



W.S.D.A. The Seadragons Gear check and maintenance guideline

Below you can find a guideline for maintaining and cleaning (scuba) gear. This can be helpful when having your own set but also a good reminder how one should check and handle (rented) gear. If you have any questions, let us know. Happy diving!

BEFORE USE (STILL PERFORM YOUR BUDDY CHECK BEFORE EVERY DIVE):

Before using scuba gear, especially when it is not your own, it is advisable to do a proper check.

Tank – Check the tank for a test date that is up to the industry standards. Inspect it for any form of damage, including corrosion. Lastly, when in doubt check if the tank is full and especially when diving with another gas mix than normal air, check its oxygen content.

Regulator – Check for damage and leaks. If the first stage was submerged unprotected you could be seeing moisture inside the SPG. Try to breath through the regulator, without it being connected to see if the diaphragm closes and is correct in place. This should create a bit of a vacuum.

BCD – Inflate BCD and check for leaks and damage. Check all deflators/dump valves.

Weights (BCD and/or weightbelt) – check if the BCD integrated weights and/or weight belt are functioning and secure the weights properly

Mask, snorkel, fins and neoprene – Check if the fit is correct, if there is any damage or odor.

Dive computer – Test the display and check if the battery is charged.

AFTER USE

Rinsing – Always rinse scuba gear after use to ensure its lifespan and functionality. Make sure all salt sediment and organisms are removed. Especially to remove salt (water) it is important to thoroughly rinse your gear or preferably let it soak and even better in lukewarm water.

Regulator – When rinsing the regulator make sure not to press the purge buttons when pressure is off as water could infiltrate the regulator. Also make sure the first stage does not submerge when it is not attached to the cylinder. Also putting a clean and dry dust cap back on the first stage prevents moisture and dust from entering. In case this does happen please let the association know and do not use it. The regulator then needs to be checked and cleaned as water infiltration can cause damage, like corrosion or contamination.

BCD – Aside from rinsing the outside of the BCD with special attention to the deflator and dump valve it is good to rinse the inside of your gear. By holding the BCD upside-down and holding the deflator button you can get any remaining water out of your BCD in case you did not deflate correctly during your dive. By holding your BCD normally and pressing the deflator button again you can get clean fresh water in and properly rinse the inside. Then let water out the same way again and slightly inflate your BCD for storage to properly dry.

Drying and storage

Make sure your gear dries completely before storing it. Inflate the BCD slightly to ensure the BCD also dries from the inside. Direct sunlight can be harmful for your gear. When storage, make sure the storage space is dry and clean. Try to avoid pressing your gear into anything to avoid damage. With wetsuits this can cause marks where the wetsuit will deteriorate faster and isolate less.