

BY-LAWS TO THE CONSTITUTION of Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs

ATTACHMENT 1C – TGCC Event Sanctioning

HISTORIC INFORMATION – TGCC is a council of clubs, their members and individuals who have elected to show their support of TGCC by directly joining TGCC. Historically we have recommended (sanctioned) their participation and support of TGCC events to those members. In addition, certain events of TGCC’s member clubs are endorsed by TGCC if those events are consistent with TGCC’s primary objectives. Presently it is sanctioned events that serve as the basis of TGCC’s annual Neptune Award.

PURPOSE – This document provides information about the “sanctioning” process. It is a guide for future decisions on TGCC member club events that TGCC has been asked to grant this status to. This attachment to the TGCC By-Laws lists the TGCC’s club objectives, sanctioning procedures, sanctioning requirements, actions expected of the Council and each of its member clubs to a sanctioned event. It also provides general guidance for the type of events that can, or should not, be supported by such an endorsement by the TGCC.

What is a TGCC “Sanctioned” Event – A unique event/function/instructional class that the Council has determined to be of benefit to many of the members of the local dive community.

TGCC’s PURPOSE and OBJECTIVES:

- a) To promote education in the dive community.
- b) To support higher education for members of the dive community.
- c) To provide recognition for outstanding contributors to the dive community.
- d) To foster environmental awareness in the dive community.
- e) To provide and participate in an annual trash clean-up event that utilizes diving skills.
- f) To provide or participate in various events that utilize diving skills.
- g) To promote safe skin and Scuba diving.
- h) To encourage, coordinate and promote cooperation and water safety among all divers, member and non-member clubs.
- i) To encourage and facilitate communication among its various member clubs.
- j) To enable the individual dive clubs to participate jointly in the dive and local communities.
- k) To defend and advance the legal rights and privileges of all divers through appropriate state and federal legislation.
- l) Provide information to the clubs and proposed rules, regulations and actions that affect them and their members.

Sanctioning process in detail:

1. Agreement by the Council that the event is a TGCC event, or a member club event that supports TGCC’s club objectives.
2. A determination that the event is unique (not the same thing each club already does).
3. Agreement by the Council that its members should be encouraged to attend.
4. Member club request for “sanctioning” must be in writing and should be in accordance with an approved

“Club Event Sanctioning Form”.

5. Schedule sanctioning events so that they do not conflict with other sanctioned events.
6. Establishing a participation value for Neptune Award purposes for:
 - a. The organizer/chairpersons/instructors
 - b. The participants
7. The requirement of a final event report to be submitted to the TGCC 1st Vice President by the requesting club representative, for Neptune Award accounting.
8. Properly supporting the event through TGCC and its clubs’ informational tools:
 - a. TGCC should recommend the event to its members.
 - b. TGCC should advertise the event to the TGCC website
 - c. By each of TGCC’s club representatives should arrange for its advertisement and support:
 - i. On their club’s website
 - ii. In their club’s newsletter
 - iii. At their club’s meetings

General qualifications of a sanctioned event:

- 1 Must be a Council event or a club event meeting TGCC’s objectives.
- 2 Must be of reasonable cost (\$300 or less) to those participating in the event.
- 3 Must be available to all TGCC members and members of the individual clubs at the same cost as charged those members of the club that is running the sanctioned event.
- 4 Must be of reasonable duration (3 days or less).
- 5 Must be an event of interest to some members of the majority of the clubs in the Council.

Examples of events that have received “sanctioning” in the past:

1. TGCC events (TGCC Club Awards Luncheon, Trashfest)
2. Instructional program (class)
3. Training program (class)
4. Safety program (class)
5. Competitive Events (photo contests, spearfishing events)
6. Events organized by one or more dive clubs for the “Diving Community” (Examples would be SeaSpace; the BAD Divers Market & Expo)

Examples of events that normally would not receive “sanctioning” in the past are:

1. Commercial events (Like the Texas Dive Show)
2. Material presented during a club’s General Membership meeting
3. Material presented during a club’s Board meeting
4. Dive trips
5. Travel trips
6. Club parties
7. Events designed to facilitate member bonding within a club:
 1. Wine tasting
 2. Trips to distilleries
 3. Camping trips

Attachment 1C to the TGCC By-Laws

Approved and ratified on _____ by:

TGCC 2018 Officers:

President (Frank Burek)

First Vice President (Rodney Dwire)

Secretary (JaVan Pruett)

Treasurer (Mark Leiserowitz)

Second Vice President (Randy Widaman)

TGCC 2018 Full Member Representatives:

City of Houston Underwater Mariners (Mark Leiserowitz)

Houston Underwater Photographic Society (Alicia Grimes)

JSC Lunarfins Scuba Club (Polly Swerdlin)