Cave Instructor Certificate

British Caving Association

Module 1 CIC assessment
Extended day scoring rationale

NB It is not essential to have a client/body to work with for this module but it can help to observe how the candidate works with a less experienced person.

1. **Fail:** A poor performance
2. **Defer:** Unsatisfactory – below required level but should be able to remedy
3. **Developing:** At the standard in most elements but areas can improve
4. **Good:** Mature client centred approach
5. **Excellent:** Exceptional performance - aspirational

Pre Trip Checks and Knowledge

Weather and Flood Risk Assessment

Weather forecast and sources, stream levels (present and anticipated), run off conditions, effects of bad weather – surface

1. The candidate had made no effort to look at a forecast. Does not know the flood risk or pattern of venue
2. The candidate had at least one source of weather forecast for the day and can give outline of flood aspects of venue but cannot relate to the current conditions.
3. The candidate had several sources of weather forecast and could interpret these well. Can discuss the flood pattern well and make good decisions for the day an awareness of previous precipitation in the area was also present.
4. The candidate had several sources of weather forecast and could interpret these well. Can explain the flooding patterns in depth and in different seasons/conditions.
5. The candidate had several sources of weather forecast and could interpret these well. He/she could also determine the effect this would have on the system and explain the hydrology more generally across the area and in other regions, showing a well researched and in depth understanding of hydrological principles.

Access

Access procedures and public relations with landowners/other users. Site status (SSSI, RIGS) and Regional Caving Council access arrangements (general knowledge of).

1. Little or no awareness of access procedures
2. The candidate understands cave access procedures for only one region of the UK.
3. The candidate understands cave access procedures in several UK areas and the candidate had an awareness of the work of regional caving councils.
4. The candidate had a wide knowledge of access procedures across the UK, an awareness of the work of regional caving councils and why there is a need to negotiate with landowners and other users.
5. The candidate had been part of access negotiations for a venue or region in addition to above

Conservation Issues

1. The candidate has no understanding for the need for conservation.
2. The candidate has an awareness of conservation eg keeping to paths on the surface and within taped areas underground.
3. The candidate has an awareness of conservation and understands the fragility of the environment and how cavers can impact upon this.
4. The candidate has good awareness of conservation and can impart the reasons for conservation to clients with examples.
5. The candidate has good awareness of conservation and can impart the reasons for conservation to clients. Candidate has personal involvement with cave conservation.

Surface Navigation

Navigation - Surface strategies for poor visibility, Grid references, Scales, Bearings, Distances by timing, Distances by pacing.

1. The candidate would not be able to find the cave without help
2. The candidate could find the cave in good weather conditions.
3. The candidate could find the cave in poor visibility or at night with reasonable accuracy/speed.
4. The candidate could find the cave in all conditions swiftly and without difficulty.
5. The candidate could find the cave in all conditions swiftly and without difficulty He/she could also impart navigational skills to a client whilst navigating themselves.

Destination Notes/Call Out Procedure

1. No call out procedure in place.
2. The candidate has left call out.
3. The candidate has left call out and has an understanding of the CRO. The candidate knows the importance of correct and appropriate information left with an appropriate person.
4. The candidate has left call out and has an understanding of the CRO. The candidate knows the importance of correct and appropriate information left with an appropriate person. In addition explain the procedure once a call out in initiated and expected timescales etc
5. The candidate is a member of the local rescue team in addition to above.

Personal/Group Equipment/Emergency Equipment

1. The candidate was just wearing personal caving kit unsuitable for the trip and no emergency kit.
2. The candidate was wearing appropriate clothing for the conditions caving kit.
3. The candidate was wearing appropriate clothing for the conditions and emergency personal kit. Eg hat and scarf, small flask
4. The candidate had appropriate clothing for the conditions and was carrying appropriate emergency kit e.g. KISU, spare clothing, flask for themselves and client.(On the extended day the candidate often has a client to look after who is capable of being a group member on the day).
5. The candidate had appropriate clothing for the conditions and was carrying appropriate emergency kit e.g. KISU, spare clothing, flask for themselves and client.(On the extended day the candidate often has a client to look after who

is capable of being a group member on the day). The candidate could rationalise through experience what they were carrying.

Risk Assessment and Underground Hazards e.g. Unstable areas / boulder chokes, Force of streams, Pollution, Weil's disease, Radon gas, Loose slippery rocks, Holes, Deep water, Low airspace passages, sumps, Fixed aids, digs, shoring.

1. Candidate has knowledge of some underground hazards but can't safely risk assess the situation.
2. Candidate has knowledge of underground hazards and can make some sort of risk assessment.
3. Candidate has a good knowledge of underground hazards and can generalise about the risks of each in a generic risk assessment.
4. Candidate has an excellent knowledge of underground hazards and can efficiently risk assess each situation with reference to the client group.
5. Candidate has an excellent knowledge of underground hazards and can efficiently risk assess the situation with reference to the client. This could include involving the clients in the process if appropriate.

