

**Australian Underwater Federation  
National Director of Coaching  
Report 14<sup>th</sup> March 2008**

## **Level One Ocean Coach Course; ASC Approval**

The Level 1 Ocean Snorkel Coach still holds a shroud of mystery around it since November 2005 as to whether it will be approved or not by the 'Coaching and Officiating unit', Australian Sports Commission (ASC).

As explained in my previous years report

Quote AUF NDC report Oct 2006

*There is a heavy cloud over the Level One Ocean Coach, which also encompassed the Spearfishing and Freediving elements. This course may no longer be approved, as it no longer fits within the guidelines of what ASC call a sport, particularly the spearfishing element. This is very disappointing as we have been associated with the Aust Sport Commission for many years.*

I have kept in contact with Peter Topp regarding this issue however I have been careful not to push too hard in case they pull the carpet out from under us and therefore we no longer have an approved course. I believe the consequences of not been approved by the ASC would mean we would have to stand alone , the only way I could see that happening in a credible manner is to become a registered training organisation RTO. To do that someone would have to write one. I do have the skills and experience to do that, but I would not have the time to write it as a volunteer, (expected time 3 months full time work). The time to maintain RTO status is a consuming business. Most training organisations employ personnel to do that.

My last contact was in May 2007, since then I have not found time to follow up. We have not met all the criteria that ASC is asking for.

*(Please see attached email dated 15<sup>th</sup> May 2007 at end of report.)*

## **Level One Underwater Hockey coach Course; ASC Approval**

The Level One Underwater Hockey Course has been approved in kind, subject to insurance matters by the AUF being resolved. This will require a letter form the AUF detailing what insurance cover they have and the president's signature on the master copy. Please find below a copy of the Underwater Hockey approval from Peter Topp.

*(Please see attached email in full end of letter dated 15 May 2007 at end of this report.)*

In brief, there are 3 points that need attention.

There are two observations for you to consider:

### **Section 1.11 - Insurance**

The ASC recommends that course presenters be covered by insurance. The Training Program detail indicates that "Each sporting commission of the AUF is responsible for its own insurance and each working coach is required to have there own insurance". It also advises that there is no insurance for the AUF National office holders. It is recommended that each candidate should be made aware of this situation when undertaking the course.

### **Outcome thus far:**

- **Until the AUF finalises it's Insurance issues we cannot meet this criteria**

### **Section 3.2**

3. Outline which assessment .... (page 4) The competency "Plan and prepare a training session in open water environment..." suggests (to me) that it may relate to open water. Given Underwater Hockey is generally played in a pool environment,

maybe this should be about planning an activity in a "closed" environment? If that is the case please make the necessary adjustment.

#### **Outcome thus far:**

- Superficial correction and updated development of the Level One Underwater hockey Coach Course Coordinators' Manual is in sore need. Since I have had no interest/enquiry from any underwater coaches or the Underwater Hockey Commission on this manual, I have not put my limited resources and energy here.

As the ASC does not have an electronic copy of the Training Program (I was able to review the course from the Co-coordinator's Handbook hard copy forwarded to the ASC previously) would you please forward a copy for our electronic records.

#### **Outcome thus far:**

- I have been consistently working towards getting all documents in a presentable logical and alphabetical format for CD electronic use. This is an enormous job, not all stuff is in suitably electronic format and I am not a "word editorial expert." I have now put 2 solid weeks of my holiday time over Xmas into it. In Oct © 2005 you have received a CD of this before however it is clumsily catalogued in its electronic format.
- Sections of the Course Coordinators manual have been updated, and are currently available. A current hard copy will be available to relevant AUF officials i.e. President and Secretary.
- A CD will be available to the ASC and relevant AUF officials i.e. President and Secretary, when I finish it!!!!
- This updated manual has been provided, at no cost to previous Manual owners, so far, Trevor Still WA and Peter Blunt ACT. The intent is to provide a copy to all previous owners.
- The original copy (brought to this AUF AGM meeting will require the AUF presidents' signature.)
- Other Level 2 coaches who have purchased or been given copies need to receive a new copy.

