



2009 Report on Scuba Diving Related Incidents in Ontario

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Document Control

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Submitting an Incident Report

To submit a report, you should contact one of the ***OUC board members***.
You can also complete and return an ***Incident Submission Form***.



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Ontario Underwater Council

2009 Report on Scuba-Diving Related Incidents in Ontario

Foreword:

The primary goal of this Ontario Underwater Council (OUC) report is to **prevent future scuba diving incidents**¹ by collecting, analyzing, and sharing information about past scuba diving incidents.

So as to ensure the greatest possible benefit to the Ontario Scuba Community, OUC's goal is to share the information on fatalities in Ontario as collected and any recommendations on OUC's website at:

<http://www.underwatercouncil.com/?action=cms&cmspage=safety>
within 72 hours.

Recommendations are not intended to be a comment or conclusion on the cause or causes of the specific incident.

With regards to "Near Misses", the OUC reserves the right to select incidents for publication.

Disclaimer:

No claim is made by the OUC, the Director of Sport Safety or by any contributors, as to the completeness or accuracy of information contained within this report. Every effort has been taken to include only respected sources in the public domain, however it must be stated that none of these have been independently verified or investigated.

Certain personal risks are inherent in most sports, and the sport of scuba diving is no exception. By engaging in the sport of scuba, you accept these risks. No amount of training, experience, equipment, policies, etc. can completely eliminate all personal risks, and the OUC, its Board Members, Regional Coordinators, and Members are not responsible for any losses, injury, or death sustained as a result of members or non-members taking these risks.

¹ Incidents are divided into 2 categories, "Fatalities" and "Near Misses"



SECTION A: Fatalities - Summaries & Recommendations

Fatalities - Summaries and Recommendations are listed in chronological order.



Date of Incident: 2008-mm-dd

Summary:

TBD

For public domain information of this incident, please refer to Section C, Appendix #X of this document.

OUC Recommendations:

- *Recommendation 1.*
- *Recommendation 2.*



SECTION B: Near Misses - Summaries & Recommendations

Definition of a “Near Miss”

A “Near Miss” is any scuba-related situation or incident that did not result in a fatality, but that did put the diver/s health and/or safety at risk.

To report a near miss and submit it for consideration for publication in this report, please send an e-mail to ouc.safety@underwatercouncil.com with all relevant details.



Date of Incident: 2008-07-09

Summary:

On July 9th a female diver apparently experienced an uncontrolled ascent from 150' while diving with a charter out of Brockville. The incident is related to have occurred in the "between Lillie and Stovin Island". The victim was recovered unconscious and not breathing with signs of barotraumas by another charter operator. CPR and O₂ was administered by the mate while transporting her back to Brockville where EMS met them at the dock.

It is also reported that by the time they arrived in Brockville, her breathing had resumed and she was showing signs of alertness.

Her current condition is unknown.

There are no official facts at this time. This incident will be updated as more information becomes available.

For public domain information of this incident, please refer to Section C, Appendix #1 of this document.

OUC Recommendations:

- *Recommendation 1*
- *Recommendation 2*



SECTION C: Appendices

Appendix #1


Public Domain Information on Scuba Incident of 2009-07-09:

Found on Ontario Diving Forum

<http://www.ontariodiving.com/showthread.php?t=11426&highlight=lillie>

07-13-2009, 12:07 AM
#5

Ayisha
Mako Shark






Join Date: Feb 2006
Location: Toronto
Posts: 438

I heard that the accident was on the J.B. King. This is what was posted on Scubaboard yesterday by someone on another boat at the time:

Quote:


From what I understand, a woman diving in the St Lawrence river (thursday July 9), had a uncontrolled ascent from 150', I myself was on a different charter boat drifting off the Daryaw wreck and heard the diverdown alert over the radio after boarding. When the woman, was picked up from the water, she was not breathing, and foaming at the mouth, thats pretty much all I know at this point other than a different charter boat had picked her out of the water, started cpr and administered oxy, and by the time we had got back to the dock, the woman was breathing and somewhat alert (thank god), and taken away by ambulance.

There hasn't been any follow-up yet. Hope she's ok.


07-13-2009, 07:47 PM
#9

wtoole
Bull Shark



Join Date: Feb 2007
Location: Ottawa
Posts: 178

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Ayisha** 

I heard that the accident was on the J.B. King. This is what was posted on Scubaboard yesterday by someone on another boat at the time:

There hasn't been any follow-up yet. Hope she's ok.

The accident occurred between the **Lillie** and Stovin Island. The diver was off of the Helen C charter but it was Sea & Sky who recovered/rescued her. I was in the water at the time and my buddies and I had just surfaced halfway down Stovin when I notice our boat (Sea & Sky) picking up someone out towards the channel between the **Lillie** and Stovin Island. Sea & Sky then rushed back to St Lawrence park and I could see them doing chest compressions on the diver as they went by. The diver was reportedly unconscious and not breathing when they recovered her. She also had foam and blood coming from her mouth. Amazingly, Edie from Sea and Sky was able to resuscitate her and the diver was breathing and somewhat alert by the time they got her to the dock. It is very impressive that they got her breathing again. Hats off to Edie. They also pulled her buddy out of the water at the same time, he was fine but do not know if he had any DCS issues. They apparently were down deep (150ft). I have not heard how the diver is doing since then, but have not seen anything else in the paper so I hope she is doing fine.

Bill

