# The test of Performance Strategy for Kids Scuba diving

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Abstract: Many junior or adult divers have a problem in the first time of using underwater SCUBA diving equipment. while under water breathing from mouth or Mask removal skills under water, a beginner my inhale water from nose and want to ascent to the water surface to can breathe normally, clean mask from water and try to dive again .in this case my he gets Panic. The **aim** of the study was to assess the effects of used Aqua mission games training to improve psychological skills to enhance Safety performance and avoid a panic. 20 healthy participants in kids Scuba diving program (8year) in summer 2017. Each group (n=4). In addition to scuba training, received. The intervention group reported lower pre-test scores for cognitive Test of Performance Strategy (TOPS), and some of Safety Specialists test. Results scores post-test Significates for Psychological characteristics self-confidence, Emotional control, Automaticity, Goal-setting, Imagery, Activation, Relaxation and Negative thinking performed better on Safety Specialist Skills: Predive safety check, Cramp removal - self and buddy, Throw a rescue line or float, Positive buoyancy on the surface - self and buddy, Rescue tow. testes scores significantly predicted Safety Specialist performance. These results suggest that Kids scuba divers may Enhanced after the Aqua mission games training as part of their main scuba diving skills.

**Keywords**: TOPS test, Panic, Kids SCUBA Diving.

## Introduction

Scuba Diving training practices currently address the physical, physiological and psychological challenges inherent to children by adapting equipment, modifying techniques, limiting exposure and mandating strict supervision. Many 10-year-olds may be capable, but many more may not be. Unfortunately, there are often incentives for instructors, parents and even dive operations to train unready students. The relationship between the mental and psychological aspect and physical performance is an interest between both coaches and players to the success or failure of the player in the compatibility between the lateral skill, physical and mental (Blumenstein, B, et al 1997) (Annett, J. 1995). The effectiveness of access to excellence in the performance of the athlete has been practically verified. The player must first think with mental skill as well as physical performance. The player should concentrate on attention and focus as well as reorientation to prevent errors in performance. (Martin K A Hall C.R 1997)

The Aqua mission program keeps kids diving learning and having fun until they are ready to enroll in the Junior Scuba Diver course. The underwater activity-filled introduction to the world of diving. The program gives children a chance to swim around underwater and experience adventure, discovery and thrills. It also provides parents or guardians with a structured program that lets their children develop skills, learn about the aquatic realm and have a lot of good, clean fun. (Padi Seal team Manual 2017). The Program have apart from Mental training, is the essential part of the player's preparation. It involves the perception of movement, the sequence of skills, attitudes, goals, performance, and any external influence such as weather and jealousy. Until the practitioner is able to do so, he must develop the mental potential and improve it for mental training is an important and fundamental part of sports training (Annett, J.1995). Therefore, the researcher depends on the relationship between the mental side and the physical side is a stand-alone relationship, this consensus between the two sides is necessary. The diving sport is a sport that is characterized by multiple and difficult

combinations of motor skills, it contributes to the skill of the diver, which helps to perform easily and safely under the water, which achieves safe diving without training injuries from the distance from the surface of the water. Because the diver in a state of confusion Or entering the water in the eyes or nose or inability to breathe correctly leads the diver to swallowing water and panic to panic Panic may lead to death at times in particular in the initial stages of education or when the diver fatigue or not care Underwater care in the management of crises The performance is slow (Walton L 2018).

Panic is defined as, "a strong, fearful perception by an individual that he/she is out of control, that he/she is not capable of coping with the situation. leading to behaviors that not only do not solve the problem Posed by the danger but actually may work directly against solution" (Bachrach & Egstrom, 1987, p. 23). Water inhalation from nose make a panic case for diver .this is a real problem, another problem come from that divers do not follow the procedures they have been trained in, and dive significantly beyond their training experience and fitness levels, Or he can lose the concentrate during diving and that this the basic cause of most accidents. In litigation involving diving accident, the legal panel reported that 85% to 90% of the cases were attributable to diver error. This is consistent with several scientific studies. Medical issues are a significant part of the problem, and certified divers are responsible for assessing their own fitness and ability to do any particular dive.(DAN 2011)(David Hostler et all 2018)that mental preparations and well developed psychological skills are essential for successful performance and wellbeing (Gould, Guinan, Greenleaf, Medbery, & Peterson, 1999; Greenleaf, Gould, & Dieffenbach, 1999. The researcher sees the existence of obstacles by the next to the training for diving, especially in the early stages of learning and not to stand on enhancing the mental aspects of training on performance, especially when the dive under the crisis under water. As well as lack of training of some trainers mental training methods such as relaxation, perception, perception, attention concentration and lack of detailed explanation of the performance of skills through the video demonstration of diving. Therefore, the researcher believes that conducting this study in order to identify the effect of mental training during Aqua mission and psychological tests on improving the skill level of diving.

**Aims:** Our aim was to assess the effects of used Aqua mission games training to improve psychological skills to enhance Safety performance and avoid a panic for SCUBA Diving for Kids

## Material and Methods

## Subjects

20 healthy kids SCUBA diving volunteered for the study in summer 06.2017to 8.2017. The subject were  $8.9 \pm 1.1$  years of age, height  $128 \pm 1.06$ m and weight  $33.85 \pm 1.32$  kg. The subjects have at least  $2.85 \pm 1.69$  dive experience record in PADI Seal Team SCUBA diving program and during the investigation period all subjects trained on Aqua mission games training for 4 weeks in Max 4 m depth.

## Protocol

#### METHOD

Participants were 20 kids' diver's male. All participants had no previous scuba diving experience. All participants were treated in accordance with the Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct (American Psychological Association, 1992) .They was briefed on the nature of the diving tasks, and of their right to discontinue involvement at any point, as part of the standard PADI procedures.

#### Measures

To compare the predisposition towards Test of performance strategies TOPS; (Hardy, Roberts, Thomas, & Murphy, 2010) was used to measure the diver's participant groups.

The 64 questionnaires have successfully been used for research in many different sports (Frey, Laguna, & Ravizza, 2003; Hardy et al., 2010). Diving performance for each participant was assessed by PADI Test Performance for Safety specialist Skills (PADI Manual 2017)

#### Treatments

Prior to their dive, all participants received the PADI Seal team kills of instruction which involved weekly attendance over a 4-week period. The purposes of the Aqua mission training program were to teach participants to reduce anxiety through relaxation and intentional control, to increase self-confidence through self-affirmations, and to improve performance.

#### Procedure

Each group was trained separately following standard PADI Seal team program. All group received their PADI training at the same location from the same instructors. PADI Skills was measured during the first session of their training approximately four weeks prior to the dive. All participants completed the Aqua mission program. Both tasks took place at a depth of 4m and were administered in accordance with standard procedures (PADI 2017).

#### Data analysis

A control value for each parameter was calculated as an average value mean and standard deviation M±SD from each Subject. The improvement of psychological variables values of TOPS test was compared between, before and after, Aqua mission training program, using paired t-test. The level used for accepting significance was \*P < 0.05.

Table 1	Characteristic	s of 20 subjects
Characteristics		Means± SD
Age	year]	8.9 ± 1.1
Height [cm]		$136 \pm 1.07$
Weight [kg]		43.85 ± 1.22
Training Exper	ience [ TE] Num	2.85 ±1.69

Data are means  $\pm$  SD, n=20

#### RESULTS

Table 2 Pre and Post Self-Talk, Emotional Control of 20 subjects

	Practice Test			Competition	Practice Test		
Competition strategies Self-Talk	Pre Test Mean ±SD	Post Test Mean ±SD	T -test	strategies Emotional control	Pre Test Mean ±SD	Post Test Mean ±SD	T -test
Q2	2.08±.773	4.27±1.007	-10.5	Q13	2.18±.759	3.70±936	-8.96
Q9	3.55±.825	1.06±.340	15.12	Q16	2.09±.827	3.65±.862	-9.65
Q21	2.36±.701	3.90±.975	-8.5	Q24	3.84±.912	1.06±.340	15.66
Q33	1.99±.776	3.76±1.006	-8.15	Q28	2.18±.701	3.60±.864	-7.35
Q36	2.28±.790	3.70±.936	-9.11	Q39	2.31±.630	3.55±.825	-9.48
Q47	2.41±.650	3.70±.897	-9.74	Q50	3.55±.825	1.06±.340	16.50
Q51	2.32±.747	3.55±.825	-9.16	Q52	2.36±.641	3.61±.945	-11.5
Q57	2.46±.655	3.70±.936	-8.72	Q62	1.99±.776	3.66±.941	-8.25

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	Practic	ractice Test			Practic		
Competition strategies Automaticity	Pre Test Mean ±SD	Post Test Mean ±SD	T -test	Competition strategies Goal-setting	Pre Test Mean ±SD	Post Test Mean ±SD	T -test
Q4	3.65±.901	1.16±.427	12.50	Q1	3.70±.897	1.27±.709	9.55
Q10	2.36±.701	3.65±.862	-9.47	Q7	2.27±.735	3.84±.912	-8.57
Q11	2.14±.848	3.80±.959	-9.18	Q18	$1.89 \pm .768$	3.67±1.058	-11.2
Q23	$1.99 \pm .776$	3.55±.825	-7.89	Q22	3.65±.862	1.06±.340	14.78
Q29	2.08±.773	3.51±.905	-10.0	Q26	$1.93 \pm .619$	3.61±.945	-10.3
Q30	2.18±.759	3.99±.984	-10.6	Q37	2.22±.720	3.90±.975	-10.1
Q41	1.94±.801	3.56±.865	-8.75	Q46	2.18±.759	3.51±.823	-9.3
Q58	2.41±.650	3.80±.921	-11.5	Q53	2.04±.856	3.70±.897	-11.5

Table 3 Pre and Post Automaticity, Goal-setting of 20 subjects

 Table 4
 Pre and Post Imagery, Activation of 20 subjects

	Practice	Test			Practice Test		
Competition strategies Imagery	Pre Test Mean ±SD	Post Test Mean ±SD	T -test	Competition strategies Activation	Pre Test Mean ±SD	Post Test Mean ±SD	T -test
Q3	1.99±.830	3.04±879	-12.7	Q32	2.08±.773	3.66±.981	-8.19
Q12	2.27±.677	3.60±.864	-11	Q35	$2.18 \pm .814$	3.65±.901	-7.51
Q34	2.14±.848	3.56±.906	-6.9	Q38	2.18±.759	3.75±.891	-9.11
Q42	2.27±.677	3.89±.902	-11.4	Q40	2.41±.708	4.03±.933	-9.57
Q55	$2.50 \pm .658$	3.70±.897	-9.6	Q44	2.08±.773	3.56±.906	9.354
Q56	2.46±.655	3.46±.820	-10.7	Q45	$1.98 \pm .656$	3.56±.865	-10
Q59	2.41±.650	3.70±.897	-9.74	Q48	2.50±.658	3.55±.825	-12.9
Q64	2.36±.641	3.90±.975	-9.23	Q49	2.32±.690	3.60±.864	-8.57

Table 5	Pre and Post Relaxation, Negative thinking of 20 subjects
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	Practic	e Test		Competition	Practice Test		
Competition strategies Relaxation	Pre Test Mean ±SD	Post Test Mean ±SD	T -test	strategies Negative thinking	Pre Test Mean ±SD	Post Test Mean ±SD	T -test
Q5	2.18±.759	3.75±.968	-9.33	Q14	3.80±.921	1.06±.340	15.25
Q6	$1.60 \pm .605$	3.13±.829	-9.86	Q19	$1.85 \pm .843$	3.47±.903	-10.2
Q8	2.18±.759	3.90±.975	-7.47	Q20	3.70±.897	1.06±.340	15.34
Q15	2.04±.906	3.70±.936	-11.5	Q31	$3.70 \pm .936$	1.06±.340	15.58
Q17	2.31±.630	3.90±.975	-9.57	Q54	3.89±.902	1.06±.340	16.10
Q25	2.09±.827	3.46±.861	-6.08	Q60	3.75±.891	1.06±.340	15.70
Q27	1.89±.768	3.46±.861	-7.24	Q61	3.75±.891	$1.11 \pm .388$	16.29
Q43	3.60±.826	1.11±.388	14.87	Q63	3.79±.884	1.11±.388	13.58

