

**INTERNATIONAL RESCUE & EMERGENCY CARE  
ASSOCIATION  
OFFICIAL RULES FOR TECHNICAL RESCUE  
ADOPTED JANUARY, 2005**

**RULE 1**

Each participating team will consist of a maximum of 7 members. No team will be able to 'borrow' a team member from another team without the consent of the Contest Committee Chairman. No one may enter the contest unless that person is a member of a Unit or Association which is a member of the International Rescue and Emergency Care Association (IRECA). Each member of a competing team must be individually registered at the conference and registration of team participants must meet approval of the Contest Committee.

**RULE 2**

All team members' applications must be mailed or delivered as a complete package to IRECA's Executive office. Payment to IRECA for team member's conference registration must accompany application. Teams may not enter the competition under similar names. Substitute names may be assigned to those with similar names to eliminate potential scoring problems. **The participating teams and the members shall agree to protect IRECA and its Officers, Contest Officials, and Judges and the city and/or state of the owner or owners of and property including land and/or structures thereon where the Rescue contest is conducted (held) from any liability, claim or expense in the event of any accidents during or in connection with the Rescue Contest in which any or all members of this team and our organization might be involved. A copy of your Units proof of liability must be provided with the contest application.**

**RULE 3**

One active member of a team will act as Captain or representative for that team. The team leader will maintain an accurate log of activities during each problem.

**RULE 4**

Equipment or supplies used must be comparable or identical. Unusual types of equipment may be supplied by the Contest Committee.

**Each team member must have the following personal equipment:**

- a. **Hard hat with chin strap**
- b. **Leather gloves (at least the palm made of leather)**
- c. **Boots or work shoes (minimum of 6" height)**
- d. **Clothing that offers protection to the body, arms & legs. (short sleeves are accepted)**
- e. **Full eye protection required (Z-87 ANSI rated side shields required)**
- f. **Flashlight/Headlamp**
- g. **Body cord/Webbing (20-30 ft.) min. tinsel strength 5000# synthetic material**
- h. **Two triangle bandages per member**
- i. **Emergency Care Kits (2 kits per team) to include:  
    Triangle bandages (6 per kit)  
    Scissors**

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- Safety pins
- Compresses (4x4)
- Casualty tags
- Pen or Pencil
- Band-Aids
- Roll 1" adhesive tape
- j. Minimum 3 locking carabiners per members
- k. One friction device
- l. One seat harness (Class III Harness required)
- m. One Prusik loop
- n. One Pick off strap (optional)
- o. One Triangular screw link (optional)
- p. One length of webbing max. - 30ft. (optional)

Each Rescue Team will bring the following team equipment, which will include:

- q. 800 foot of ½" 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
- r. 5 Pulleys
- s. 3 (Total of Rope Grabs) Cam Ascenders/ (sets) of Tandem Prusiks or any combination there of.
- t. 1 Friction device
- u. 2 Prusik Cord Slings
- v. 8 Paddings
- w. 1 6' sling
- x. 2 Swivels (optional)

**RULE 5**

Each competing team will work identical problems, or as close as possible.

**RULE 6**

Team Judges, on word from the Contest Chairman, will give problems to Team Captain. When all captains have problems, the Contest Chairman will give signal for opening of sealed envelopes containing problem. The team captain may open his problem as soon as the Chairman or his appointee gives the signal to begin.

**RULE 7**

All judges will have attached to their scoring sheet, a copy of written problem for their reference.

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**RULE 8**

All comments to judges will be made through captains or assigned deputies.

**RULE 9**

All team captains, or their appointees will meet with the contest officials prior to the contest. Meeting time to be announced at the Annual IRECA Conference. Competing teams will be "incommunicado" during the contest. Conferring with others outside the contest area will be subject to investigation. All factors being equal, one or more additional problems may be used to break the tie at the discretion of the contest officials. Contest Officials must determine tiebreaker factors prior to contest. Failing to complete entire contents of any problem may result in points lost. Scoring will be given only on that part of the problem completed. All scoring sheets will be designed on an International basis, for each specific problem.

**RULE 10**

**Each team will furnish two (2) IRECA registered rescue judges. All judges are required to attend a judge's seminar, held prior to the contest, to be registered. All judges will attend the Judges/Captains meeting prior to contest. Judges will be rotated at the discretion of the Contest Chair. Meeting times to be announced at the Annual IRECA Conference. First time teams are exempt from furnishing two (2) judges.**

**RULE 11**

All judges will receive the contest problems and the corresponding score sheets. **Judges will judge only on what they can observe.** Example: lowering problems need a judge upstairs and a ground judge with appropriate score sheets. Contest Chair may rotate judges as needed. Approved IRECA standards and scoring procedures will be discussed at the judges meeting.

**RULE 12**

The contest will be held regardless of weather with the exception of lightening storm. Cancellation will result when the Contest Chair deems safety to be compromising any team participating.

**RULE 13**

Contest area must be kept clear of spectators at all times during the contest. If possible, contest area will be roped off. Interference by spectators may result in injury to themselves or team members, or cause a team to lose the contest. Filming will be done at the discretion of the Committee.

**RULE 14**

Decision of the judges and the Contest Committee shall be **FINAL**.

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**RULE 15**

The judges and the Contest Committee reserve the right to halt any contest or contests due to extensive delay, lack of safety precautions, or impractical rescue methods. If team is allowed to resume, they will not be penalized for time taken to make a decision. If possible, the Rescue Contest Committee, shall provide safety coordinators, (judges) who shall be available to render final judgment of the safety factor.

**RULE 16**

Rescue techniques can be accomplished by more than one method. If the team will be judged in only one method, the team captain will be told the method to be used.

**RULE 17**

The Rescue Committee will pickup all score sheets immediately after each problem. It shall be the responsibility of the Rescue Committee to tabulate all score sheets.

**RULE 18**

Copies of the score sheets will be given to competing teams within 90 days after contest. Team results will be posted on the IRECA web page.

**RULE 19**

All score sheets and problems will be based on the International Manual of Basic Rescue Methods by Dawson Nethercutt, High Angle Rescue by Tom Vines, IFSTA Manual 6<sup>th</sup> Edition or other publications as accepted by the Rescue Committee.

**RULE 20**

Items added to the IRECA Rescue Guide by the close of a conference may be used as a scoring item in the next Rescue Contest. Any item added during the Winter Board meeting may only be used as a scoring item if the regular representative teams are notified of such change by mail within the close of that meeting.