### **Level Two Underwater Hockey coach Course; ASC Approval**

- No. Course is antiquated, and need to be redone. I have had no time for this and it is an extensive work
- Jenny Kennedy is one coach that handed in her final work for Level 2, from a course that ran in 2005. My apologies to Jenny. I have not had time to assess and finalise her qualifications. Quite frankly I am not sure I have a proper measuring stick to do so. I will finalise this as best I can over the next month

### **Level Two Ocean Coach Course; ASC Approval**

- No. Course is antiquated, and need to be redone. I have had no time for this and it is an extensive work
- However I can not work on them and I simply do not have time until the Level One Coach Ocean and Underwater hockey are through.

### **Level O (Orientation) Coach Course;**

This has been updated specific course content, and competency-based assessment. Copies available in the Course Coordinators manual

### **Course Coordinator manual**

Significant work has been done on sections off the Course Coordinator manual

See list below

- Introduction and Contents
- Part 1 Administration
- Part 3 Level One Sport
- Part 5 Level One Ocean Coach
- Part 6 Accreditation

- Part 7 Forms

*Note; A copy is available at this meeting. Data is on disk in a more logical order, however as yet not perfected for viewing via only CD. Hard copy much easier to understand*

### **Aust Sports Commission Changes**

- Has a new Beginning Coaching manual 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. The accompanying workbook no longer exists
- The Level one Sport General Course can now be done on line. It is a user friendly format and greatly assists in the delivery of course.

**Level 1 Sport General Course**

**Completed via the internet;** go to the (ASC) Australian Sport Commission learning portal;  
<https://learning.ausport.gov.au/jPortal/default.aspx>

The course is aimed at first time and beginner coaches. The course contains five modules and will take approximately six hours to complete. There is assessment included within each module of the course.

Use the text 'Beginning Coaching' 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, provided to you at the recent Level One Snorkel Ocean coach Course as your resource. When you have completed these 5 modules, print off the certificate and provide a photocopy.

- The Level Two Sport General course can also be done on line.

### **Courses run by AUF NDC**

SA	Pt Noarlunga Reef, Adelaide SA March 4 - 5 2006	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Completed
QLD	Moreton Island March 31 – April 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2006	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Completed
SA	Pt Noarlunga Reef, Adelaide SA Dec 16 – 17 <sup>th</sup> 2006	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Completed
SA	Pt Noarlunga Reef, Adelaide SA March 3-4 <sup>th</sup> 2007	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Completed
SA	Pt Noarlunga Reef, Adelaide SA Dec 15 – 16 <sup>th</sup> 2007	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Completed
NSW	Coffs Harbour High School Coffs Harbour NSW Feb 16 – 17 <sup>th</sup> 2008	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Completed

### **Courses run by Level 2 Coaches**

WA	Trevor Still Perth Hillary's diving Academy Jan 12-13 <sup>th</sup> 2008 <b>AUF NDC present</b> Other course in February/March are planned, as yet to receive notification	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Completed
VIC	Nov/Dec 2006 David Wailes & Jan Taylor <b>AUF NDC present</b>	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Completed
VIC	Nov/Dec 2007 David Wailes & Jan Taylor <b>Both Level 2 coaches came to Pt Noarlunga Dec 2007 for L 1 Ocean Coach Course; in order to finalise Level 2 qualifications</b>	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Completed
ACT	Peter Blunt various students in 2008	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Completed

### **Proposed Courses 2008**

SA	Pt Noarlunga Reef, Adelaide SA April 12 - 13 <sup>th</sup> 2008	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Planning underway
SA	Pt Noarlunga Reef, Adelaide SA Dec 13 – 14 <sup>th</sup> 2008	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Planning underway
NSW	?		
WA	?		
QLD	Brisbane date to be advised	Ocean Snorkel Coach	Planning underway Judy Breeze
VIC	?		

If you would like a Level One Coach course facilitated in your state or you have level 2 coaches that would like to run one with my guidance/assistance, please contact me ASAP so I can program course dates.

**I will only be available until 16<sup>th</sup> August 2008. Dates will have to work around my work schedule.**

My insurance runs out then and I doubt I will be able to afford another year when I weigh up the income versus expenditure brought in by courses.

