GUE Procedural Changes **August 2005**

Gas Management – Minimum Gas Nomenclature
GUE requires that divers always maintain a supply of breathing gas sufficient to surface from max depth/distance while sharing gas with an out of gas diver. Historically this quantity has been known as "rock bottom". Going forward GUE will refer to this volume as "minimum gas"; this nomenclature more accurately reflects the concept of a reserve volume. Divers should remember that precise gas recommendations for a given dive are difficult due to the wide number of variables involved. Instead, GUE training is designed to build the tools and strategies necessary for proper planning.

Procedure for reeling up spools
Divers sometimes use the double end clip as a winding device; this is only advisable when divers are moving small increments such as during decompression stops. When reeling longer segments of line on a spool divers are advised to secure the clip to their D-ring winding the excess line on to the spool.

Location of diver experiencing primary light failure
The diver with the light failure should be placed in the middle in a 3 person team and in the front when in a two person team. In open areas where divers are free to move easily it is permissible to place the out of gas diver between two divers who are swimming abreast; this is also known as "wing on wing".

Necessity of clip on stage and deco regs
It is not necessary to place a clip on the second stage of stage regulators. However, divers not using a clip on the second stage should place two retaining bands around the cylinder. In the event one band is broken the second stage and hose can be secured effectively.

Decompression, repetitive diving, ratio deco
DecoPlanner is the standard by which all ascent and decompression standards should be measured. Various rules guiding ascent profiles (such as ratio deco) or repetitive diving should be gauged against DecoPlanner to insure accuracy.

Provisional certification
Provisional certifications were designed as an interim measure for student-divers whose skill level in a given class was close but not sufficient to pass a given class. Divers should be aware that the original instructor is solely responsible for updating this rating. An instructor may make specific arrangements with another GUE instructor but the original instructor is ultimately responsible for upgrading their student's provisional rating. The time and fees associated with provisional upgrades are entirely at the discretion of the instructor.

Internship Forms GUE instructors in training
According to GUE standards, it is the responsibility of instructor-candidates and instructors seeking upgrade to secure the required number of properly executed GUE Internship Evaluation forms and submit these to HQ. GUE has established a thirty (30) period within which to submit evidence of having completed an internship.

Cave/Tech Specific Topics:

Touch contact signal for "cross the line"
While in touch contact and following a guideline the lead diver may need to cross the line. This diver should follow the line to their team members hand, rotating the hand from side to side (as if turning a doorknob back and forth). It may also be useful to push the hand back along the line, indicating that additional room is required to cross the line.

Cookies vs. clothespin for non-directional markers
Due to the reduced likelihood of becoming dislodged, "cookies" are considered preferable to clothespins as non-directional markers.

Non-directional marker placement within teams
During cave training each diver should place their own marker. This allows each diver to actively participate in navigation during the dive and builds the muscle memory of individually confirming one's direct route back to the surface. Trained cave divers with familiar and experienced buddy's may choose to use one per team but should do so with caution.