



## Centro Sub Monte Conero – Procedures Covid-19

This document is intended to provide important information regarding the new procedures in place at Centro Sub Monte Conero to reduce the potential risk of Covid-19 transmission.

### **BEWARE**

The epidemiological and legislative situation regarding the emergency is under constant evolution and the informations given with this document may change and be updated at any time.

### **1- RECEPTION/LOGISTIC**

Everyone's health is closely tied to the sense of responsibility of each individual. We remind you to not go to the dive centre if you are showing symptoms suggestive of Covid-19, which are:

- Fever
- Cough
- Weakness and muscle pain
- Breathing problems
- Sore throat
- Lung infection
- Headache
- Taste loss
- Diarrhea

If you have been in contact with people affected or potentially affected by the Covid-19 do not come to the Dive Centre and seek medical advice. (1)

For any doubt or question regarding the Covid-19 safety procedures in place at the Dive Centre do not hesitate to contact us.

For safety reason and in order to avoid a gathering of people the access to the Dive Centre is allowed just to the divers, family members must wait outside. All the divers will have their temperature checked as soon as they arrive to the Dive Centre, no one is allowed in if they temperature is above 37.5° C. (2)

Just the staff member is allowed to use the rooms at the Dive Centre.



We kindly ask our guest to have with them all the forms filled out and signed when they arrive at the Dive Centre. Those forms can be [downloaded from our website](#) and they should be completed 24 to 36 hours before they are delivered to us in order to have more credible figures. The diver must contact the Dive Centre if he starts developing symptoms related to Covid-19 over the period of 14 days that follows his presence at Centro Sub Monte Conero. The Dive Centre agrees to keep a daily attendance register that can be used to track down the presence inside it and help to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

The Dive Centre has a large area outside that can be used by the divers before and after the dives however we ask you to keep the social distancing of 1 metre away from others. Everyone is required to wear medical masks at any time around the Dive Centre. (3) It is possible to buy washable masks at the Centre

To reduce the spread of viruses or germs everyone must continue to practice good hygiene

## 2 - PERSONAL HYGIENE MEASURES

The coronavirus is a respiratory virus that spreads through droplets released into the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes. (4)

Correct personal hygiene measures includes:

- Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands for at least 20 seconds. Follow the instructions in our website or at the Dive Centre. If you feel unsecure about the hygiene of your hands, wash them again.
- Maintain distance between yourself and others. Avoid physical contact with others.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth.
- Don't stress out! Take your time, do not rush: follow the staff advice and when in doubt, ask!

At the dive centre sinks and antibacterial soap are made available to the guest however those are asked to carry with them a personal antibacterial hand gel to be used when on the speedboat, where for obvious reasons is not possible to use handsoap.

We remind you that single-use gloves can only protect the wearer's hands. They can be useful for those who are handling the equipment but they won't protect them from the contamination that can occurs through environment or other people. In addition, a training should be necessary in order to wear, undress and dispose properly single-use gloves.

Therefore we advice you to wash your hands frequently instead of wearing single-use gloves as this may give you a wrong protection's perception. (5)

In view of the above the use of single-use gloves is not mandatory. Guests who will be wearing gloves are required to sanitize them frequently and throughly.



### 3 – CLEANING/DISINFECTION

Disinfection and cleansing will be carried out every day at the Dive Centre. (6)

### 4 – RENTAL AND STUDENTS EQUIPMENT

The rental equipment will be sanitized after each use and particular care will be paid to regulators, BCD, snorkles and masks. (7) The return point for the rental equipment is separated from the area where the sanitized equipment is kept. Only staff members are allowed to give the equipment out. (8)

A designed member of the staff will give the tanks out to the guest while keeping a safety distance. Once the gear is set up, it is mandatory to protect the second stages keeping them inside bags for the purpose of preventing contact between those and the rest of the gear ( the bag used for the second stage is not given from the dive centre, must be organised in advanced by the diver) . (6) (9)

### 5 – DRESSING

To store the equipment we suggest you to bring a mesh bag with you that you can keep tidy and ready to be used and carried, with the use of personal mesh bag we want to avoid using sharing boxes for the equipment and therefore the contact between gear that belongs to different people. Most importantly after the dive, the mesh bag doesn't allow standing water or umidity, in order to prevent the presence of environments that can retain the virus. (10) Regarding the mask, we suggest to carry it inside his case.

With the aim of preventing cuts to your hands or feet it is mandatory to wear gloves and diving boots when diving.

### 6 – TANKS AIR FILLING MANAGEMENT

The operators responsible for filling the tanks must wear a medical mask and keep their hands sanitized at all time. The risk of contamination on the part of the operator can relate to the management of the tanks valves and hoses charging. The viral contamination inside the compressor is neutralized by the high temperature that can reach 120 °C. Special attention must be given in the use of alcohol based hand sanitizer . Just a small amount of alcohol, highly flammable even at low temperature, may pose an hazard if there are gases around with an high percentage of oxygen.

Avoid any contact with gears, tanks and hoses charging used to be charged with enriched air especially if they have been charged through partial pressure method.



## 7 – FROM THE DIVE CENTRE TO THE DOCK

On the way to the dock from the Dive Centre please keep a safety distance from the other divers and the people passing by and remember to wear your protective devices.

