

Minutes of the CIC Panel meeting held 24th September 2004 held at Ingleborough Hall in Clapham.

Present : Tony Flanagan (TF), Dave Elliot (DE), Juliet Parker Smith (JPS), Geoff Barber (GB), Nigel Ball (NB), Tom Redfern ACI (TR).

Apologies: Idris Williams (IW), Dave Edwards (DEwds), Paul Ramsden (PR), Paul Rafferty (CR).

Minutes of the last meeting held 19th March 2004 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising.

NB reported that he had received from Idris Williams, the texts collated by Des Marshall. He would now liaise with Paul Rafferty regarding the drafting of a reference source for cavers on weather and flooding.

NB confirmed that the three trainee assessors (Tony Flanagan, Paul Rafferty and Juliet Parker Smith) were ratified as full assessors at the last Training Committee meeting.

NB confirmed that at the last Training Committee meeting, the draft CIC syllabus was accepted and that it had been put on the NCA website on the Training Committee pages.

Appointment of temporary TTASP.

NB announced that John Crowsley had been appointed as temporary TTASP until the Training Committee had a clearer view regarding the position of Dave Edwards. The CIC Panel asked for clarification as to his brief: was it relating to LCML only or did it include CIC?

Ongoing assessment of A. Neil.

NB explained about the position of Alasdair Neal and his CIC assessment. It was explained that after CIC Panel consultation, a letter had been sent making a series of offers to allow him to continue with assessment in one form or another. NB said that he had been in contact with Alasdair and that he wished to continue under the old scheme and that he understood that he had to complete it within six months of the letter, i.e. 6th January 2005.

Application for exemption. NB discussed the application of Charles Milton to be exempted from parts of his CIC assessment in lieu of his holding of the military Cave Instructor Award. After NB's consultation with Panel members, it had been agreed that he should be exempt all modules except the teaching one. This should be done by a neutral assessor i.e. someone who did not know him. Charles has since approached JPS to arrange the assessment but no date is fixed as yet.

Finalisation of CIC syllabus.

NB reiterated that the CIC syllabus had been accepted by the Training Committee and as such had been put on the NCA website. A matter relating to the Mines Module was raised after a person approached the CIC Panel asking to be considered for the role of assessor for that module. After consultation with the CIC Panel it was decided that as the wording of the module stood at present, any CIC assessor could assess the Mines Module as it did not involve any practical assessment: it was purely an administrative procedure to make sure that the candidate had achieved all of the criteria of the module. It was therefore felt that an additional assessor was not needed at present.

Technical reference guides.

With regard to CR and his booklet on weather and flooding (and any subsequent ones) it was felt that these should be made available on the NCA website. It was suggested that it may be worth while investigating how to charge for download!

Paul Ramsden (through an email) pointed out that Petzl now claim that equipment may now be used for ten years if it is found to be safe after inspection every three months. He also pointed out that the Petzl CD on equipment inspection is a very good source of information.

Request for discussion from Training Committee.

The CIC Panel was asked for its view on the potential inclusion within the LCMLA syllabus of an additional module which would assess Level 2 award holders for their competence in allowing people in their charge to use SRT techniques (without the use of rebelayes and deviations.) It was unanimous that they would not support such a venture.

The amalgamation of LCMLA and CIC registration was also discussed. It was felt that the two schemes were different in the fact that one was a leading awards and the other a teaching award. Because of that difference, it was agreed that people should register for them separately.

Recent assessments.

No reports on CIC assessment were made.

JPS reported that Simon Mee was due to start assessment with her shortly.

A.O.B.

TF reported that Michael Hale had approached him regarding revalidation. Due to the Foot and Mouth problem and personal circumstances, his three year validity period had expired. The CIC Panel expressed the opinion that he should attend for revalidation as early as is possible.

CIC revalidation course were to be arranged as follows:

TF 27/28 November 2004

NB February 2005

DE May 2005

GB August 2005

Date of next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Friday 4th March 2005 at ngleborough Hall.