### **Level One Ocean Coach Snorkelling)**

Courses are being run in;

ACT	Level 2 Coach	Peter Blunt
VIC	Level 2 Coach	David Wailes and Jan Taylor
SA	Level 2 Coach	Mary-Anne Stacey
WA	Level 2 Coach	Trevor Still

Other states/locations on request, minimum no. of candidates 10    Level 2 Coach Mary-Anne Stacey

### **Level One Ocean - Spearfishing Coach**

- no coaching course run this year

### **Level One Ocean - Free diving Coach**

- no coaching course run this year

### **Level One Underwater Hockey Coach**

- no coaching course run this year
- No interest from underwater hockey expressed. That being the case as a volunteer with limited time I have not actively sought Underwater Hockey coaching interest.

### **Active Level 2 Coaches have been encouraged;**

- Vic; David Wailes and Jan Taylor, have run numerous snorkelling courses over the years in NASDS and have chosen to move to the AUF. In Dec 2007 they were assisted to SA to observe a level One Ocean Coach Course. This achieved standard of practise between coaching courses and finalise their Level 2 sports specific requirements
- WA; Trevor Still. Assisted Trevor Still in Perth for a Level one Ocean Coach so as to achieve standard of practice
- SA; Steve Ellis. Flew to Perth to observe Trevor Still's WA course in action. I have employed Steve Ellis (Charlie), on many occasions over the years. He continues to be an assessor of Level One Coaches at courses in South Australia. He is a mentor/assessor for Level 1 coaches and signs through Level O (orientation) coaches on the AUF's behalf.

### **Course Coordinator manuals**

Copies of the Course Co-ordinator manual are available to current level 2 Snorkel Coaches who wish to run Level One Coaching courses for a fee of \$150.00.

### **Manuals**

- The upgraded **AUF Introductory to Snorkelling and Underwater** hockey manual 2008 edition is available on request for coaches
- The updated **AUF Standards & Procedures manual**. A 2007 edition is available on request for coaches

*Note; My 2005 suggestion of making these manuals available to current financial coaches to download of the net for a once only fee of \$10.00 has not been actioned yet.*

## **AUF NDC Costs**

### **Insurance**

August 2007 the AUF (through NSW) arranged to have my insurance paid so that I would be covered whilst facilitating and employed people on Snorkel Coach Courses.

It does not cover me as an official whilst pursuing my duties.

Both the above are a requirement of the Aust Sport Commission

This was greatly appreciated;

- all Public liability and professional Indemnity insurance costs in the past have been borne by myself
- Insurance costs have increased tremendously and the charges for my courses do not cover the insurance angle. To do so would send the price to high and run us out of the market
- The insurance I have had in the past was offshore with SSI, a dubious situation. It was doubtful as to whether I was really covering employees. a situation I was not happy with but could afford no more

### **Comments form my previous report 2006 are relevant**

I welcome the information that will be presented this AGM. I wish to utilise this service for myself and avail insurance to new and old coaches

### **This is imperative to set up if we wish to stay within the ASC or set up as an RTO**

We must look into the insurance angle both Aust Sport Commission and RTO's needs to have sufficient insurance for professional liability for coaches, officials, office holders as well as sufficient public liability.

### **Expenses**

Sue Dockar can verify exact expenses reimbursed for AUF NDC. Since last report in Nov 2006 approximate expenditure is;

2-Jan-07	\$	2,605.67
18-Feb-07	\$	628.53
20-Aug-07	\$	373.35
7-Feb-08	\$	3,704.19
	\$	<b>7,311.74</b>

### **Something to be aware of:**

There seem to be increasing interest in Outdoor Ed Sector TAFE and Adventure Activity Standards to write their own snorkelling course I have no doubt we will have competition in the delivery of this course. This is knocking on the door now. WA, Vic and SA have approached me in either the TAFE or outdoor sector. I have attended once meeting however they all seem to want advice for free.