	Prac			
Competition strategies	Pre Test Mean ±SD	Post Test Mean ±SD	T -test	
Self-talk	2.43±0.73	3.45±0.86	-6.09	
Emotional control	2.56±0.76	2.98±0.75	-2.87	
Automaticity	2.34±0.77	3.37±0.84	-6.86	
Goal-setting	2.48±0.77	3.07±0.83	-4.58	
Imagery	2.3±0.70	3.60±0.89	-10.15	
Activation	2.21±0.72	3.67±0.89	-7.06	
Relaxation	2.23±0.76	3.30±0.84	-5.77	
Negative thinking	3.52±0.89	1.37±0.42	12.20	
Total Score				

#### Table 6: Test of Performance Strategies (TOPS) for Scuba Divers (N = 20)

Data are means  $\pm$  SD, n=20 \*p<0.05

#### Table 7: Pre and Post Safety specialist for Scuba Divers (N = 20).

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Characteristics	Pre Mean ± SD	Post Mean±SD	- Ť
Change Snorkel and Regulator	1.75±0.52	4.65±0.46	2.02
Regulator Recovery (Arm Swing).	1.32±0.44	4.6±0.47	2.41
Mask removal (Full).	1.77±0.42	4.7±0.44	4.02
Swimming without Mask.	1.4±0.47	4.65±0.47	2.45
Cramp removal – self and buddy	1.15±0.34	4.22±0.39	3.55
Throw a rescue line or float	1.34±0.45	4.51±0.48	3.01
Positive buoyancy on the surface – self and buddy	1.15±0.34	4.45±0.36	3.52
Rescue tow	1.15±0.24	4.53±0.38	3.62

Data are means  $\pm$  SD, n=20 \*p<0.05



#### Fig:1 TOPS test Pre & Post Variables

#### Discussion

The primary purpose of the present study was to assess the effects of used Aqua mission games training to improve psychological skills (TOPS Questionnaire) to enhance Safety performance and avoid a panic for Kids Divers. Results suggest that the program had a significant effect in all areas. We found significant differences in Self-Talk Question 2, Q9, Q21,Q33,Q36,Q47,Q51,and Q57. for the post measurement variable (P=-6.09) (Fig1) The findings suggested that the type of self-talk an individual engages in (positive or negative) was more important than his or her belief in self-talk. Participants engaging in positive self-talk performed better on the balance task than those expressing negative/mixed self-talk. Finding differences between the positive and negative/mixed self-talk groups was particularly significant because previous researchers have focused almost exclusively on differences between positive, neutral, and negative self-talk (Dagrou et al., 1992; Van Raalte et al. 1995), (Kaori Araki 2006)(Landin, D.,1999)

