

Dear Fellow Rescuers,

The year of 2002 was an exciting year for the Technical Rescue division of the International Rescue and Emergency Care Association. We made some changes in a couple of aspects of our business that we hope will position ourselves to provide a much improved competition to the teams that have supported us over the years, and also welcome teams that use somewhat different techniques than what IRECA is used to seeing in the past.

Transitions are always rough, and this is no different. We have eased the pain somewhat by implementing our new scoring criteria, and it worked real well with the different techniques used in high angle rescue.

The purpose of this letter is to answer some questions about the new scoring criteria and revised equipment list. For those of you who have played with us in the past, you will find that we have added some things to the list. For those of you who are playing for the 1st time, you will probably find that the list is a few items short of what you are used to carrying. However, all the scenarios are based on a 7 member team and can be completed with the equipment that is listed on the list.

Team member 'Personal Equipment' is pretty straight forward with just a couple of questions, hopefully answered here.

- **(F) Flashlight** - Can be carried in pocket or helmet mounted. It must be in working order during the competition (i.e. good batteries)
- **(H) Triangle Bandages** - Can be store bought or can be made from material of any size.
- **(Locking Carabiners)** - Minimum of 3...If you want to carry 15, by all means carry 15,

'Team Equipment'

- There is a maximum of 800 ft. of $\frac{1}{2}$ " 9000 lb. tinsel strength
 - REQUIRED: 1 rope, 300 ft. in length
 - EXAMPLE: 1 ROPE 300 Ft. in length
 - 2 ropes 100 - 150 ft. in length
 - 2 ropes 50 - 75 ft. in length

- There are 5 Pulleys
 - Single sheave, double sheave, or any combination there of.

- There are 3 rope grabs
 - Cam ascenders
 - Tandem Prusiks
 - and/or any combination there of. It is possible to have 4 sets of tandem prusiks if you count item (U) of the team equipment allowing two (2) prusik cord slings.

The team equipment and personal equipment list is all the equipment your team and team members will need to provide. IRECA will furnish everything else needed to complete the rescue. Stokes baskets, ladders, tripods, extra rope, ect.

There will be a meeting for the team captains, asst. captains, and judges the afternoon before competition day. This is mandatory meeting for everyone listed above. Time and location of room (TBA). Location of the competition, scheduled times for the teams competing, and any questions you may have will be addressed at this meeting.

In the past, it has been helpful for the new teams coming into our competition to see how we have evolved over the years in our scoring criteria. Look at the web page for the "OLD" IRECA scoring criteria. It is the basis in which our 'established' judges have evolved from in their training. In comparing the old scoring criteria to our 'NEW' scoring criteria, you will find that the 'NEW' criteria allows new teams that do things a little different, an equal chance of getting all the points possible during the competition.

If you have any questions about anything, you can reach me at the numbers below. The best way is by email. Please leave a message on the phones and I will return the call asap. I'm looking forward to a great day of competition and the sharing of ideas and skills. See you soon.

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