

Mountain Rescue Association

Rocky Mountain Region

A/R Worksheet Packet

This packet includes a seven page A/R worksheet (pages 1-7) that will assist the evaluator's in determining whether the team being evaluated has met the requirements necessary for re-accreditation. The packet also includes a one page "Evaluator Form" (page 8) that becomes an official document of the region. Listed below are instructions on how to use these worksheets.

If you are assigned to evaluate the **Search**, please score the questions on pages 1-3 that you observed, and also score page 4.

If you are assigned to evaluate the **High Angle Evacuation or the Scree Evacuation**, please score the questions on pages 1-3 that you observed, and also score page 5.

If you are assigned to evaluate the **Technical Evacuation portion of Winter Rescue**, please score the questions on pages 1-3 that you observed, and also score page 6.

If you are assigned to evaluate the **Avalanche portion of Winter Rescue**, please score the questions on pages 1-3 that you observed,) and also score page 7

As an evaluator or observer you may not have the opportunity to observe all portions of each scenario. If you did not observe a specific area, place an "X" in the proper column for each question. If the team did not perform a requirement in a specific area, place an "O" in the proper column for each question.

Now what??

Worksheets are a tool to assist the evaluators in completing the Evaluator's Form and to provide the evaluators and observers a method of giving specific feedback to the team being evaluated. Evaluation Team members are encouraged but not required to list your name and team on the top of each page of the worksheet.

Observers are encouraged but not required to fill out the worksheets and then discuss their observations with the evaluators that were at the same area.

Evaluators should fill out the worksheets and then discuss their observations with the appropriate observers prior to filling out the "**Evaluator's Form**". The final page of the packet is only to be filled out by the evaluators (observers do not fill out this page).

Evaluators must complete and sign the Evaluator's Form and return it to the Lead Evaluator at the conclusion of the A/R exercise.

Observers and Evaluators must submit their worksheets to the Lead Evaluator at the conclusion of the A/R exercise.

Scoring:

- 1 = Team does not meet the requirements in this area
- 2 = Team meets the requirements in this area
- 3 = Team significantly exceeds the requirements in this area

- x = Did not observe
- o = Did not perform the requirements in this area

Winter Rescue	Winter Rescue	Technical Rock	Technical Rock	Search
Aval	Tech Evac	High Angle	Scree	

A. Organization

1. Mission Leadership

- a. Did a recognized leader take charge of the operation?
- b. Did he/she delegate responsibility appropriately?
- c. Did he/she have the respect and cooperation of the entire team?
- d. Did he/she gather information appropriately from other team members?
- e. Is there adequate depth of leadership on the team that others could take over the entire operation or specific aspects?
- f. Did they properly utilize the available personnel and equipment?
- g. Were distractions (e.g. press) handled appropriately?
- h. Were reporting parties and subjects vehicles properly handled?

Comments _____

2. Scene Leadership

- a. Did a recognized leader take charge of the operation?
- b. Did he/she delegate responsibility appropriately?
- c. Did he/she have the respect and cooperation of the entire team?
- d. Did he/she gather information appropriately from other team members?
- e. Is there adequate depth of leadership on the team that others could take over the entire operation or specific aspects?
- f. Did they properly utilize the available personnel and equipment?
- g. Were reporting parties and subjects equipment properly handled?

Comments _____

3. Coordination

- a. Did individuals on field team's work together to get their task done?
- b. Did field team leaders direct the efforts of their field teams and coordinate those efforts through the overall mission command?
- c. Did the team properly prioritize multiple victims and operations?
- d. Did the team function as a unified organization rather than as individuals?
- e. Was everyone on the team aware of the overall plan and worked toward it?
- f. Did necessary equipment arrive in the field when needed?

Comments _____

4. Judgment

- a. Were the situations evaluated thoroughly and correctly?
- b. Did the team "dig" for information from bystanders and victims?
- c. Was a good approach taken to solve the problem?
- d. Were appropriate personnel selected for various jobs?
- e. Did the team react properly to new developments in the problem?
- f. Were the team members "clue aware", and did they report findings to team or mission leaders?
- g. Were individuals aware of their own limitations?
- h. Was the location of mission base appropriate for the situation?

Comments _____

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Winter Rescue	Winter Rescue	Technical Rock	Technical Rock	Search
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C. Safety

1. Personnel

- a. Was the safety of the rescuers paramount at all times?
- b. Was everyone properly equipped for the situation (technical gear, foul-weather gear, etc.)?

