## In The Event of a Diving Incident

- **take the following steps to deal with the situation:**

## Step one: deal with the emergency

In the event of any diving incident of suspected decompression illness or barotraumas, contact:

- **Sea diving:** call the coastguard, DSC or VHF channel 16 or dial 999 (24 hours).
- **Inland diving in England, Northern Ireland and Wales:** call the BHA/RN Diver helpline 07831 151523 (24 hours)
- **Inland diving in Scotland:** call Aberdeen Royal Infirmary 0345 408 6008 (24 hours)

## Step two: contact the BSAC team

Should an accident occur in which lives are lost, serious injuries sustained or property damaged, the **Diver Resources Team** (DRT) at BSAC must be notified at the earliest possible opportunity.
For BSAC assistance or advice following an incident please call Sophie Heptonstall on **+44 (0)151 350 6207** - this number is available **24 hours**. You can also ask for advice by **email**.
BSAC will notify the Incidents Adviser and the Insurers who, if necessary, will appoint legal specialists and other experts (see – **Conditions of Insurance**).
Serious accidents may result in a claim on the **Membership Liability Insurance policy**. It's essential – and a condition of the insurance policy - that the insurers are advised quickly that a claim is a possibility; otherwise the cover could be invalidated.

## Step three: report the incident

BSAC will notify the relevant Regional Coach, whose duties include the investigation of accidents and incidents. The Coach can help the branch/club with its own internal enquiry and with the completion of the Incident/Accident Report Form.

**Report an incident** An electronic reporting form is in place for BSAC

It should be stressed that except in the initial enquiry at branch/club level or in the Courts (if the matter ever gets that far), BSAC will not publish the names of those persons involved: anonymity is assured. The report to the **Diving Conference** makes no reference to the branch/club involved and refers only to 'Diver A', 'Diver B', etc.

https://www.bsac.com/safety/diving-incidents/in-the-event-of-a-diving-incident/