### **For the future**

- With regret, as it is my passion, I am retiring as AUF NDC. I had intended to do this last November 2007 at the postponed AGM. The workload has grown too high. Consequently the impact on my personal life is now too great. My holiday's, weekends, training time, personal relationships and family time is suffering. I cannot work full time and keep up with the volunteer demands of AUF NDC. I am mentally exhausted and plain sick of my conscious nagging me of AUF jobs to be done.
- I believe as a volunteer I cannot do a professional job, I really only do what is absolutely necessary, the rest slides. I have looked over my goals that I wrote in 2004 and 2007, unfortunately only some of those goals have been achieved.
- Of course much of this takes funding, grants, of which we have very little. I did make and attempt to look into funding but again lacked the time to really apply for it

- There still so much to do, I still have passion and drive in the area, I realise that is a never ending updating and continuous improvement task. However now I simply need to get a life back. I do not want to be rung from morning till late night on any day of the week that people feel like.
- As a level 2 coach I will still run Level 1 courses on demand
- Thankyou to hardworking volunteer AUF officials who have been instrumental and supportive in my role as AUF NDC

**Jobs to tidy up my term; if possible**

- Updates copies to be sent to all Level 2 Coaches who have previously been issued a manual or who have paid.
- Complete current Course Co-ordinators CD
- Fulfil ASC criteria which includes insurance, updated manuals, electronic copy and reporting to ASC summarising accreditation course run
- Follow up AUF NDC 2007 goals.
- Assist new AUF NDC Outline a strategic plan for the future if they would like
- Finalise course AUF official insurance and have AUF president sign master copy of the Course Coordinators manual
- All relevant AUF NDC documents to be presented to next AUF NDC. I would like have an opportunity for a handover.
- Handover to occur as soon as practicable, close of April 2008.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mary-Anne Stacey  
AUF National Director of Coaching

## Mary-Anne Stacey

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**From:** Peter Topp [Peter.Topp@ausport.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 15 May 2007 5:17 PM  
**To:** Mary-Anne  
**Subject:** Underwater Hockey L1 Training Program

**Attachments:** Course approval underwater hockey- NCAS.DOC



Course approval  
underwater hoc...

Mary-Anne

Having reviewed the Level 1 Underwater Hockey Coach Training Program, I am pleased to attach a copy of the Australian Sports Commission's approval of the course.

There are two observations for you to consider:

### Section 1.11 - Insurance

The ASC recommends that course presenters be covered by insurance. The Training Program detail indicates that "Each sporting commission of the AUF is responsible for its own insurance and each working coach is required to have their own insurance". It also advises that there is no insurance for the AUF National office holders. It is recommended that each candidate should be made aware of this situation when undertaking the course.

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As the ASC does not have an electronic copy of the Training Program (I was able to review the course from the Co-ordinator's Handbook hard copy forwarded to the ASC previously) would you please forward a copy for our electronic records.

In regards to the Ocean Snorkel coaching course, I am seeking further input from other areas of the ASC on the course.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

Peter Topp  
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Coaching and Officiating Unit  
Australian Sports Commission  
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Belconnen ACT 2616

15 May 2007

Mary-Anne Stacey  
National Coaching Director  
Australian Underwater Federation  
2 Chelmsford Ave  
Millswood SA 5034

Via email

Dear Mary-Anne

I am pleased to advise you that the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) has approved the ***Australian Underwater Federation's Level 1 Underwater Hockey Coach Training Program under the NCAS.***

This approval will take effect from **15 May 2007** and is subject to the following conditions:

- The Australian Underwater Federation maintains its status as an ASC recognised National Sporting Organisation
- The Australian Underwater Federation undertakes to ensure that this course is delivered in accordance with the approved curricula when conducted by State affiliates or other providers
- In order to maintain standards within the NCAS, the ASC reserves the right to 'spot check' delivery of courses and/or audit course delivery where complaints are received regarding the quality of delivery of this course
- Any major changes to the approved course syllabus require further ASC approval
- Courses are approved for a period of four years. Your course must be re-submitted for ASC approval before **15 May 2011**
- There be continued liaison with the ASC
- You provide regular reports summarising the accreditation courses run, as well as details of the coaches accredited by your organisation.

The ASC wishes you well in the conduct of your training programs. Undoubtedly the end result of better educated coaches will play an important role in the future development of Underwater Hockey.

If you require any additional information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6214 7645.

Yours sincerely



Peter Topp  
Sports Consultant  
Coaching and Officiating Unit