



# Piedmont Diving and Rescue Association Rules and Regulations

All PDRA members are required to be familiar with and comply with all PDRA [By-Laws](#), Rules and Regulations, [Instructor Requirements](#) (applies to Instructors), and the [Code of Ethics](#).

## RR1. ⚠️ Promptly Report Rule and Regulations Violations.

- Any member who violates PDRA [By-Laws](#), Rules and Regulations, [Instructor Requirements](#), or [Code of Ethics](#) may face:
  - 💰 A fine for each violation
  - ⏸️ Suspension of membership
  - 🛑 **Revocation of membership** ➤ Final decisions are at the **discretion of the PDRA Board of Directors**
- Any rule violations must be reported promptly by the member, in addition to completing the [Violation Form](#), and submit the form within 24 hours to [info@ncpdra.org](mailto:info@ncpdra.org).

## RR2. 🏥 Promptly report any accident or serious injury.

- 🚨 **Prompt reporting is mandatory:** Any accident or serious injury occurring on PDRA-owned property must complete the [Incident Report](#) and submit it to [info@ncpdra.org](mailto:info@ncpdra.org) within 24 hours.
- 🔔 **Who to Contact:** Notify a **PDRA Officer** or **Quarry Manager** directly and as soon as possible.

## RR3. 💧 Abide By [Gear Cleaning Protocols](#) - Preventing Aquatic Nuisance Species.

- 🛑 Any gear that has been in any **body of water within the last 5 days** where **aquatic nuisance species are known or suspected** must **NOT** be used in any PDRA quarry.
- 📋 Before using the gear in PDRA waters, you must:
  - Complete the [full gear cleaning protocol](#)
  - Ensure a **minimum 5-day drying period** for all equipment.

## RR4. 🚤 Floatation Device Required For All Individuals (The Vest Rule).

- All individuals **in or on PDRA waters** must wear one of the following:
  - 🧑‍🚒 A wetsuit of 3mm thickness or more.
  - 🛼 A **BCD** (Buoyancy Compensation Device) → Must provide **positive buoyancy** for both the person and their gear.
  - 🛟 An **operable U.S. Coast Guard-approved flotation/safety device**.
- ⚠️ This rule applies to **all water activities**, including: *Wading, swimming, snorkeling, scuba diving, or using floats, rafts, tubes, canoes, paddleboards, etc.*

#### RR5. 🗣️ No Diving Alone.

- 🧑‍🤖 **No Solo Diving.** Anyone entering **PDRA waters with scuba gear** must dive with a **buddy**.
- ⚖️ Dive buddies must use **comparable equipment**, ensuring both individuals are equally equipped to support each other in case of emergency.

#### RR6. 📄 Refer to [By-Laws](#) for full membership regulations.

- ✅ All Applicants **must complete Membership Application** in full.
- 🏠 **Only certified divers** are eligible for membership. Students must wait until certification to apply. Applicants must upload a copy of their certification card.
- 👨‍👩‍👧 Family memberships only cover:
  - **A legal spouse**
  - **Children under 18** ➤ Children 18 and older **must apply for their own membership**. This is due to fact that once a person reaches the age of majority (18), individuals gain full legal control over their actions and decisions.
- 📄 **Incomplete applications including ineligible individuals will not be accepted or processed.**
- 🗑️ Membership becomes active once processed by the Membership Chair and a **card and key are issued and received**. Note that cards and keys are mailed through the USPS and the PDRA has no control over delivery times.

#### RR7. 🏠 Members must carry their current PDRA membership card and key.

- 📌 Members must have their **current PDRA membership card** while on PDRA property.
- 🔍 **Members must promptly show** their card to anyone who requests to verify membership status.

#### RR8. 📄 Guests must complete [Guest Release](#) / Members responsible for guests.

- 📄 All guests must:
  - 📝 **Complete and sign a [PDRA Guest Release](#).**
  - 👥 **Be accompanied by the member** who must provide their name and PDRA card number on the Guest Release form.
  - 📋 **Agree to follow all PDRA Rules and Regulations.**
- 👤 Members are **responsible for guest conduct**.
- 🌍 Guest limits:
  - 🚫 **Maximum of 10 guests per member** at one time.
  - ✉️ **Exception:** Once per calendar year more than 10 guests may be allowed only with prior written approval from the Board of Directors. Requests must be sent to [info@ncpdra.com](mailto:info@ncpdra.com) at least **2 weeks in advance**.
  - 💬 **Each guest may visit PDRA property no more than 2 times per calendar year.**

**RR9. 📄 Students must purchase a Training Pass.**

- 💻 All students must **complete the applicable Student Training Pass** and **pay the appropriate fee**.
- 🎓 Students are **not PDRA members**—they are considered **guests of their instructor(s)**.
- 📧 Students must provide their instructor with a **copy of the email receipt** confirming their Training Pass purchase.

**RR10. 🚫 Verify status of those on property/No Trespassers.**

- 📋 Only **PDRA members** and their **bona fide guests** are permitted on PDRA property.
- 🕵️ Members must **verify the status** of anyone they encounter on-site.
- 🙋 If someone is not an authorized guest or member, the member should **politely but firmly ask them to leave** the premises.
- 📞 All trespassing incidents must be reported **immediately** to a Quarry Manager, PDRA Board Member, or PDRA Officer.

**RR11. 🚫 No diving or swimming under the influence.**

- To ensure the safety of all members and guests, **entering the water while impaired is strictly prohibited**. This includes:
  - 🍷 **Alcohol**
  - 💊 **Prescription drugs** (that impair judgment or coordination)
  - 🌿 **Any controlled substance**
- 🚫 **Zero Tolerance**: Violations of this policy may lead to immediate disciplinary action.

