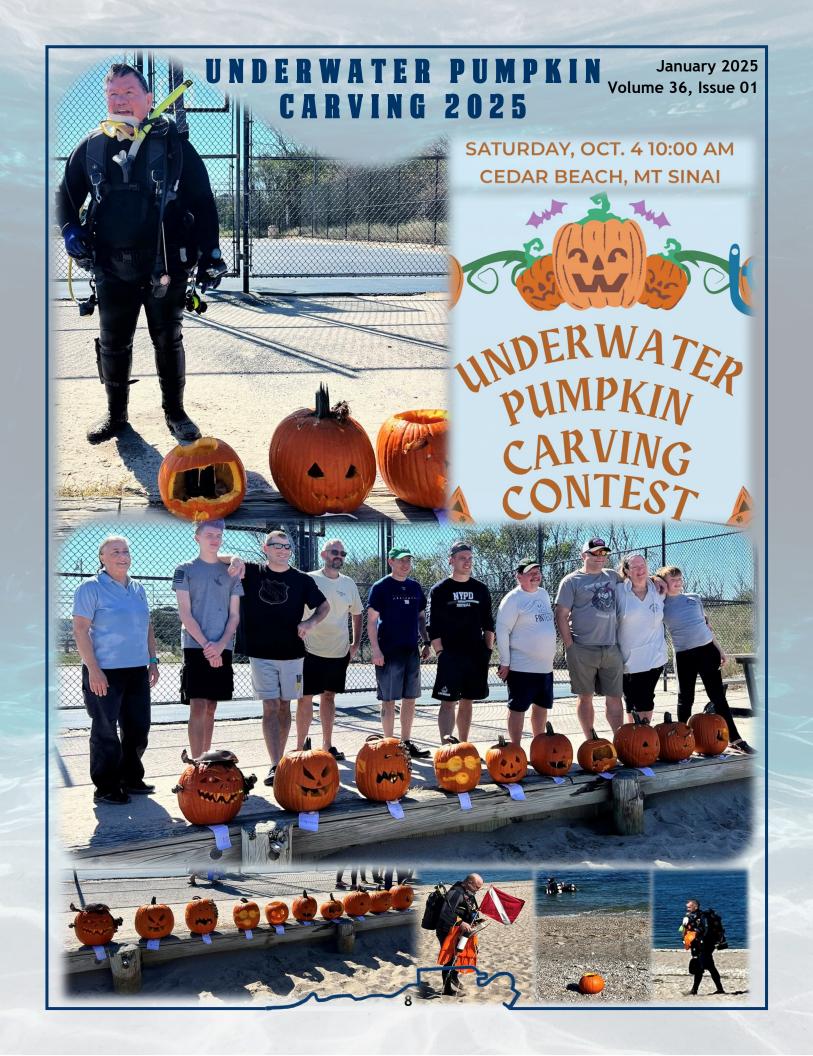


Our annual Death by Diving dinner celebration is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22

This year, we are dining at <u>Sake Asian in West Babylon</u>. All are welcome to attend. Email Courtney by October 20 to RSVP

LEADERBOARD

Alyssa Armour 7	Mike Feldbaum 2
Linda Gotti 7	Frank Lombardo 2
Nick Lappano 7	Priscilla Seigh2
Norma Leon 7	Courtney Lyons 2
Dan Corcoran 7	Eric Cregreen 2
Pop Prybolla 6	Danna Davis1
Ron Prybella 6	Steve Davis1
Mary Davis6	Steven Maggio 1
Christopher Antonison 5	Jack Frost1
	Ozan Ersoz1
Yuriy Chagin 3	Joe Feldbaum 1
Yelena Chagin 3	Kevin Ryan1
Alex Einbinder 3	Chelsea Miller 1
Marc Zysman3	Rick Baresich 1
Jeff Cardillo3	- P



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HMS CULLODEN DIVE SUCCESS!



On Saturday, September 13 the Long Island Divers Association (LIDA) hosted a diving event at the site of the wreck of the *HMS Culloden*, located in Fort Pond Bay in Montauk. We were joined by divers representing dive clubs from across the region.

On a beautiful late summer afternoon, we conducted a formal ceremony officially dedicating an **interpretive sign** commissioned by LIDA to provide historical information and diving logistics to help visitors better appreciate this historically significant and federally protected wreck.

Following the ceremony, divers entered the water and visited the wreck. Often difficult to locate, the wreck was found by all the divers present and it provided a thrilling experience for many who had never seen the wreck before.

The event attracted the attention of local media, including News 12 Long Island, some of who were on hand to cover the proceedings.

Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to visit the HMS Culloden and LIDA remains committed to protecting the rights of divers to visit sites like this.





Film Festival 2025
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25 AT 4PM

LONG ISLAND DIVERS ASSOCIATION 37TH ANNUAL FILM FESTIVAL

Location:

Hofstra University Student Center Theater, Hempstead, NY

Ticket Price Includes:

Films, Live DJ, Food, and Soft drinks

Bundles with LIDA memberships available as well!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025 4:00 P.M. SHARP TO 8:00 P.M.

