



*The Florida State University*  
Diving Control Board

## **GUIDELINES FOR DIVING OPERATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

The following guidelines go into effect on April 15, 2022. Additional measures may be required based upon specific characteristics of the planned operations, environmental conditions, current community public health situation, or further guidance from the University.

- It is expected that a diver who feels ill or has reasonable cause to believe they have been exposed to SARS-CoV-2 will exclude her/himself from diving operations and it is recommended they obtain testing for COVID-19.
- If a diver tests positive for or is suspected to have COVID-19, they cannot participate in diving operations until they meet the following criteria:
  - It has been at least 10 days from when their symptoms started or from the date they tested positive, if no symptoms.
  - Primary symptoms have resolved (symptoms such as loss of taste and smell may take longer to recover) and have returned to baseline exercise tolerance.
  - They have been without fever for at least 24 hours, without using fever reducing medications.
- It is recommended that divers complete a medical evaluation prior to returning to diving in the following cases:
  - They experienced any significant lower respiratory or cardiac symptoms, including chest pain, palpitations, significant cough, or shortness of breath.
  - They had an abnormal chest x-ray.
  - They had symptoms severe enough to require hospitalization.
- It is recommended that facial coverings are worn indoors and outdoors when practical.
- It is recommended that all dive team members complete COVID-19 testing prior to a dive operation unless they are fully vaccinated and without any symptoms.
- Divers may choose to provide documentation for receiving the COVID-19 vaccination, which then will be on file with the Diving Safety Officer.
- Dive equipment should be dedicated to an individual diver for the duration of the diving operation.
- All divers must take care not to transfer saliva from breathing equipment to other persons or surfaces.
- If air sharing is required, refrain from sharing a single second stage unless to refrain would result in severe injury or loss of life.
- Each diver is responsible for disinfecting their own equipment after the diving operation.