



Diveheart Professional Code of Ethics and Conduct

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

As a Diveheart Professional, you are in a unique and rewarding role as the individual teaching and introducing others to adaptive scuba diving. You will provide the knowledge and skills that will allow your students to imagine and experience the possibilities in their lives. With this opportunity comes a lot of responsibility for yourself, your students, and all those, regardless of their abilities, who you educate about adaptive scuba diving. You will be taking your obligation for the safety of others to an entirely new level as you conduct courses and programs as a Diveheart Professional, while at the same time teaching others how to do the equivalent as members of Diveheart Adaptive Dive Teams. Throughout these moments, courses, and programs, Diveheart expects you to exemplify the values and intent that uphold Diveheart's mission, vision, and purpose.

As a Diveheart Professional, you agree to the following:

GENERAL:

1. Conduct yourself and your Diveheart-related activities in a professional manner, exhibiting integrity, honesty, and inclusivity.
2. Treat buddy candidates, adaptive diver candidates, and all those involved in dive activities, with decency and respect, regardless of age, beliefs, race, ethnicity, gender, religious affiliation, disability, or sexual orientation.
3. Do not disparage or denigrate the Diveheart organization, Diveheart Professionals, buddies, adaptive divers, or any other dive industry professionals.
4. Treat nature, the environment, and the ocean with respect and care. Into all of the divers that you share scuba diving with, instill an attitude of mindfulness and awareness of your actions and impacts on the locations and dive sites you have the privilege to utilize and experience.
5. Represent yourself as a Diveheart Adaptive Scuba Instructor only when you are in Teaching Status with Diveheart. Only teach Diveheart courses that you are qualified to instruct.
6. You may only represent yourself as a Diveheart Professional if you hold at least the minimum qualifications of an active-status Divemaster certification with a recognized scuba diving agency, current professional liability insurance, and a Diveheart Advanced Adaptive Dive Buddy certification.
7. Use and follow the requirements and intent of Diveheart's Standards and Procedures laid out in the Diveheart Instructor Manual, General Standards and Procedures document, Diveheart eLearning courses, and maintain current knowledge on any updates added to the Diveheart curriculum and related paperwork.
8. Respect, reinforce, and abide by any special considerations displayed on any Diveheart certification cards.
9. Maintain records of all Diveheart buddy candidates and adaptive diver candidates for a minimum of seven years after they earn their Diveheart certification.
10. Promptly report any Diveheart related scuba diving incidences to Diveheart headquarters.
11. Cooperate during Diveheart investigations by responding fully and promptly to inquiries.
12. Do not modify Diveheart training materials or copy-written documents, or substitute other courses, course materials, or programs for Diveheart's courses and curriculums.
13. Accept that a criminal conviction involving abuse and/or sexual abuse of a minor or adult, either during or prior to Diveheart Certification, is grounds for denial or termination of your Diveheart Certification.

SAFETY AND DIVING:

14. Apply your best judgement to all situations, and put the safety of your students as your first priority and responsibility during the Diveheart courses and programs you conduct.
15. Be aware of your own mental and physical health, and self-assess whether or not you are fit to teach, supervise, rescue, and perform any other reasonably possible tasks that could arise during the adaptive diving situation you are about to facilitate on each particular day, at each particular location.



16. Assessing Personal ability: There is a wide range of physical ability and fitness among dive professionals. Recognize your personal ability and limitations as it applies to leading and supervising adaptive divers, including your ability to respond to a diver emergency. Personal ability can change over time. Evaluate your practices and accommodate, if need be, for loss of strength, stamina, hearing, sight, etc. Think through the adaptive dive plan and emergency action plan as it applies to any personal limitations, taking conservative measures to increase the margin of safety in the respective situation. This can include using assistants that are Diveheart certified, diving in favorable conditions, and assigning the appropriate Adaptive Dive Team needed to reduce risk to those you supervise, and to yourself.
 - a. Each person has an individual state of mind and comfort level that may be very different from yours, and may vary greatly between adaptive divers and adaptive buddies in a group. Be willing to make the call to cancel a dive for the group or an individual at any time to err on the side of safety.
 - b. Be watchful for signs of diver stress and anxiety, in both yourself and others, and act quickly and appropriately when you feel or see them.
17. Assessing a Dive site: Make sure you, your candidates, and the entire Adaptive Dive Team are familiar with the amenities, accessibility, entries, exits, safety equipment, and basic emergency action plan for each dive site prior to diving.
 - a. Insure you are familiar with the site, and capable of teaching or leading dives before entering the water.
 - b. Evaluate the dive conditions, weather, and environment at the dive site, and make sure the dive site on this day is within everyone's diving and personal comfort levels.
 - c. Uphold and abide by any local laws, rules, or regulations that pertain to the dive site.
 - d. Utilize effective group control measures for each dive site by making appropriate use of available resources such as downlines, Diveheart Professionals/Divemasters, and effective attendance tracking methods.
18. Assessing Knowledge: Assess your knowledge readiness to teach or lead divers on any given day. Make sure that you are familiar with Diveheart's standards, latest updates, and teaching tools for the Diveheart course you are instructing. Additionally, ensure you are aware of the readiness and abilities of your student divers, encouraging a mentality that anyone can cancel any dive, for any reason. When instructing Diveheart courses, ensure that all necessary pre-requisite knowledge and land clinics have been completed prior to any water activities.
19. Assessing Confidence: Although you are fully qualified to take on your trained and earned role as a Diveheart Professional, always make appropriately conservative judgment calls, especially as a newly-certified adaptive professional. Remain humble, and stay open and receptive to bettering yourself, acquiring new approaches to mentoring and instructing, and further developing your leadership skills. Diveheart Professionals are encouraged to seek mentorship, co-instruct and/or co-lead courses and programs, and shadow experienced Diveheart Professionals to better themselves. After a period of leadership inactivity, implementing these values will help refresh your knowledge, assure your leadership skills are up to par, and revitalize your confidence in your abilities.
20. Assessing Mastery: Mastery is the calm, confident ability to consistently and easily perform and repeat a skill or task. All scuba diving inherently involves some risk, but adaptive scuba diving can be prone to even more risk, making mastery of skills an invaluable part of increasing the margin of safety during adaptive scuba diving activities. As a Diveheart Professional, take the time to teach, supervise, and have divers put in the practice to master basic skills and breath control in a variety of conditions.

If you breach the Diveheart Code of Ethics and Conduct, your certification as a Diveheart Professional is at risk.

I have read, understood, and agree to all of the above.

PRINT:

SIGNATURE:

DATE: