

Dive Challenge Oman

Diving for people with a physical challenge



Dirk Wondrak — Course Director IAHD



A new experience under water



Disabled divers training under water

In earlier times when Jacques Cousteau, the famous diver and explorer, began to make scuba diving popular, it was considered as an extreme sport activity. Nowadays, diving is one of the most common recreation activities practiced all over the world involving both young and old. During March 17-22, Extra Divers and the IAHD Foundation will conduct the Dive Challenge Tour Oman. As part of the event, IAHD, doctors, instructors, disabled divers and physiotherapists will demonstrate that scuba diving is not merely a fun sport, but can even improve the quality of life of disabled people. In line with the motto 'Scuba Diving for All' they will introduce the underwater world to disabled people of Oman. During this week there will be held an IAHD Pro-Training course conducted by Pro-Trainer Dirk Wondrak from the IAHD team Germany. From March 17 until March 19 he will teach scuba diving professionals (for example, Instructors, Course Directors and Divemasters) how to instruct people with a disability. The course is very practical and instructors will have the opportunity to dive with people that have a disability, to fully experience the challenges one will encounter once being a certified IAHD professional.

In some areas of Europe scuba diving is already part of therapy prescribed for the disabled. In addition to the physical benefits involved, diving can contribute to the well-being of those who have a physical challenge, either due to a hereditary dysfunction or traumatic experience. Diving often provides a boost of self-confidence, positive energy (physically and mentally) and the possibility to share a passion with other people either disabled or not. The Dive Challenge Tour Oman has welcomed the financial support of the following sponsors: **Gold Sponsors — Nawras, Tawoos and ONEIC; Silver and Bronze Sponsor: LNG Qalhat , Oman Orix Leasing Company, Oman Pumps Mfg. & Engineering Services Company; and other support OOISS, Mustafa Sultan Enterprises and Ajmal International Est.**