## 8 – SPEED BOAT

Once at the dock wait for the staff to finish to load the guest gear on to the speed boat while maintaining a safety distance from everyone around you. When the loading is finished, the captain will assign a seat for each diver. The divers are allowed now to enter into the speed boat one by one. Unless necessary there is no walking around the speedboat. Everyone must wear their face mask during the way to the dive site and once again the social distance must be kept at all time. Avoid bringing with you anything that is irrelevant to your safety or to the dive.

In order to guarantee an adequate personal hygiene inside the speedboat, especially during the time between the end of the dive and the return to the dock, each diver must carry a dry bag (minimum 5lt, 10 lt is our advice) with: tissues, face mask and a small towel to be used to dry hands after the dive so that the hand sanitizer can be used effectively again.

The divers are required to wear their gear themselves; in case some help is needed their dive buddy can support them (just in the case they are closely related). In the case help is required by a student or a person with special need it will be provided by a member of the staff that will be using protective devices and will sanitize the area in concern.

Do not use saliva to defog the mask. An anti-fog solution will be kept on board and provided to each diver by a designated member of the staff. When leaving the boat for the sea surface and when at the surface keep maintaining a social distance. It is mandatory to wear the mask and to keep the regulator on from the moment the divers are leaving the speedboat for the dive unless they are 2 meters away from the others. Once back in the surface after the dive keep maintaining the social distance same as it was done during the descent (11). Do not take your gloves out until the allocated site is reached.

After the dive the buddy couple can get back to the speedboat and help each other to take off their gear once on their seats. At this point, gloves must be taken off, face and mask must be dried out, antibacterial hand gel used and medical mask worn.

We highly recommend for everyone to bring their bottle of water.

Despite the work done over the past years water or plastic glasses won't be supplied on board, however there is a water dispenser at the Dive Centre, with fresh still and sparkling water, for everyone to use. In addition it is possible to buy re-usable water bottles.

The speedboat will be sanitized after each dive and at the end of the day.

## 9 – EQUIPMENT RINSING

No sharing tanks are available at the Dive Centre for the equipment rinsing that follows the dive. The staff will take care of the rented equipment that must be washed and sanitized before being stocked away in a safe area. The divers with the rented equipment are asked to leave the gear inside the tanks filled with antibacterial soap. It is important to be careful when removing the gear and when immersing it inside those tanks.

Regarding the personal gear, in case the presence of the diver at the Dive Centre is over one day, we ask to place the equipment in a suitable bag and rinse it away from the centre. In case the presence at the Dive Centre is over more days than one, the staff will be taking care of the gear following the same procedures as for the rented one, once rinsed and sanitized they will be stock away in a safe area. They will be given back when request from the owner. It is possible to take the gear away at the end of the day but in this case it won't be possible to rinse it at the Dive Centre, same procedure used for the daily divers.

A safety distance between the equipment is guaranteed while on drying. Before the use each piece of the gear will be sanitized once again.

## REFERENCES:

1) DAN COVID-19 e le attività subacquee: 10 raccomandazioni sulla prevenzione documento. DAN Europe (online) 23th April 2020.

<http://daneurope.org>.

2) Trasporti, Ministero delle infrastrutture e dei linee guida Mit per il trasporto nautico e la balneazione (online) 17th May 2020.

<http://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/fase-2bis-linee-guida-mit-per-il-trasporto.nautico-e-la-balneazione>.

3) Rational of face mask in the Covid-19 pandemic. Feng 2020. Lancet Respir Med

4) Italiano. Ministero della salute Covid-19, nuove raccomandazioni di igiene contro il virus. Portale salute governo italiano (online) 2020

[http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3\\_2\\_1\\_1\\_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=4156](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?lingua=italiano&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=4156).

5) WHO.who.int. Sito organizzazione mondiale della sanità (online) March 2020.

[http://www.who.int/images/default-source/health-topics/coronavirus/risk-communication/general-public/wearing-gloves.png?sfvrsn=ec69b46a\\_2-](http://www.who.int/images/default-source/health-topics/coronavirus/risk-communication/general-public/wearing-gloves.png?sfvrsn=ec69b46a_2-)

6) Persistence of coronaviruses on inanimate surface and their inactivation with biocidal agent. Kampf G. Todt D. Pfaender S. Steinmann E. 2020 Mar. journal of hospital infection p.104 (3):246-51.3.

7) Health, National institutes of. New coronavirus stable for hours on surfaces. U.S. Department of health and Human services(online)26 march 2020. <http://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/new-coronavirus-stable-hours-surfaces>.

8) Aerosol and surface stability of HCov-19 (SARS-CoV-2) compared to SARS-CoV-1. N van Doremalen, et al. 2020. The new England Journal of medicine

9) WHO. Use of disinfectants: alcohol and beach. Infection Prevention and Control of the Epidemic – and Pandemic – Prone Acute Respiratory Infection in Health care. Geneva : s.n. 2014

10) Protocollo per le attività subacquee professionali nel rispetto delle misure COVID-19. Iperbarica, SIMSI – Società Italiana di Medicina Subacquea ed. 2020

11) Survival of surrogate coronaviruses in water. Casanova. L. Rutala WA. Weber DJ, Sobsey MD. 2009, Water research, p.43(7):1893-8.