

Training Committee Report

October 14, 2005

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As reported at our last CSLSA meeting, besides holding quarterly trainings, one of CLTOA's current goals is to promote and award a "Professional Lifeguard certificate" to qualified lifeguards that have completed a particular course of study. This could hopefully be adopted someday by various California colleges. Our concept is that once a certain curriculum is completed by a lifeguard, a certificate could then be issued, perhaps first from CLTOA, and then later adopted by future participating colleges. We are happy to announce that Santa Ana College (which is in Orange County), now offers a complete assortment of courses, including swiftwater rescue, cliff rescue, and IRB courses, as well as all the other professional lifeguard courses that can prepare employees to advance up through the ranks.

Following our request for suggestions from you as to what levels should exist in a certificate program at our last meeting; it was recommended that the levels be set-up as "tracks," such as in the following example:

Level I (one year minimum experience)

Advanced First Aid or First Responder
Basic Scuba
ICS 100

Level II (two year's experience required)

EMT
PWC, IRB, or Rescue Boat Operations
Swiftwater Rescue I, Rescue Diver, or Advanced Scuba

Level III (three year's experience required)

PC 832 or Command 1A
Swiftwater Rescue II, Rescue Diver, or Advanced Scuba
ICS 200, Instructor 1A
CS 300, Command 1B, or Instructor 1B

In this example of levels, this format would provide the opportunity if someone were on a path to get their Instructor 1A and 1B, for this to be accomplished by level 3. However, if someone was mostly after swiftwater training, that would be included in levels 2 & 3, without them even having to take any instructor courses if they didn't want to. If it's the ICS courses that the person is most interested in, by level 3 they can have taken ICS 100, 200, and 300, without taking all the other courses in those levels. If Scuba is what the person is primarily after, they can get basic, rescue, and advanced, through levels 1, 2, and 3, without taking any swiftwater.... and so forth.

In this program outline we are recognizing "level 1" beyond a rookie or entry-level position. In other words, everyone eligible for a certificate would have already taken Basic USLA Open Water Lifesaving; which includes *Intro to Open Water Lifeguarding*, *Title 22*, and *Healthcare Provider CPR*. So, we would start the first level as a recurrent level, which would include a minimum of one season's experience with a USLA approved agency, a letter from their training officer, and the curriculum that is proposed at each level.

Comments & Suggestions: For any comments or suggestions in regards to this proposed certificate program, please contact Terry Murphy at (949) 673-3431, or email him at: tmurphy744@hotmail.com

Next Dive: Wednesday, October 26, 2005 at Lake Mission Viejo at 10:00 AM. We're planning a equipment "Ditch & Recovery" dive, at 25 feet. For an outline of the procedure see "NAUI Leadership & Instruction" manual. The lake water temperature is currently 76 degrees with 32 foot visibility. For more information regarding this dive contact Mike Scott at (949) 770-1313 ext. 319, or email at: miscott@lakemissionviejo.org

Next Meeting: TBA (determined) at our October 26th event. See ya there!