CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1

Name of Organization

This organization shall be called the Scuba Club at the University of Tennessee.

ARTICLE 2

Purpose

1. This club is organized to provide students, faculty, and staff of the University of Tennessee the opportunity to participate in the sport of scuba diving.
2. The club is also organized to render public service.

ARTICLE 3

The SCUBA CLUB at the University of Tennessee is open for membership to:

1. Students, faculty, staff and/or their spouses at the University of Tennessee.
2. All divers must be certified by NAUI, PADI, SSI, YMCA or other nationally recognized organizations.
3. Limited membership is available to those who are participating in the scuba class offered through the University of Tennessee Student Aquatic Center and is subject to individual approval by the club officers.
4. Persons desiring to become members of the Scuba Diving club shall visit the club for an orientation of the club's purpose, facilities, and operations. Membership privileges, responsibilities, and obligations shall be explained to them before they make written application for membership. The membership fee shall accompany the application.
5. Members must attend at least one-half of club functions to be considered active.
6. A roster showing each member's status and home phone number will be kept available to all members.
7. Members must sign and have on file at all times:
   a. Current releases from liability, waiver of claims, express assumption of risk, and indemnity agreement.
   b. Medical History Form containing any information deemed necessary by the diver for his or her medical treatment as may be required in the occurrence of a diving accident.
   c. Signed and dated copy of the SCUBA club Safety Rules.
d. Current SCUBA club Information Sheet.
e. Photo copy of certification cards.

ARTICLE 4

Use of Club Equipment

1. Procedures for SCUBA club members wishing to check out SCUBA club equipment:

a. Have all club dues paid to date.
b. Have a copy of all forms detailed in Article 3, Section h, on file at the sports club office.
c. Have a signed and dated copy of the SCUBA Club Safety Rules & Regulations on file with the SCUBA club.
d. Be a certified diver if using SCUBA equipment and be in good standing with the club.
e. Have a statement of legal obligation form on file at the sports club office.
f. Fill out an equipment checkout form prior to taking possession of equipment.
g. When returning equipment, fill out a damage report if necessary.

2. Restrictions:

a. Under no circumstance will any member other than the equipment officer or president or member appointed by the president be allowed to check out more gear than said member can use at one time. Specifically, no member will be allowed to check out more than one regulator, one B.C., one light, or one weight belt at a time. If said member has equipment already checked out no similar gear may be issued.
b. A member may only check out gear for themselves.
c. A member is solely responsible for the care and return of all gear that is assigned them.
d. Gear may remain out to a member for no more than one week without prior arrangement having been made with the equipment officer or the president.

3. Each individual is solely responsible for any gear for which they have signed, and will be financially responsible for any loss or damage to said gear.

4. In the occurrence of lost gear, the member will be required to reimburse the club for the full replacement cost of the item(s).

5. In the occurrence of damaged gear, the member will be required to reimburse the club for the full repair cost of the damaged item(s).

6. Any violation of the above restrictions may be considered grounds for dismissal from the club.

ARTICLE 5
Funds

1. The club treasury exists to defray all club operating expenses and for the purchases of club owned equipment.
2. A club operating expense will be defined as any activity having six or more club members participating.
3. All checks and funds issued will be authorized by either the club treasurer, the club president, or the faculty advisor and the director of the sports clubs.
4. Dues shall be assessed at the following rates;

   a. $55.00 per semester,
   b. $85.00 per year for Scuba members,
   c. $10.00 per semester for Skin diving members,
   d. $10.00 per semester for scuba class participants.

5. The Skin diving dues may be directly converted to a scuba membership if the diver becomes certified in the same semester they joined.
6. All funds received shall be deposited to the head of the sports club office in either the allocated account or the SAO account.

ARTICLE 6

Duties of the Club Officers

1. President

   a. Preside over all meetings of the club.
   b. Know the contents of the "Guidelines for Sports Clubs" which can be found in the "Recreation Handbook".
   c. Submit a quarterly report of club activities.
   d. Know the officers and members.
   e. Know the club's financial status and how to use club funds.
   f. Make yearly corrections in the club's constitution when necessary
   g. Know what services are offered to the club by the Sports Club office.
   h. Be responsible for the club's schedule.
   i. See that the club has an advisor(s).
   j. See that the club has a complete slate of officers.
   k. Check the club's file at the Sports Club office on a weekly basis.
   l. Attend the scheduled Sports Club meetings by the Sports Club office.
   m. Prepare the Scuba Club's annual budget request.