Comments _____

Winter Rescue *(rev. 2/1/2010)*

- c. Are personnel trained in winter skills?
- d. Did personnel have their avalanche beacons checked prior to going into the field?
- e. Was local avalanche hazard assessed appropriately?

Comments _____

Technical Rock

- f. Was everyone in rock danger wearing helmets?
- g. Were personnel tied in when necessary?
- h. Was rock fall danger minimized?

Comments _____

2. Technical systems

- a. Were anchors, knots, carabiners, etc. rechecked during the operation?
- b. Were knots adequate, properly utilized and safetied?
- c. Was the team aware of the hazard of icy ropes?
- d. Were ropes protected against damage from abrasion and rock fall?
- e. Was the system designed to minimize rock fall from running slopes?
- f. Were ropes properly managed during the operation?
- g. Were locking or double carabiners used where necessary?
- h. Did the team utilize any piece of equipment inappropriately?

Comments _____

3. Subjects

- a. Was extra equipment carried for the subjects?
- b. Was the subject secured as soon as possible (if necessary)?
- c. Was the subject secured throughout the operation?
- d. Was the subject's safety a priority during the entire operation?

Comments _____

4. Overall safety

- a. Does the team follow a consistent set of procedures?
- c. Do they use these procedures to ensure systems are within adequate safety margins?
- d. Are all members of the team adequately safety conscious?

Comments _____

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Search

D. Search

1. Initial evaluation of the mission

- a. Does the team conduct a thorough interview with the reporting party?
- b. Is the reporting party kept available for follow-up questions and support?
- c. Are the expected points of return (subject's home, vehicle, trailhead, etc.) monitored throughout the operation?

Comments _____

2. Initial response

- a. Does the team match the mission urgency with the right kind, quantity, quality and urgency of response?
- b. Are logistical requirements such as maps, transportation, communications and special needs identified and met in an organized and timely manner?
- c. Are additional interviews and investigations started? (If appropriate)

Comments _____

3. Mission management

- a. Is a search plan developed?
- b. Is the plan distributed to all the necessary elements promptly and completely?
- c. Is a communications plan developed and implemented?
- d. Are field teams properly briefed on the subject, terrain, weather and anticipated hazards?
- e. Are field personnel properly equipped to perform their task?
- f. Does the management team plan for a transition to rescue if necessary?
- g. When the subject is found or the mission suspended, is there notification to the appropriate parties?

Comments _____

4. Strategy and tactics

- a. Is the team familiar with the common and accepted strategies and tactics of search operations and proficient in their use?
- b. Are field teams "clue-aware", and do they report clues to mission command?
- c. Is the team careful to not disturb (and protect) evidence?
- d. Do field teams attempt to attract the subject?
- e. Did field teams appropriately interview bystanders?

Comments _____

3. Multi-agency organization structure

- a. Is the applicant's senior leadership sufficiently familiar with the common search management structures (e.g. MSF, MLPI) to allow their team to work within a large-scale Multi-resource operation

Comments _____

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Technical Rock	Technical Rock
High Angle	Scree

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

E. Technical Rock

1. General

- a. Did the team members utilize a consistent set of techniques?
- b. Did the team members recognize their own weaknesses?
- c. Did individuals adequately understand the principles behind the techniques used?
- d. Did Individuals understand the load limits of the system?

Comments _____

2. Anchors

- a. Were natural anchors used to the best advantage?
- b. Were anchors selected for position in relation to the problem?
- c. Were the anchors selected for security?
- d. Were the anchors backed up when appropriate?
- e. Did multiple anchor point systems distribute the load properly?
- f. Were the overall anchor systems “bomb-proof”?
- g. Did members appropriately utilize artificial protection? (If applicable)

Comments _____

3. Lowering methods

- a. Did the team have appropriate equipment to conduct the evacuation?
- b. Did the team understand the proper use of the equipment?
- c. Was the rigging set up in the best location and was the system designed for safety and efficiency?
- d. Did the team understand strengths and weaknesses of their equipment and setup?
- e. Were the belay devices and techniques appropriate for the operation and terrain?
- f. Were the ropes managed effectively?
- g. Was the work area and equipment kept organized?
- h. Were distracting conversations and radio traffic eliminated during the evacuation?
- i. Did signals between litter and belayer take top priority?
- j. Were signals clear and concise?
- k. Were knot passes executed smoothly and properly?