TICKETS CAN ONLY BE PURCHASED ONLINE HTTP://LIDAONLINE.COM/FILM-FESTIVAL

TICKET PRICE

• \$45 US PP (ADVANCED PURCHASE ONLINE)

• \$50 PP (AT THE DOOR)

THE DIVE CLUB SPECIAL DISCOUNT:

Announce the code DCLIDA at the door to get a 20% discount on ticket sales





SCAN ME

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LIDA FILM FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 25, 2025 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Meet Our Presenters!

Michael Salvarezza & Christopher Weaver

Baja: Secrets of the Sea of Cortez

Jennifer Sellitti

Program on Northeast Wrecks

Peter Venoutsos

Humpbacks of Rurutu

Mike Dudas

Program on Northeast Wrecks

> Maureen & Steve Langevins

Antarctica -The Great Southland, Deep Weddell Sea

Mike Dudas





Jennifer N. Sellitti

Maureen & Steve

Langevins



Michael Salvarezza



Peter Venoutsos



Once again, we have assembled an impressive list of speakers who will present on topics ranging from local shipwrecks to exotic adventures. Come see their work as they amaze you with their stories, dazzle you with their photography and videography and inspire you to plan your next diving adventure.

And following the films, we will host our traditional after party complete with a DJ, food and refreshments. Meet with your local dive buddies, share your adventures and enter our raffle to win one or more of our numerous valuable prizes generously donated by our sponsors. Prizes this year include dive equipment, dive services and diving adventures.

This year, in recognition of the proximity to Halloween, we will also be hosting a Halloween themed costume competition. Bring out your best costume and enter the contest for a chance to win one of our prizes. May the best underwater monster win!

Tickets On Sale Now! For more details, updates, and sales go to:





FESTIVAL PRIZES

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Besides the terrific lineup of speakers who will be showing their wonderful underwater work, attendees have the opportunity to win valuable raffle prizes!

Our generous sponsors have donated a number of much sought-after prizes, including dive equipment, dive merchandise and valuable dive travel packages.

Dive Adventures

Heaven Saphir Charters (Red Sea)
Luxury Yacht Maldives & Red Sea
Marco Vincent Dive Resort (Philippines)
Sea Saba (Saba)
Waterhorse Charters (California)
DiveWise (Malta)
Olympus Dive Center (North Carolina)
SCUBATECH (Destin, Florida)
Neptune & Salencia Dive Center
(Kingston, ON)
Hunts Dive Center (Clayton NY)
Spencer Slate Dive Center
Dive Brockville Adventure Center & ABUCS Scuba

Diving & Other Related Items

Bill Bleyer: Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author Halftime Wreck Diving Fish Guy Photos The Dive Club

Dive Equipment

Hampton Dive Center Captain Mike's Diving Services Inc. Tiedemann's Diving Center Scuba Network (Long Island) Port Diver

Door Prizes Stream2Sea









































Bill Blyer
Pulitzer Prize-winning Journalist and Author









TDC LEADERSHIP



President: Courtney Lyons



Vice President: John Berntsen



Treasurer: Gus Bricker



Recording Secretary: Norma Leon



Corresponding Secretary: Bill Cadden

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Wreck Diving: [Vacant]



Beach Diving: Courtney Lyons & Martin



Oak Beach: John Bernsten & Eric Cregren



Camping Trips: Bruce Russo



T-Shirts & Swag: [Vacant]



Website: Jim Vafeas



Social Media: Jerry Kinkade



Newsletter: Randi Hochenberger

APPLICATION DATA SHEET

Name:	Age:	Date of Birth:	
Address:			
City:Zip:	Telephone	e:	
Email:			
Emergency Contact: Name:	Telephone:	Relationship:	
Level of Certification: Certifying Agence	y:	Date of Certification:	
Student 🗆 Yes 🗆 No Years Diving: Approx. Nun	nber of Dives mad	e: Deepest Dive to date:	
Have you ever made a planned decompression dive? [□ Yes □ No		
What are your diving interests? ☐ Wreck Diving ☐ Shore Diving ☐ U/W Photography ☐ Deep Diving (Check all that apply) ☐ Spear Fishing ☐ Night Diving ☐ Artifact Collecting ☐ Travel/Vacation ☐ Environmental Issues			
Are you First Aid/CPR certified? \square Yes \square No			
Are you interested in furthering your present level of o	ertification? \Box Ye	es 🗆 No	
What are you looking for in a dive club?			
Would you be interested in participating in club comm	ittees? □ Yes □	No	
When are you available for club dives/activities? (Chec	k all that apply):	\square days \square nights \square weekends	
Do you have Dive Accident Insurance (DAN or other)?	□ Yes □ No		
Are you a member of any other dive clubs? \square Yes \square	No If so, which or	nes?	
Membership Type: Please	check \square New \square	☐ Renewal	
☐ Single Membership: \$25.00. Full club membership ☐ Family Membership: \$35.00. Full Club membership for the person signing up, plus Partner and all children 26 years old and under.			
Disc	aimer:		
I understand that if accepted for membership in The Dive Club, I will be bound by the by-laws of The Dive Club and will be required to sign a waiver of liability and pay the applicable admission fee.			
Signature of applicant:		Date:	
Approved by: Signature/Title of Club officer:		Date:	



LIABILITY RELEASE AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK

This is an important legal document. You may wish to consult an attorney prior to signing it.

