

**Policy Number 3 ISSUE DATE 12/08**  
**RECOGNITION OF OTHER CERTIFICATION /EXPERIENCE PROGRAMS**  
**(CROSSOVERS)**

A number of divers with cave diving training through other certification agencies apply to be recognised or become members of the CDAA. As there has been an increasing trend for these divers to want access to CDAA membership and dive sites this policy is to outline the procedures for crossover of those divers. This policy recognises that other training agencies provide a comparable level of training in cave diving. The aim of this policy is not to re-teach these divers to cave dive, rather to verify the diver's competence, and provide specific training on unique aspects of CDAA sites (such as site access protocols).

The CDAA has a responsibility to ensure these divers understand the site access protocols for CDAA sites, and confirm that the divers skill level is equivalent to that gained from a CDAA conducted training course. Recognition of other certification programs may be conducted concurrently with a CDAA training course provided the Instructor complies with all CDAA training standards (eg: An instructor is running a CDAA course. An applicant for recognition of other certification may attend only those sections of the course required by this policy).

An applicant may apply in writing to the Standards Director seeking recognition of previous experience and alternative cave training, to gain entry to a CDAA Cave or Advanced Cave training course.

**RECOGNITION OF OTHER CERTIFICATION EQUIVALENT TO CDAA DEEP CAVERN**

1. Prior to commencement of the assessment dives, the Applicant shall submit to the Records Officer:
  - a. A copy of the equivalent certification.
  - b. A certified record of recent Deep Cavern (Sinkhole) dives (Definition of a Sinkhole site is provided within the Regulations).
2. A CDAA Deep Cavern Instructor shall conduct the following activities:
  - a. Contact the Records Officer and verify the applicant's certification is equivalent to a CDAA Deep Cavern rating. (The Records Officer is to liaise with the Standards Director regarding equivalency of training courses).
  - b. Complete an orientation to CDAA site access, Regulations, Standards and Procedures and the Constitution as per the CDAA Members Manual.
  - c. Have the applicant successfully complete the Deep Cavern pre-assessment dive performance criteria, including the stress test.
  - d. Have the applicant plan, conduct and comply with the site access requirements to perform a total of two dives in two different CDAA Sinkhole/Deep Cavern sites (one dive per site). The applicant is to plan the dive and complete any site access requirements with minor instructor guidance (ie: use of CDAA website, contacting the landowner, arranging permits etc).
  - e. Upon completion of the diving activities, the applicant shall submit an application for CDAA membership at Deep Cavern level. Application forms and fees must be completed and forwarded as per a standard course. (e.g. CDAA Joining Fee, Annual Membership plus Instructor Assessment costs).

**RECOGNITION OF OTHER CERTIFICATION EQUIVALENT TO CDAA CAVE**

3. Prior to commencement of the assessment dives, the Applicant shall submit to the Records Officer:
  - a. A copy of the equivalent certification.
  - b. A certified record of recent Cave dives (Definition of a Cave site is provided within the Regulations).
4. A CDAA Cave Instructor shall conduct the following activities:

- a. Contact the Records Officer and verify the applicant's certification is equivalent to a CDAA Cave rating. (The Records Officer is to liaise with the Standards Director regarding equivalency of training courses).
- b. Complete an orientation to CDAA site access, Regulations, Standards and Procedures and the Constitution as per the CDAA Members Manual.
- c. Have the applicant successfully complete the Cave pre-assessment dive performance criteria, including the stress test.
- d. Have the applicant plan, conduct and comply with the site access requirements to perform a total of two dives in two different CDAA Cave sites (one dive per site). The applicant is to plan the dive and complete any site access requirements with minor instructor guidance (ie: use of CDAA website, contacting the landowner, arranging permits etc).
- e. Upon completion of the diving activities, the applicant shall submit an application for CDAA membership at Cave level. Application forms and fees must be completed and forwarded as per a standard course. (Eg. CDAA Joining Fee, Annual Membership plus Instructor Assessment costs).

### **RECOGNITION OF OTHER CERTIFICATION EQUIVALENT TO CDAA ADVANCED CAVE**

5. Prior to commencement of the assessment dives, the Applicant shall submit to the Records Officer:
  - a. A copy of the equivalent certification.
  - b. A certified record of recent Advanced Cave dives (Definition of an Advanced Cave site is provided within the Regulations).
6. A CDAA Advanced Cave Instructor shall conduct the following activities (this may be conducted by one CDAA Advanced Cave Instructor, unlike the CDAA Advanced Cave course):
  - a. Contact the Records Officer and verify the applicant's certification is equivalent to a CDAA Advanced Cave rating. (The Records Officer is to liaise with the Standards Director regarding equivalency of training courses)
  - b. Complete an orientation to CDAA site access, Regulations, Standards and Procedures and the Constitution as per the CDAA Members Manual.
  - c. Have the applicant successfully complete the Advanced Cave pre-assessment dive performance criteria, including the stress test.
  - d. Have the applicant plan, conduct and comply with the site access requirements to perform a total of two dives in two different CDAA Advanced Cave sites (one dive per site). The applicant is to plan the dive and complete any site access requirements with minor instructor guidance (ie: use of CDAA website, contacting the landowner, arranging permits etc).
  - e. Upon completion of the diving activities, the applicant shall submit an application for CDAA membership at Advanced Cave level. Application forms and fees must be completed and forwarded as per a standard course. (Eg. CDAA Joining Fee, Annual Membership plus Instructor Assessment costs).
  - f. Dives in Advanced Cave equivalent sites prior to award of CDAA Advanced Cave certification may be used towards meeting the Tank Cave pre-requisites. *This is only allowed for CDAA applicants under this policy.*