**RR12. 🚫 Jumping or diving from quarry walls is strictly prohibited.**

- 🧱 For your safety and the preservation of PDRA sites, members and guests must **never jump or dive** from quarry walls.
- 🚫 These areas are not designed or approved for entry into the water, and doing so presents serious risks to life and property.

**RR13. 🌊 Preserve dive features.**

- 🚫 Members and guests must **not disturb, remove, alter, or destroy** any items placed in PDRA quarries.
- 🛠️ These features are installed to **enhance diving diversity** and learning opportunities for all members.

**RR14. 🚫 Fishing Prohibited.**

- 🚫 Fishing is **prohibited** in all **PDRA-owned quarries**. This restriction supports PDRA's **Fish Management Program** (*Enacted by Board of Directors on 1/9/2011*).
- The **Landowner Protection Act** (i.e., Fishing Rights on Private Land) provides landowners' rights to control access and activities on their property.
- Anyone seen fishing on PDRA property will be **reported to the North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission**.

**RR15. 🦌 🚫 Hunting Prohibited.**

- 🚫 Hunting is not allowed under any circumstances on any PDRA-owned property.

**RR16. 🦂 🚫 No Spear Guns in PDRA Waters.**

- 🚫 Spear guns are **not allowed** in any PDRA-owned quarry under normal circumstances.
- 📄 Use of spear guns may be permitted **only with prior written authorization** from the PDRA Board of Directors.

**RR17. 🚫 Display or discharge of firearms is prohibited.**

- ⚠️ Bringing firearms onto PDRA property is strongly discouraged. Display or discharge of firearms is prohibited.

**RR18. 🚤 No Boats with Motors.**

- ✅ Permitted Watercraft.
  - 🚣 Hand-, paddle-, or oar-propelled boats.
  - 🛶 Canoes, rafts, tubes, and other similar devices.
- ⚡ Limited Exception – Electric Motors.
  - Electric trolling motors with weed guards are allowed only when no swimmers or divers are in the water.
- 🤿 Diver Propulsion Vehicles.
  - This restriction does not apply to underwater diver propulsion vehicles (DPVs) used for diving activities.

**RR19. 🗑️ Remove Trash.**

- ♻️ All Members and guests must **remove their trash** when leaving PDRA property.
- 🚫 Use on-site trash barrels **only when absolutely necessary**.
- 🚫 **Disposing of trash anywhere else on-site is strictly prohibited.**

**RR20. 🚗 Park only in designated areas.**

- 🅅 Park only in designated areas.
- 🚫 **Classes and parked vehicles should not interfere with:**
  - 🚪 Gates
  - 🌊 Water entry points
  - 🛶 Gear-up benches
- 🗣️ **Follow all signage and verbal instructions** issued by:
  - Quarry Managers
  - Board Members
  - PDRA Officers

**RR21. 📌 Instruct only in designated areas.**

- 📍 **Quarry Managers**, guided by the PDRA President, may **designate specific areas** where dive instruction is **permitted or restricted**.
- 📋 Designated instructional areas will be clearly **posted whenever possible**.

**RR22. 🗝️ Gates must remain locked.**

- 🚪 Gates must **always remain locked**, except during **active entry or exit**.
- 👤 A member may leave the gate open **only if they are physically stationed at the gate**.
- 📅 During large events (e.g., **Annual Treasure Hunt, General Assembly Meeting, quarry workdays**), the gate may be left open **at the direction of the President and/or Quarry Manager**.
- 🛠️ Any problems with **locks or keys** must be reported **immediately to the Quarry Manager**.

**RR23. 🧒 Children must be supervised while on property.**

- 👁️ All children **under 18**—including family members, students, and guests—must be under **continuous adult supervision** while on PDRA property.
- 🚰 Due to the **inherent dangers** of quarry environments (e.g. 🌊 drowning, 🤪 falls, 🪨 rock slides, 🐍 snakes), children must **remain with a supervising adult member at all times**.

**RR24. 🐾 Pets and animals of any kind are not allowed on property.**

- 🚫 Pets and all types of animals are strictly prohibited on PDRA property. The PDRA quarries are private property, member-only sites, and not open to the public.

**RR25. 🧨 Fireworks are prohibited.**

- 🚫 For the safety of all members, **fireworks are strictly prohibited** on PDRA property.

**RR26. 🗝️ Quarry locks changed annually on January 1.**

- 📅 All quarry locks are changed **on January 1** each year.
- 🔑 Members who **renew in time** to receive the upcoming year's key **before January 1** will have uninterrupted access.

**RR27. 🏠 Diver/Diving Insurance Highly Recommended.**

- 📅 Due to the inherent risks involved with SCUBA diving, **diver/diving insurance is highly recommended** for your safety and peace of mind.
- 📄 Coverage can help with emergency treatments, hyperbaric chamber costs, and unexpected incidents.
- 🌊 **Dive smart**—protect your adventure before you descend!

## RR28. 🧑🏻 Memorial Wall policy.

- 🧱 **Original Lifetime Members:**
  - Families may request the addition of the name, birth year, and death year of the deceased member.
  - 📄 This will be done **at the expense of the PDRA** in recognition of their lifetime commitment.
- 🧑 **All Other Members**
  - Current members or their families may request a memorial nameplate.
  - 💳 These additions will be made **at the requesting party's expense**.