This release may be used against you in a court of law if you sue any released person or party.

Please read c	arefully, fill in all blanks and initial each paragraph before signing. Incomplete forms will not be accepted.
l,	, hereby affirm that I have been advised and thoroughly informed through my
open water	training of the inherent risks of skin and scuba diving.

- Further, I understand that diving with compressed air involves certain inherent risks; decompression sickness, embolism, or other hyperbaric injuries can occur that require treatment in a recompression chamber. I further understand that any trips of any kind (diving or non-diving), whether sponsored or not, by The Dive Club may be conducted at a site that is remote, either by time or distance or both, from such a recompression chamber. I still choose to proceed with such diving activities in spite of the absence of a recompression chamber in proximity to the dive site(s).
- I understand and agree that neither The Dive Club or any of their respective board members, officers, agents or assigns (hereinafter referred to as "Released Parties"), may be held liable or responsible in any way for any injury, death, or other damages to me or my family, heirs, or assigns that may occur as a result of my participation in any Dive Club activity, or as a result of negligence of any party, including the Released Parties, whether passive or active.
- In Consideration of being allowed to become a member of The Dive Club I hereby personally assume all risks in connection with diving or non-diving activity from any harm, injury or damage that may befall on me, including all risks connected therewith, whether foreseen or unforeseen.
- I further save and hold harmless said Dive Club and Released Parties from any claim or lawsuit by me, my family, estate, heirs, or assigns, arising out of my enrollment and participation in Club events including both claims arising during said event or after said event.
- I Further understand that skin diving and scuba diving are physically strenuous activities and that I will be exerting myself during any diving activity, and that if I am injured as a result of a heart attack, panic, hyperventilation, etc., that I expressly assume the risk of said injuries and that I will not hold the above listed individuals or companies responsible for the same.
- I further state that I am of lawful age and legally competent to sign this liability release, or that I have acquired the written consent of my parent or guardian.
- I acknowledge scuba diving is an activity that is done with a buddy. I will not make a solo dive during a Dive Club event unless I am certified to do so by an accredited training agency and I am equipped to make this dive safely.
- I understand that I have signed this document of my own free act.
- I acknowledge that The Dive Club does not provide buddies, gear, transportation, training, or professional advice pertaining to the sport of scuba diving. However, the dive sponsors will do their best to help club members find what they need for a dive by setting up email groups to allow individual club members to coordinate rides, buddies, and rental gear, if necessary.
- The Dive Club does not vet divers or make any determination about whether any diver is qualified to do any given dive. This decision is entirely up to the individual diver, as well as any external dive operator, such as a dive boat captain or resort operator. It is important to evaluate your current experience when making the decision to dive. If you only have experience diving in warm waters with optimal visibility, you should consider the additional challenges associated with northeast diving before making your decision. I expressly assume the risk of any injury or illness for each and every dive that I determine to make and hold harmless for the same the above listed companies and individuals.



Reviewed by Club Officer

- I acknowledge that for planned boat charters, the minimum certification and equipment requirements listed in our newsletter are the requirements of the boat captains. Please contact them directly if you have any questions about the suitability of a dive for you.
- I understand that DAN (Divers Alert Network) Insurance or other similar diving accident insurance policies are available to me if I choose to acquire this. I acknowledge that it is my own responsibility to educate myself on the available policies and choose the one, if any, that is appropriate for me. I understand that without this, I will be responsible for any medical bills or damages to my equipment that I incur.
- I recognize that I may receive false or misleading information from one or more club members or non-members pertaining to the relative difficulty of a dive or my ability to safely participate in or perform a dive. Additionally, I acknowledge that one or more club members or non-members may negligently approve of my dive plan, including preparation or intended dive plan, the condition of my equipment, my ability to use my equipment, or proper use of equipment. I understand and agree that I am responsible for determining whether I am capable of executing a dive safely, whether I have sufficient information regarding my own physical abilities and the intended dive to base this decision, as well as whether my equipment is in proper working condition and is sufficient for the intended dive. I release The Dive Club and all co-signers who by signing this waiver similarly release me from negligent acts or omissions of this nature.

BY THIS INSTRUMENT TO EXEMPT AND RELEASE THE DIVE CLUB, AND ALL RELATED ENTITIES AS DEFINED ABOVE, FROM ALL LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBLITY WHATSOEVER FOR PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR WRONGFUL DEATH HOWEVER CAUSED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASED PARTIES, WHETHER PASSIVE OR ACTIVE.

I HAVE FULLY INFORMED MYSELF OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS LIABILITY RELEASE AND EXPRESS ASSUMPTION OF RISK BY READING IT BEFORE I SIGNED IT ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND MY HEIRS.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Date

Date

Membership Directory Data Sheet

First Name
Last Name
Telephone Number
E-Mail Address
I wish to have the above information published in the 2025 Membership Directory to be distributed to the Membership.
Signature of Member
Date

