

GUE Board of Advisors Meeting, August 2016

1. BOA Composition (current and future)
 - a. Given many demands for his time, Chris Le Maillot will resign his position as BOA member and reconsider availability as events develop.
 - b. Current plans are to leave the spot vacant
2. Bringing BOA decisions to life
 - a. Immediate actions:
 - i. Changes to Fundamentals part 1 ratio will become official alongside the newest GUE Standards revision
 - ii. Statement regarding the use of Decompression Computers will be sent out next week
 - iii. Updated IT/IE process will be included in the upcoming GUE Standards revision
 - b. Clarifying BOA process
 - i. Vote in meeting or online by majority ; record decision
 - ii. Include decision within released BOA meetings with notable decisions announced separately to instructor list
 - c. Deadlines
 - i. Topics requiring a vote completed within two weeks
 - ii. Release recorded minutes within two additional weeks
 - iii. Implement changes immediately where not affecting standards or released within standards and considering appropriate grace period if relevant
3. IT/IE application review
 - a. Candidates with applications submitted were discussed
 - b. Survey released to BOA
 - c. BOA will review documents, ask questions as needed and record position
 - d. Candidates will be notified following tabulation of votes
4. IT/IE renewal
 - a. Suggestion to make bi-annual
 - b. Decision confirmed by all to maintain annual review
 - c. In most cases BOA will likely confirm HQ determination
 - d. BOA retains the right to review all instructors as well as IT/IE for yearly confirmation or rejection
5. Policies regarding instructors teaching for other agencies
 - a. Some debate and agreement that using GUE to attract students is “not acting in the best interests of the agency”
 - b. General agreement that a blanket prohibition is cumbersome and undesirable
 - c. Personal counselling and discussion is preferred

- d. BOA reserves the right to review general actions of representatives yearly and confirm or deny renewal
- 6. Background (community) checks on instructor candidates
 - a. Some complaints that candidates bad for GUE not be allowed into instructor training
 - b. Screening somewhat hard to implement and likely fraught with complications; potentially unfair and prejudicial
 - c. However, ITs/IEs should carefully gauge candidate based upon personal experience. They should use their community experience and access to determine good candidates, representing this information to the agency and the candidate
- 7. Personal physical/instructor medical requirements
 - a. Year one (2016/2017) – any medical exam/physical is acceptable
 - b. Rich W will evaluate existing forms and seek international consensus which might be used next year.
 - c. Any forms will be reviewed by BOA and QC/QA departments
- 8. Grace period for Instructors not fulfilling BMI requirement
 - a. Discussion over short period to comply causing unfair burden with long-standing instructors. Also, discussion over losing weight very quickly being a bad strategy for maintaining weight loss.
 - b. There will be no exceptions for future instructors. Existing instructors seeking an extension must meet the following:
 - i. Pass existing physical fitness requirement
 - ii. Formally request an extension in meeting body fat requirements
 - iii. Submit BMI and skinfold data
 - iv. Present a plan for reaching existing requirement
 - v. Present a medical clearance with “fit to dive” approval by physician
- 9. Rec 1 to Rec 2 instructor progression: Standards Change
 - a. Restructuring Rec programs with attendant changes
 - b. Suggest to eliminate pre-requisite requiring 3 students before being eligible to upgrade from REC1 instructor to REC2 instructor
 - c. Allow to include REC2 instructor rating as a result of a REC ITC/IE
 - d. BOA agreed unanimously for implementation in next revision of GUE Standards
- 10. Rec 1 to Fundamentals instructor progression: Standards Change
 - a. Remove mock class for IE; require actual class with real students
 - b. Add requirement to teach at least 3 Rec classes
 - c. BOA agreed unanimously for implementation in next revision of GUE Standards
- 11. Use of GUE training materials
 - a. Discussion over modification of GUE approved materials including a warning that not using GUE materials places instructors, IT/IE and student in uncertain position, risks missing content and adds risk for confusion among interns/students

- b. Agreement that currently existing materials should be used and must be made available to interns and students
 - c. All instructors and IT/IE representatives must ensure students are encouraged to review materials for completeness of understanding
 - d. Instructors supplementing or adjusting flow of presentation will explain this is designed to support personal presentation style
 - e. Going forward, GUE will create more generic presentations with extended notes section
 - f. Following creation of these materials all instructors must present these materials unaltered but with supplementation allowed
 - g. Encouragement for everyone to be involved in the next revision to limit complications
12. GUE Divers/Instructors/Representatives diving in non-standard configuration (side mount, side mount ccr, side mount bailout)
- a. GUE representatives should take into consideration the weight such actions convey to the community
 - b. No plans to introduce restrictions
 - c. Configurations used in place of GUE configurations should not be advertised as generally superior to standard GUE configuration
13. Diving with non GUE trained divers
- a. Currently no plans to introduce restrictions
14. Creation of separate “specialty” SOPs (CCR, RB80, DPV, Rescue)
- a. Discussed as provision to support clarity and reduction of confusion for those seeking particular information
 - b. Unanimously agreed
15. Fundamentals, Part 1 and 2:
- a. Change pass/fail in Part 1 with “certificate of completion”
 - b. Unanimously agreed
16. Change CCR pre-requisites to Tech 1 or Tech 60
- a. BOA determined to leave current Tech 2 requirement
17. Teaching cave classes in mines
- a. Mines can be approved on a case by case basis determined by suitability and safety
 - b. Unlikely to be considered for cave 2 program
 - c. Application submitted to BOA for review
 - d. Consultation with cave instructors and community
18. “Solution Thinking” emphasis during instructor/diver training
- a. Some have complained certain GUE divers and instructors are following blindly and not thinking about actions during dynamic situations
 - b. No immediate changes to student curriculum are planned
 - c. Emphasize during ITC training and reinforce instructor awareness
 - d. Added to topics for instructor list discussion

19. Future of GUE Training materials

- a. New Fundy, Cave, Tech books as well as The “Beginning With the End in Mind” book should be substantively complete by end of 2016
- b. Video site released soon and with ongoing content
- c. Evaluate Wiki style option for equipment manual
- d. Begin work on a simplified/streamlined/less detailed oriented version of presentation to be accompanied by study guide and instructor guidelines
- e. Current instructor guideline work to date should be focused around recreational curriculum. No immediate timeline but work to commence in late 2016 and established timeline to follow