
International Association of Handicapped Divers Pro Course

The International Association for Handicapped Divers (IAHD) is a Diving Association that focuses on providing the means for individuals with physical disabilities wishing to become scuba divers.

We enable individuals with physical disabilities to participate in underwater activities. The IAHD provides Competent Instructors, Underwater Guides, Capable Dive Buddies, as well as Training Programs, Standards, Guidelines, Materials, and Member support.

Since the foundation of the IAHD in April 1993, the organization has steadily grown and is nowadays recognized and accepted worldwide.

The IAHD receives very positive responses from many Rehabilitation Centers, Diving Organizations, Diving Instructors and the Media in General.

For the IAHD Pro the rewards of training physically disabled divers are immense both for the Instructor and Student alike. The experience should be a deeply satisfying and enjoyable one and the outcome of successful training may even result in giving the disabled student a renewed interest in life, providing positive and lasting consequences.

The IAHD Pro-Training is a totally integrated program which consists of two days of classroom, pool and open water training.

- You will learn how to relate to some of the psychological aspects of someone who has become physically disabled.
- You will learn about a variety of physical disabilities and how they relate to scuba diving.
- Through simulations and workshops in the Pool and Open Water you learn how to overcome some of the problems you may encounter when training physically disabled divers.
- You are trained in a variety of methods for assisting those with sight impairment, hearing impairment, spinal injuries, amputations, etc.
- You are trained in how to adapt and modify normal diving equipment to the needs of the disabled diver.
- You will learn how to become more aware of your students, their needs, their attitudes, etc.
- You will learn how to develop a foresight in logistic awareness and considerations that can be invaluable not just with an impaired diver but in every day life whilst diving.

To enroll on the course you must be an instructor or a divemaster. Those enrolling as a divemaster will become an IAHD Divemaster and can automatically upgrade to IAHD Instructor once they have become an instructor with another diving agency.

The course runs over two days and costs £450 at weekends or £400 during the week. This includes the instructor manual.

Not included are application fees to IAHD which is currently €66.00, transport or entry fees to the dive site, air fills or equipment hire.