2. Vice-president

   a. Fulfill the duties of the president during his/her absence.
b. Provide the program schedule for the semester for scheduled meetings. This includes contacting resource personnel for special presentations and making sure that the presenter of the week's program is ready to present a program to the club on a pertinent subject.
c. Publicize the club meetings in the University newspaper.
d. Be responsible for and ensure maintenance of the SCUBA Club's World Wide Web site.
e. Maintain the listserv for the Scuba Club.
f. Work with the president to promote any special presentation, activity, or trip of the club by all means available.

3. Secretary/Treasurer

a. Publish special newsletters for members and alumni.
b. Help maintain a current membership list.
c. Maintain and make available the club roster.
d. See that all members have signed the Assumption of Risk form.
e. Turn in release forms and keep track of information sheets.
f. Take roll during meeting.
g. Issue receipts and collect money.
h. Keep accurate records of expenditures and receipts.
i. Deposit club money into the appropriate account with the sports club office.
j. See that all club members have paid their dues and have been issued club cards.
k. Keep track of budget for year.

4. Equipment Officer

1. Be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of club equipment. If a piece of equipment is due for repair or inspection, it is the duty of the Equipment Officer to inform the president and take said equipment to a professional dealer for repairs or inspections.
2. Be responsible for checking in and out gear for dives planned by members in good standing in the club. This will take the form of a sign out sheet that is signed by the member. When the gear is returned, the Equipment Officer will assess the condition of the gear and note any damage. If gear has been damaged by the member, the Equipment Officer will alert the president for appropriate action.
3. Maintain an accurate inventory of all SCUBA CLUB owned equipment.
4. Maintain an accurate record of all service on equipment, including date serviced, type of service, and who did the servicing.
5. Know the location of all the club's equipment.
6. View all members certification card before equipment is issued. This has to be done only once per member.

5. Advisor
The club shall have one or more advisors selected from the staff or faculty of the University, and/or members of the diving community with outstanding leadership qualities and enthusiasm in club activities.

a. Provide expertise and mature judgment.
b. Help insure that the activities and undertakings of the club are sound and reflect favorably on the University.

6. All Officers

a. All officers should attend all sports club meetings.
b. All officers should attend Scuba Club officer meetings.
c. Any officer missing 3 or more meetings during a semester and unable to prove unavoidable circumstances or making prior arrangements with the president may be removed from office with a replacement being appointed by the president with the advice of the other officers.

7. Election of Club Officers

a. Club officers shall be elected on the second to last meeting of the Spring semester.
b. If necessary officers for the Summer semester shall be appointed by the president-elect, subject to approval of club members.
c. Prior to appointment or election all prospective officers must be members in good standing with the club.

8. Club Members

Duties of the Club Members

a. Participate actively in club activities.
b. Attend meetings and pool sessions regularly.
c. Contribute some of their free time to the duties of the club.
d. Keep themselves mentally and physically fit for the rigors of diving.
e. Properly care for and use club equipment that is entrusted to them.
f. Strictly adhere to diving rules and the sport of SCUBA by their own personal conduct and behavior.

9. Membership benefits

a. All members are entitled to limited use of club SCUBA diving and other club equipment and facilities. Individual club members may check out club equipment for periods of not more than one week (unless approved by president or equipment officer) in order that club equipment will be available for other club members. Club trips have priority on club equipment. If a club trip exceeds the
one week allowable check out time, the length of check out will be extended to the length of the trip in question.

b. Participation in club trips, outings, and other activities conducted whenever possible.

ARTICLE 7:

Safety Violations

Any member who is observed violating a SAFETY RULE or REGULATION will be considered suspended from the club until such time that the following is completed.

1. A prepared lecture based on that particular offense is delivered by the offender to the membership at a regular meeting.
2. Will remain suspended for the remainder of the semester without a refund of the membership fee, and may not rejoin until the beginning of the next semester.
3. If the offense is a second offense, the member will be terminated from the club.
4. Any member who fails to report any violation of a safety rule or practice by another diver will themselves be considered in violation of a safety rule.

ARTICLE 8:

Amendments

These BY-LAWS may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of total active membership, and/or members present at a regular or special meeting, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been presented to the members of the club for at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be considered.

ARTICLE 9:

Membership Termination

1. Any member may be terminated from membership in the club for safety violations.
2. Any member may be considered for termination from the club for any violation of restrictions of membership listed under ARTICLE 4.

Contesting removal

1. For any dismissal other than for safety violations a member may contest their removal from the club to committee that will be composed of any three club officers, two club members and the sports club student representative.
2. For a termination based upon a second safety violation, there is no appeal.
ARTICLE 10:

Punitive Action

The club reserves the right to place a hold on any member’s University Account by way of the Bursar's Office for balances owed or equipment return.