

Minutes of CIC Panel held on 11th May 2007

1. Present: Dave Elliot (DE), Graham Mollard (GM), Tom Redfern (TR) (ACI observer), Nigel Ball (NB), Juliet Parker Smith (JPS)
2. Apologies: Nigel Atkins, Chips Rafferty, Richard Hill, John Cliffe.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed TR, seconded GM.

4. Matters arising:

ACI workshops – a program is now out for the current year. The named people running these will be paid to do so. Steve Banks was due to run the first on on coaching principles but it was cancelled due to lack of numbers.

Booklets – weather: Chips Rafferty is still handing this but due to his absence we do not know about its progress.

- caving techniques: DE has problems finding a suitable artist to do the required illustrations who has a caving background who would be able to create line drawings based on photographs.

Item 4 – starting off the CIC assessment process was taken to Training Committee and it was not objected to.

Item 5 should be discussed at CIC Trainer / Assessor workshop. It was felt that a LCL should know basic facts but a CIC holder should be capable of applying knowledge to a situation. There was a discussion about the problems of setting standards.

Pricing structure for CIC revalidations

CIC revalidation course organisation £180

CIC revalidation course £75 per head

Expenses can be claimed but with a breakdown of costs.

Travel 20p per mile

5. Procedure for starting CIC assessment: Log book should be sent to Chair of CIC Panel who will make a decision. This will start immediately for a trial period.
6. Revalidation workshops. The process should be to submit logbook to show experience in accordance with syllabus. TR suggested reason is to upgrade / update knowledge base and exchange ideas with other CICs. A chance to discuss soft skills. An agreement was reached that getting ideas for day's content from candidates was positive and that a one day revalidation would be more focussed. DR stated that he was not happy giving up a practical caving trips but TR stated that technical workshops could include use of new gear, weight drops and the general sharing of ideas. TR felt that revalidation should also be a continual professional development that could be done through other workshops so that people could choose a topic that they were interested in. DE stated that the last revalidation that he ran was cave based looking at the use of handlines and knotted ropes rather than using SRT.
7. The actual standards of CIC assessments would be best dealt with at a CIC workshop.

8. Charges for CIC training and assessments courses. NB asked should we be standardising charges for these or letting market forces set the prices.. TR thought that candidates should have a choice in the price they pay: there should be flexibility for the trainer/assessor to set the price. GM reported back that the BCA was looking at insurance and may take over the whole process in the future.

9. Round up of CIC matters since last CIC Panel meeting.

To date the following details are to be noted:

101 people have been awarded CIC but only 70 a current

13 people have registered in previous six months

Recent awards – Chris Binding (Oct 06), Charles Milton (Dec 06), Jess Hart (Dec 06) and Dominc Hoare (April 07).

Recently started CIC assessment: Alan Braybrooke (3 modules completed), Martin Jackson (1 module completed and Chris Boardman (2 modules completed).

Previously started: Ingrid Mathews (2 modules completed).

10. Mines Module. At present there is no practical assessment for this module. Candidates must achieve LCL Level 2 Mine and then the CIC Mines Assessor (currently NB) will check personal mines experience against the module criteria in the syllabus.

Concern has been expressed about this because some people feel that the level of knowledge and experience required for the mines module should be comparable to that of CIC in general.

A discussion took place around the need for a practical assessment or not. Dave Baines has written a short report on his thoughts (NB to circulate).

11. TF opened a discussion about ACI workshops and questioned their relevance for CIC revalidations. The process for this could be to present a logbook in the normal way to qualify for revalidation and then attend a workshop. GM stated that if this was to be the case then each workshop in its own right would have to be cleared by Training Committee to serve such a purpose. He also stated that non ACI members would have to be able to access ACI workshops and as such might detract from the attraction of being an ACI member. GM asked TR about differentiated rates for ACI workshops for ACI members and non ACI members. Any final decision would have to be made by Training Committee.

TR asked for the criteria of assessment for the approval of an ACI workshop.

ACI proposal to be circulated a week before the next meeting.

12. Dates for next meeting:

Friday 9th November 2007

Friday 25th April 2008

Friday 14th November 2008

Trainer / Assessor workshop Saturday 10th November 2007.