Underground Navigation

Guide book and survey interpretation, Route finding

1. The candidate may need to refer to rigging topos frequently including during the rigging of a pitch. (*NB it is not essential to include a pitch on this module*). Candidate needed frequent help to locate themselves in the cave and was unable to do this from the cave survey.
2. The candidate can interpret the survey/guidebook to work out the route through the cave but unable to accurately and regularly place themselves in the cave on the survey.
3. The candidate can interpret the survey/guidebook to work out expected obstacles and features in the cave passages and can accurately place themselves most of the time. Frequent use of survey to place themselves in cave.
4. The candidate can interpret the survey/guidebook to work out expected obstacles and cave passages. Candidate can interpret cave passage size and shape. Candidate can move through system with occasional reference to survey, with accurate location.
5. The candidate can interpret the survey/guidebook to work out expected obstacles and cave passages. Candidate can interpret cave passage size and shape. Candidate can move through system with occasional reference to survey and can develop the client's knowledge and involve the client in the journey. Candidate will have created cave surveys themselves.

Speleogenesis and Cave environment eg Limestone development – bedding, joints, etc. Passage development - phreatic, vadose, breakdown, Cave deposits and sediments, Flora/Fauna, Temperatures/Draughts

1. The candidate has little (LCL) knowledge of the cave environment. They can discuss the theory of cave development with the assessor but can not interpret the cave passage that they are in to deduce the process of cave development. The candidate can not identify cave fauna and flora.

2. The candidate has knowledge of the cave environment. They can discuss the theory of cave development with the assessor and, with guidance, interpret the cave passage that they are in to deduce the process of cave development. The candidate has some knowledge of cave fauna e.g.bats
3. The candidate has good knowledge of the cave environment. They can discuss most aspects of cave development with the assessor and interpret the cave passage that they are in to deduce the process of cave development. The candidate can identify some general cave fauna and flora.
4. The candidate has an excellent knowledge of the cave environment. They can explain the theory of cave development with the assessor and clients and interpret the cave passage that they are in to deduce the process of cave development. The candidate can identify cave fauna and flora. Including the differences between Troglobytes/philes and xenes.
5. The candidate has an excellent knowledge of the cave environment. They can explain in detail the theory of cave development with the assessor and interpret the cave passage that they are in to deduce the process of cave development. The candidate can identify cave fauna and flora. Including the differences between Troglobytes/philes and xenes. The candidate can evidence the cave development processes to the client to improve their understanding.

Technical Skills eg Unprotected climbs/spotting, Hand-lines/Position of leader, Anchors/Knots, Assisted hand-lines, Direct and Indirect belaying, Improvised harness/Hoists

1. The candidate deals with a situation in an unsafe way.
2. The candidate can use a skill to deal with a technical situation underground.
3. The candidate can use an appropriate skill to deal with a technical situation underground.
4. The candidate has a few technical skills available to them and can use the most appropriate skill efficiently after risk assessing the situation.
5. The candidate has a wide variety of technical skills available to them and can use the most appropriate skill quickly and efficiently after risk assessing the situation.

Leadership/Advanced guiding skills

1. After being given a scenario the candidate can not decide upon the best course of action.
2. After being given a scenario the candidate can talk through the appropriate action to be taken with some guidance.
3. After being given a scenario the candidate can talk through the appropriate action to be taken.
4. After being given a scenario the candidate can talk through the appropriate action to be taken for themselves, casualties and other cavers present.
5. After being given a scenario the candidate can talk through the appropriate action to be taken including justification for themselves, casualties and other cavers present.

Emergency procedures

Incident management/judgement, Call out procedures, Hypothermia awareness/ action plan.

1. The candidate has inappropriate emergency kit for himself and the clients. They have little knowledge of CRO. The candidate may have no first aid qualification.
2. The candidate has appropriate emergency kit for himself and the clients. They have knowledge of how the CRO operates. The candidate has first aid qualification.
3. The candidate has appropriate emergency kit for himself and the clients. They have knowledge of how the CRO operates and can explain an appropriate course of action for a scenario. The candidate also has first aid qualification.
4. The candidate has appropriate emergency kit for himself and the clients. They have personal experience of how the CRO operates and can justify their reasoning for a range of emergency actions depending on the situation. The candidate also has first aid qualification.
5. The candidate has appropriate emergency kit for himself and the clients. They have personal experience of CRO, excellent organisational skills and can justify their reasoning for a range of emergency actions depending on the situation. The candidate also has an advanced first aid qualification.