Piedmont Diving and Rescue Association Rules and Regulations

All PDRA members, students, and guests 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.**

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** 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 - prevent 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 and watch the video.
  - Ensure a **minimum 5-day drying period** for all equipment.

RR4. 🦺 Floatation device required for anyone in or on PDRA waters (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. 🤿 No hard-hat diving without written approval from the board.

- Any member **requesting authorization** to conduct **hard-hat diving** must:
  - 🙋 **Attend a PDRA Board meeting** to present and explain their safety protocols.
  - 🪪 **Must provide proof of Commercial Diver certification**.
  - 📌 **Maintain proper support personnel**, including: a surface tender, and a certified scuba diver in the water during operations.
  - 📝 **Have a copy of the Board's written approval** while on PDRA property and produce it upon request.

RR7. 📝 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.

RR8. 🪪 Members must have a valid PDRA card and key while on property.

- 📌 Members must have their **current PDRA membership card and key** while on PDRA property.
- 👁️ **Members must promptly show** their card to anyone who requests to verify membership status.
- **Under no circumstances** are members allowed to let someone borrow their **key**.

RR9. 📜 Guests must complete a Guest Release / Members responsible for guests.

- 📋 All guests must:
  - ✍️ **Complete and sign a PDRA Guest Release and pay any applicable fee.**
  - 👥 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.**

RR10. 🎫 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.

RR11. 🚫 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.

RR12. 🚫 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.

RR13. 🚫 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.

RR14. 🌊 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.

RR15. 🎣 🚫 Fishing is 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.**

RR16. 🦌 🚫 Hunting is prohibited.

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

RR17. 🚫 Firearms are strongly discouraged on PDRA property; display prohibited.

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

RR18. 🏹 🚫 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**.

RR19. 🎆 Fireworks are prohibited.

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

RR20. 🚤 Boats with motors not allowed (limited exceptions).

- ✅ 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 with permission from the quarry manager.
- 🤿 Diver Propulsion Vehicles.
  - This restriction does not apply to underwater diver propulsion vehicles (DPVs) used for diving activities.

RR21. 🗑️ 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**.

RR22. 🚙 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

RR23. 🧨 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**.

RR24. 👶 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**.

RR25. 🔒 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.**

RR26. 🐾 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.

RR27. 🔐 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.

RR28. ⚓ Having Diver/Diving Insurance is 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!



RR29. 🕊️ 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 inscription.
  - 💳 These additions will be made **at the requesting party's expense**.