



Department  
of Sport and  
Recreation

# positionstatement

## Recreational Diving and Snorkelling

The Department of Sport and Recreation (DSR) is committed to safe participation in physical activity and to the development and management of best practice in all areas of sport and recreation including underwater recreational diving and snorkelling.

DSR actively supports the voluntary Diving and Snorkelling Codes of Practice developed by stakeholders and the industry forum set up to address ongoing issues. These two initiatives are seen as positive and appropriate risk management strategies by the industry.

### Background

Underwater recreational diving and snorkelling are popular outdoor activities in Western Australia and a substantial commercial industry has developed to service these activities around the State.

The industry associated with underwater recreational diving and snorkelling generally operates responsibly and conforms to international and national standards which form the basis of its risk management processes.

A voluntary code of practice was launched in 2001 (revised 2003) and an industry forum was established during 2002. DSR, in partnership with diving industry stakeholders, is an active leader in the process of maintaining the codes and provides considerable support to the industry through the forum.

DSR liaises with the industry and other public sector agencies with an interest in underwater diving and snorkelling, including the WA Tourism Commission, WorkSafe WA, Department for Planning and Infrastructure and Department of Conservation and Land Management.

### Definitions

Recreational diving: Any of the following underwater diving for recreation using compressed air, other than diving in a swimming pool:

- Resort diving;
- Diving by a person undertaking training in diving for recreation, whether or not the person is being photographed, filmed or videoed while diving; and
- Diving for recreation by a person with a qualification in underwater diving, whether or not the person is being photographed, filmed or videoed while diving.

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## Resources

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