



Kendal & Lakes Sub-Aqua Club (Branch 0546)

**Minutes of Special Committee Meeting to consider issues associated with Nitrox Supply
Thursday 16 August 2012 at The Duke of Cumberland.**

Present:

Mark Littlewood	Chairman
Paul Fry	Diving Officer
Gary Davis	Try Dive Co-ordinator
Brian Loader	Equipment Officer
Lucy Rutherford	Club Secretary
Naomi Fisher	Welfare Officer
Debbie Davis	Committee Member
Russ Curwen	Committee Member
Dave Mason	

Item	Discussion
<p>Purchase of Midi Pump</p>	<p>The grant application from Sport England included provision to purchase a Midi pump to be used to remove oxygen at low pressure from J bottle, to increase the efficiency of air usage from a J bottle. It was concluded that we should go ahead and buy the midi pump. As we had money in the grant to purchase the pump and that if we didn't buy the pump the grant awarding body would probably take the money for the pump back. Action: Gary Davis to arrange purchase of midi pump.</p> <p>A query was raised to check if the new equipment is covered under our existing insurance. Action: Gary Davis to check with treasurer if new equipment is covered under existing insurance cover.</p>
<p>Set-up of new nitrox equipment</p>	<p>It was decided that two bottles of O2 should be purchased and that oxygen supply be permanently provided to both the partial pressure and continuous blending panels as proposed by Paul Fry in his email of 15th July 2012. Action: Paul Fry to get two cylinders of O2 and arrange connection for new continuous blending panel.</p>
<p>Supply of O2</p>	<p>The supply of O2 was discussed, at present obtaining O2 from BOC in Barrow was the best option. A couple of club members stated that they we happy to collect O2 from Barrow. It was concluded that we would continue to investigate other options for obtaining O2, but at present getting O2 from Barrow was the best option. It was also recognised that the supply of O2 may also be a potential issue in limiting O2 use within the club.</p>
<p>Operation of new nitrox panel</p>	<p>It was decide that we would use the new panel to produce a standard 32% mix which could be used to either top up a tank or fill empty tank to get a 32% mix.</p> <p>Fills would be recorded on the existing nitrox sheets. Action: Paul Fry to updated nitrox log sheets to include a column for fills from the new panel.</p> <p>Tanks for filling from new panel will be identified using an existing nitrox tag, plus a new tag to indicate fill from continuous blending panel. Action: Mark Littlewood to produce new tags to identify cylinders to be filled using the continuous blending panel.</p> <p>It was noted that all fills provided would have to be recorded and all tanks tested following fills and marked up with contents.</p> <p>We also need to identify nitrox qualification of club members and make this information available within the compressor house. Action: Lucy Rutherford to ask all club members what there nitrox qualification are and to make this</p>

Item	Discussion
	<p>information available within the compressor house.</p> <p>Following installation of the new system. Training in use of the new system will be offered to all existing nitrox blenders. Following this training new instructions for use of the compressor and blending panels will be produced.</p>
<p>How to charge for NITROX</p>	<p>It was decided to continue charging for fills from existing partial pressure blending panel using the existing system. .</p> <p>Three potential charging options were considered: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Charging a set fee to gain access to Nitrox 2. Forming a 'nitrox club' 3. Charging per bottle <p>It was decided that Option 1 would make Nitrox available to all, would result in a similar amount of admin as current system but would not be fair to all members given the differing levels of diving carried out by members. Option 2, would exclude those not within the 'nitrox club' from using nitrox. It was decided that Option 3 would be fair and make nitrox available to all but would not reduce the existing admin associated with charging for nitrox. Option 3 was selected as the preferred option.</p> <p>What price to charge for cylinders was then discussed it was decided initially to charge: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £2 for a 10 litre cylinder fill • £2.50 for a 12 litre cylinder fill • £3 for a 15 litre or twin 7s fill. <p>This is based on a per litre O2 cost of 1p and assuming the tanks will contain about 70 bar when filled.</p> <p>It was also decided that the costs charged for oxygen would have to be monitored against the cost of the oxygen to ensure that the cost of oxygen is being met by the that charged.</p>
<p>Future</p>	<p>It was discussed that we could consider look into the benefits, costs, need for providing banked air (either compressed air or NITROX).</p>
<p>Actions</p>	<p>Gary to arrange purchase of midi pump.</p> <p>Gary Davis to check with treasurer if new equipment is covered under existing insurance cover.</p> <p>Paul Fry to get two cylinders of O2 and arrange connection for new continuous blending panel.</p> <p>Paul Fry to updated nitrox log sheets to include a column for fills from the new panel.</p> <p>Mark Littlewood to produce new tags to indentify cylinders to be filled using the continuous blending panel.</p> <p>Lucy Rutherford to ask all club members what there nitrox qualification are and to make this information available within the compressor house.</p>