We found significant differences in Emotional Control Question 13, Q16,Q24,Q28, Q39,Q50,Q52,and Q62. for the post measurement variable (P=-2.87) (Fig1) The experience of underwater panic had led to a traumatic event in a hostile environment incompatible with the behavioral reaction the patient had, and with the consequent sensation of danger the diver had exposed himself to through his own behavior. We found significant differences in Automaticity Question 4,Q10,Q11,Q23,Q29,Q30,Q41,and Q58. for the post measurement variable (P=-6.86) (Fig1) Automaticity is the ability to execute a skill using no (or very few) information processing resources: attention and working memory. When a skill can be executed in this fashion, the performer has resources available to process other sources of information not directly required for the task. Automaticity is thought to be a hallmark of expert performance that is acquired through learning and extensive practice (Beilock, S. L., & Gray, R. 2007). When one performs a skill, there are different modes of control that can be used. At one extreme, commonly called controlled processing mode, a performer executes an action by following a series of explicit steps that are held in working memory and by focusing attention on each part of the action. Stress factors are interpersonal environmental stimuli which require the organism to adapt from a bio-psycho-social point of view. The way a person reacts to an event is called adaptation; it includes cognitive strategies, emotional responses and interpersonal resources. In dives, many variables can concur to create a stressful underwater situation. These may be environmental events, equipment failures and the behavior of other people. (Maria 2011) .We found significant differences in Goal-Setting Question 1, Q7,Q18,Q22,Q26,Q37,Q46,and Q53. for the post measurement variable (P=-4.58) (Fig1) Goal setting is one of the most important skills taught to athletes in order to help them achieve optimal performance. The goal-setting process helps athletes understand where they are currently and also where they want to go. A mental skills training consultant or sport psychologist can teach an athlete how to set systematic goals that are focused on the process and performance rather than focused on the outcome of competition. (Gill, D. L. 2000) Sport psychologists have found that athletes often set goals that are not specific and not measurable Also, athletes often set goals that cannot be controlled. Athletes often set goals that focus on winning, but they may have little control over whether they win (Rabasca, 1999). We found significant differences in Imagery Question 3, Q12,Q34,Q42,Q55,Q56,Q59,and Q64. for the post measurement variable (P=-10.15) (Fig1) this study examined the effects of level of participation and time involvement in sport on mental imagery characteristics. The information this study will provide may help coaches and athletes to identify the mental preparation needs of specific sports and to present additional information about individual differences in sport imagery. This knowledge can be used in designing mental imagery training programs for the purpose of enhancing physical performance, there is a clear need to take individual differences into account when designing imagery training programs and future research should target to these factors Abma, et al. (2002). (Elfving, et al. 2000). (Ville Peltomäki 2014).We found significant differences in Activation Question 32, Q35, Q38, Q40, Q44, Q45, Q48, and Q49. for the post measurement variable (P=-7.06) (Fig1) Arousal and Activation is the mental and physiological response activity experienced in relation to an unexpected (or unplanned) input into the system like an unexpected shout from the crowd(William 2010).The applied sport psychologist, coach, and performer all have a role to play in establishing the applicable activation state for the performer. the strategies outlined in this entry offer insights for increasing activation states. these strategies can either be used individually or combined to form a more holistic energizing program however research testing the efficacy of energizing strategies for the perform remains in its infancy within applied sport psychology literature (Hanton 2009), We found significant differences in Relaxation Question 5, Q6, Q8, Q15, Q17, Q25, Q27, and Q43. for the post measurement variable (P=-5.77) (Fig1) Relaxation has been defined as a psychological strategy used by sports performers to help manage or reduce stress-related emotions (e.g., anxiety and anger) and physical symptoms (e.g., physical tension and increased heart rate [HR]) during high pressurized situations. Several different types of physical and mental relaxation strategies will be discussed in this entry, all of which can be used to relax the performer and, potentially, benefit athletic performance .We found significant differences in Negative Thinking Question 14, Q19, Q20, Q31,Q54,Q60,Q61,and Q63. for the post measurement variable (P=12.20) (Fig1) At one time or another, we all have negative thoughts and doubts about our ability to succeed and accomplish goals. Look at the tears of relief on the faces of some athletes after they've won very close competitions, and you'll realize that as great as they are, they too have doubts. One major difference between good and great athletes is that the great athletes not only recognize and acknowledge these doubts, they quickly let go of them and refocus their attention on getting the job done. (Van Raalte et al. 1995), (Hardy 2005,2006). We found significant differences in Safety Specialist for the post measurement variable in Change Snorkel and Regulator (P=2.02) (Table7), We found significant differences for the post measurement variable in Regulator Recovery (Arm Swing). (P=1.41) (Table7), in Mask removal (Full). (P=3.55) (Table7), in Swimming without Mask (P=2.02) (Table7), in Cramp removal -

self and buddy (P=3.55) (Table7) in Throw a rescue line or float (P=3.01) (Table7), in Positive buoyancy on the surface – self and buddy (P=3.52) (Table7), in Safety Specialist for the post measurement variable in Rescue tow (P=3.62) (Table7).These findings offer encouragement for the potential use of mental and psychological training as part of kids diver preparation such as breathing control and anxiety awareness. The significant benefits evidenced by the intervention group suggest that more extensive coverage of the psychological aspects of scuba diving might (Scott A. Paluska, Dr & L. Schwenk, Thomas. 2000),(Giles, Audrey R 2007),( Christopher R2017),( Lucrezi, S 2018).

## Conclusion

Pre-performance mental visualization and psychological tests are a process of transition from non-performance-related conditions to performance-related conditions directly to link the movement vocabulary and the overall visualization of underwater motor skill. This improves the level of skill performance and increases the speed of acquisition and learning skills and gives the diver More confidence under water and the ability to get rid of the wrong performance that causes the crises and pressures of the performance of skilled diving. during Aqua mission games training improved psychological skills to enhance Safety performance and avoid many problems under water.

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