

Gear Handling and Packing Guide

You are ULTIMATELY responsible for EVERYTHING that happens to the gear you rent. The rental rates for YOUR club are the cheapest around, so please help to keep costs down and conditions up by taking care of YOUR gear. This guide provides the necessary information.

Packing and Care

- Do Not place weights inside bags or boxes.
- Use your wetsuit to cushion your regulator when packing.
- Gear should be rinsed before it starts to dry.
- Gear should be returned clean and preferable dry when returned.

Guidlines to Keep Your Costs Down

General: Neoprene is a delicate, spongy material that stretches when it is new, but tends to get stiffer and tear easily with age. To size neoprene items, start with larger sizes and work down. **DO NOT** pull hard! Pull in small increments to avoid ripping and tearing.

Wetsuits: Leg and Wrist Cuffs, as well as Knees are **VERY** delicate on many suits. Try to gently expand suits while pulling it on over hands and feet. For Jackets, don't use the zipper to stretch the suit to fit, the zipper will fly off. For Pants, pull legs of the suit up into place by working from the feet up, pulling gently as you go (similar to pantyhose or thin dress socks). Avoid stretching large areas at one time.

Gloves: **DO NOT** use them for digging or scraping algae.

Boots: Stretching in the toes will cause the boot to stretch and tear away from the sole.

Hoods: Virtually Indestructible.

Weights: **YOU** are responsible for the exact weights (quantity and size) that you check out. Weights are the most often misplaced / lost gear. Replacement costs are \$1.50 per pound.

BCD: Rinse the outside and flush the inside with clean water, then inflate, invert, and deflate to remove **ALL** water from the inside.

Masks: Straps are designed to hold the mask in place so it does not fall off. Pressure from the water will hold the mask snug enough to make the seal. Therefore, over-tightening the strap will cause damage to the mask.

Regulators: Any time your regulator comes in contact with water, it should be connected to a tank **AND PRESSURIZED**. This is the only time it is acceptable to hose out your second stages. As soon as it is removed from the tank, wipe the First Stage Yoke and Cap with a dry cloth and replace the cap. Do not blow air into or across the Yoke, you might blow water inside.

Tanks: **NEVER** leave tanks standing unattended (even with a BCD attached). Falling can result in explosions!

Snorkels: Make sure the snorkel keeper is not worn enough that it may break and/or release the snorkel.

Fins: Make sure the fins and straps are not cracked, ripped, or dry-rotted.

Fees and Penalties

- Gear that is returned dirty will result in a \$5 cleaning fee per item.
- Gear returned late will be subject to additional week's rental fees in addition to a \$1 per day late fee (including weekends), unless special arrangements are made with someone on the Equipment Room staff prior to the due date.
- Damaged gear will result in a \$10 damaged fee per item to be put towards repairs on the gear. Additional costs may be charged based on the severity of the damage and the type of repair/ replacement needed.
- Missing gear (defined as not found within 1 week of the original gear return date) will be subject to replacement cost. Alternately the renter may provide a replacement that is suitable to the Equipment Room Manager.

Review the gear signed out in your name and be sure that any damage is noted on your rental form BEFORE you leave the equipment room, otherwise YOU may be held responsible.