Comments _____

4. Raising methods

- a. Was a mechanical advantage set up appropriately?
- b. Was the uphaul a smooth, united effort?
- c. Was a ratchet/safety utilized appropriately?
- d. Were pulley systems kept organized and uncluttered?
- e. Was an appropriate raising system utilized?
- f. Were knot passes executed smoothly and properly?

Comments _____

5. Litter management

- a. Was the litter rigging safe and appropriate for the operation?
- b. Were the carrying methods and number of litter bearers appropriate to the terrain?
- c. Was the litter properly positioned for the rescue situation and for the medical condition of the subject?
- d. Did the litter bearers work as a team?
- e. Did the litter bearers manage the litter so to care for / protect the subject?

Comments _____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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Winter
 Rescue
 Tech
 Evac

F. Winter Rescue - Technical Evacuation

1. General

- a. Did the team members utilize a consistent set of techniques?
- b. Did the team members recognize their own weaknesses?
- c. Did individuals adequately understand the principles behind the techniques used?
- d. Did Individuals understand the load limits of the system?

Comments _____

2. Snow anchors

- a. Are enough members familiar with setting up adequate snow anchors?
- b. Were the anchors properly positioned in relation to the problem?
- c. Were the anchors used appropriate to the snow conditions?
- d. Were the anchors backed up when appropriate?
- e. Did multiple anchor point systems distribute the load properly?
- f. Were the overall anchor systems "bomb-proof"?
- g. Were boot-ax belays used, if so, were they done appropriately?

Comments _____

3. Lowering methods

- a. Did the team have appropriate equipment to conduct the evacuation?
- b. Did the team understand the proper use of the equipment?
- c. Was the rigging set up in the best location, and was the system designed for safety and efficiency?
- d. Did the team understand strengths & weaknesses of their equipment and setup?
- e. Were the belay devices and techniques appropriate for the operation and terrain?
- f. Were the ropes managed effectively?
- g. Was the work area and equipment kept organized?
- h. Were distracting conversations and radio traffic eliminated during the evacuation?
- I. Did signals between litter and belayer take top priority?
- j. Were signals clear and concise?
- k. Were knot passes executed smoothly and properly?

Comments _____

4. Raising methods

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5. Litter management

- a. Was the litter rigging safe and appropriate for the operation?
- b. Were the carrying methods and number of litter bearers appropriate to the terrain?
- c. Was the litter properly positioned for the rescue situation and for the medical condition of the subject?
- d. Did the litter bearers work as a team?
- e. Did the litter bearers manage the litter so to care for / protect the patient?

Comments _____

Evaluator's Form

(This form must be completed and signed by all evaluators and returned to the Lead Evaluator)

Team being Re-Accredited _____ **Date** _____

Each evaluator must now make decision(s) based on their evaluation of those areas that they observed. The worksheets you have filled out are only to be used to assist you in making these decision(s). No one question should be weighted more than another should, nor should the scores be added up. The decision(s) you make will be subjective. In making your decision you should also consider the following questions for each of the five (5) exercises.

1. Would you feel safe if this team were to rescue you?
2. Would you trust your life to their system setups?
3. Are their techniques familiar / standard enough that their members could easily integrate with other MRA teams?
4. Would you be able to work with this team on a mountain search and rescue operation?
5. Was the safety of any rescuer, the person(s) being rescued or any bystander ever inappropriately compromised?

=====

SEARCH

PASS _____ NOT PASS _____ DID NOT OBSERVE _____

Strengths in this area _____

Weaknesses in this area _____

=====

TECHNICAL ROCK - SCREE

PASS _____ NOT PASS _____ DID NOT OBSERVE _____

Strengths in this area _____

Weaknesses in this area _____

=====

TECHNICAL ROCK - HIGH ANGLE

PASS _____ NOT PASS _____ DID NOT OBSERVE _____

Strengths in this area _____

Weaknesses in this area _____

=====

WINTER RESCUE - TECHNICAL EVACUATION

PASS _____ NOT PASS _____ DID NOT OBSERVE _____

Strengths in this area _____

Weaknesses in this area _____

=====

WINTER RESCUE - AVALANCHE

PASS _____ NOT PASS _____ DID NOT OBSERVE _____

Strengths in this area _____

Weaknesses in this area _____

=====

Evaluators Signature **Date** **Your Team**