Leisure, or recreational, scuba diving has evolved over the decades. A half-century ago it was the preserve of only those with the dedication and motivation to seek hard-to-find training, or work it all out for themselves. Certification courses were significantly longer and quite demanding. Scuba training, equipment and diving services have become extremely accessible, more economical and more accessible around the globe. Mass-market scuba agencies grew and strove to enable a wider demographic of people to experience and enjoy scuba diving. From the dive industry perspective, we can recognize that the higher in the pyramid, the higher the financial spend, per diver, is made on training, equipment, travel and diving support services. This position
statement overviews and identifies the issues involved in teaching children to scuba dive, including the risks in doing so from PADI's perspective and what
to do to responsibly address these risks. (Richardson D. Children and diving: the recreational-diving training perspective. SPUMS J 2003; 33: 83-89)
of the South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society. URI: http://archive.rubicon-foundation.org/7780. Recreational diving or sport diving is diving for the
purpose of leisure and enjoyment, usually when using scuba equipment. The term "recreational diving" may also be used in contradistinction to "technical
diving", a more demanding aspect of recreational diving which requires greater levels of training, experience and equipment to compensate for the more
hazardous conditions associated with the disciplines. Breath-hold diving for recreation also fits into the broader scope of the term, but this