

## IAHD Guided Activities



At the Animal Encounters Dive Center, we are happy to accommodate customers with disabilities for snorkeling or diving with stingrays, dolphins and the possibility to feed sharks and sea turtles.

The infrastructure at our dive center is completely adapted to handicapped people and offers accessible changing rooms, showers and access to the water. We also have equipment adapted to your needs and for your comfort.



People with disabilities may join introduction dive, snorkeling with dolphins and scuba diving course

We have a team of instructors/guides who are qualified through the IAHD (International Association of Handicapped Divers). They have taken special training to learn how to assist people with limitations in the water. This team is required to work under certain conditions. These conditions are based on water safety only.

For the above reason, people with disabilities who wish to make reservations are required to fill out a medical form. Once we receive the completed medical form, we are able to respond with the possibilities and prices for reservations. The completed medical form can either be sent by email or by fax. All medical information is kept strictly confidential.

### **Please note**

Although all our reservations are carefully made with water safety in mind, it may happen that upon meeting a participant in person, we will need to change our decision

## **Scuba Diving for Physically Disabled**

CURious2DIVE a registered active member of the IAHD (International Association for Handicapped Divers) for several years, and welcomes divers with physical disabilities to explore Curacao's beautiful underwater world with the help of our experienced and enthusiast dive guides, instructors.

When you like to become a certified Scuba diver, there are several IAHD certification courses available:

### **IAHD CWD (Confined Water Diver)**

The Confined Water Diver course is a certification course that allows the physically challenged diver to conduct Scuba diving in the environment of a pool. This IAHD course is for those who like to enjoy being weightless underwater and having fun while exercising Scuba diving but don't have the need to explore the open water.

### **IAHD Discover Scuba Diving Programs**

Discover Scuba Diving (DSD) programs introduce scuba diving to any interested person, age 10 and above, in a safe, controlled pool setting. For qualified divers, the Advanced DSD program allows qualified divers to expand the DSD experience into open water. Classes are supervised by IAHD-certified professionals. Note: DSD is not a certification level class. Medical approval from the diver's physician is required for this and all IAHD diving programs.

### **IAHD Sport Diver**

The IAHD Sport Diver course is an entry level open water scuba certification that provides candidates ages 12 and up with the necessary knowledge and skills required to dive safely in an open water environment under direct supervision of an IAHD-certified professional. Certified IAHD Sport Divers may dive to a maximum depth of 40 feet.

### **IAHD OWD (Open Water Diver)**

The Open Water Diver course provides the elementary skills and knowledge to dive in a safe way in an open-water environment. This course is performance based which implies that the diver has to show competence in theoretical and water skills requirements to become certified. Upon completion of this Scuba course you will receive the Open Water Diver certification based upon your level of dependency and ability to assist your fellow Scuba divers.

#### **Prerequisites:**

Minimum age of 12 years when course start and submitting a medical approval for Scuba diving.

### **IAHD AOWD (Advanced Open Water Diver)**

During the Advanced Open Water Diver Course you will gain more knowledge and diving skills. This course focuses on open water dives and contains only short sessions of academics. There are no compulsory dives and you can make your own program together with your instructor. Max. depth is 100 feet.

#### **Prerequisites:**

Be a certified Open Water Diver with minimum age of 12 years when course start. Additional already have participated in a minimum of 5 Scuba dives. Submitting a medical approval for Scuba diving.

### **IAHD Specialty Diver**

The Specialty Diver Program is adaptable to suit the interests and abilities of each diver. Some of the most popular courses are:

- Enriched Air (Nitrox) Diver – our #1 specialty course!
- Fish Identification
- Night Diver
- Peak Performance Buoyancy
- Equipment Specialist I & II
- Wreck Diver
- Deep Diver
- Underwater Videographer
- Search & Recovery Diver
- Boat Diver
- Multi-Level & Computer Diver
- Underwater Digital Photography
- Underwater Navigation Diver

**IAHD Multilevel Certification System:**

The IAHD uses a multilevel certification system in which the safety of the diver and accompanying divers are the main focus. The certifying instructor makes a decision during the dive training:

**Level 1:** The Diver may dive with any other certified diver.

**Level 2:** The Diver have to dive with 2 adult certified divers of whom at least one has completed the IAHD Dive Partner Training.

**Level 3:** The Diver must dive with 3 adult certified divers of whom at least one has completed the IAHD Dive Leader Training or Pro-Training.

**IAHD Dive Partner**

The Dive Partner course is designed to allow certified divers, who have completed an RSTC-recognized non-adaptive scuba training program, to be certified to fill the key role of a certified support diver for an IAHD-certified adaptive scuba diver. An IAHD Dive Partner is specially trained in how to dive with a disabled diver.

**Prerequisites:**

Minimum age of 16 years when course start.

Minimum diving experience: Be a certified Rescue, First Aid and CPR Scuba diver by an international recognized dive training organization and show proof of a minimum of 20 logged dives with experience in navigation and night diving and evaluate and sign the appropriate medical statement.

**IAHD Pro-Training (*only on special request*)**

The IAHD Pro-Training is a totally integrated program for Dive masters, Assistant Instructors and Instructors which consists of two to three days of classroom, pool and open water training. Candidates learn:

- To be able to relate to some of the common psychological aspects of disabled persons.
- The characteristics of various physical disabilities, and how they relate to scuba diving.
- To recognize and adapt to some of the unique characteristics of mental & emotional disabilities.
- How to overcome some of the problems you may encounter when training physically disabled divers, through simulations and workshops in both confined and open water environments.
- Proven methods for assisting those with sight impairment, hearing impairment, spinal injuries, amputations, and other disabilities.
- How to adapt and modify normal diving equipment to the needs of the disabled diver.
- To anticipate the needs and attitudes of challenged students and to develop a foresight in logistic awareness and considerations.

**Only on special request**