

MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING PANEL FOR THE L.C.M.L.A. SCHEME OF THE
BRITISH CAVING ASSOCIATION

5th OCTOBER 2006 STAFFORD

1 Present: Graham Mollard (Chair), Tony Boyle, Tony Smith, Tom Peacock, Dena Proctor, Dave Baines.

2 Apologies: Tony Flanagan, Steve Tomalin, Nigel Ball.

3 Previous Minutes:
The minutes of the last meeting 9/ 6/ 06 were read and approved.

4 Matters arising:

4.3.2 The Training Committee still agree (last meeting) that CIC candidates must only have gone as far as L2 training on LCMLA route. This has been referred back to CIC panel.

Two new appointments have been made to CIC assessors panel:- Nigel Atkins and Richard Hill.

4.5.1 Hidden Earth. G.M. attended and ran one trip with 6 people to Carlswark. There were 3 people on Nigel Atkin's SRT training.

4.6.1 CIC revalidations. Lifers need to revalidate their award if they want to remain as Trainer/ Assessors.

4.6.2.1 LCMLA Revalidations. The proposed 5-year revalidation has been widely welcomed and is proposed to take effect from January 08.
See proposed phasing in:- appended to these minutes.

4.6.2.1.c This has been done now. The panel must not allow this kind of thing to go unchallenged in the future.

4.7 Forest of Dean Panel. They have held a panel meeting and are meeting the requirements for the panel to continue.

4.8 Criteria for maintaining Trainer/ Assessor status.
This had been amended and passed by Training committee. Trainer / Assessors must now attend an Assessor's Workshop every 3 years minimum.

6 Canyoning/ Gorge-walking.

G.M. proposed vote of thanks to D.P. for the work she has done in drafting a proposed scheme/ syllabus.

Training Committee has rejected the whole idea (as did A.C.I. committee at their recent meeting). Panels have been asked to consider this. G.M. had set up to meet with Steve Long the new Executive Officer of B.M.C. to discuss this. Training Committee has agreed for G.M. to continue with this meeting as an exploratory process to identify and discuss common ground.

8 North Wales Panel will be running the Trainer/ Assessor workshop at Barry Ellis's bunkhouse at Dyffryn Ardudwy 3rd Feb. 07. Contact Barry or Mike Cousins.

9.1 A.O.B.

G.M. suggested D.B. is taken on as a National Mines Assessor. Rejected by Training Committee.

9.2 Derbyshire Panel raised inconsistencies in the apprentice assessor process (there was no requirement for them to be observed running Module 2 and Module 4 assessments). It was found that this process (without Module 2 & 4) had been agreed previously and was as printed in the most recent edition of the Handbook (3rd Edition).

5 Items from Panels:-

SOUTH WALES

Ian Healey CIC has applied to join panel. T.P. reported S. Wales panel has approved his application. N.C.P. agreed to approve. G.M. to contact Idris and Pat for him to commence apprentice process.

Bridge Cave, Llygad Llŵchwr and White Lady Caves have been targeted by people stripping formations, allegedly for commercial purposes.

Designating routes in caves - panel disagreed with this. Designated routes not appropriate.

NORTH WALES

Forthcoming trainer/ assessor workshop as above.

Dave Carlisle has recently visited to complete his annual inspection of mine sites.

DERBYSHIRE

Kevin West has resigned as he has now removed to Ireland for the foreseeable future.

Derbyshire panel raise the question of when does the new 5-year revalidation process begin. (refer to item 4.6.2.1. above).

The panel had considered the proposed Canyoning scheme and were not in favour.

NORTHERN ENGLAND

A new member, Graham Derbyshire has been accepted by the panel. He will progress through the apprentice process.

Chris Jackson has completed his Level 1 Trainer/ Assessor process.

John Bevan has resigned from Northern Panel due to problem of getting insurance.

MENDIPS

There has been no meeting.

6 Handbook amendments to 3rd Edition:-

P. 67 Core Skills checklist Level 1. Emergency lifeline - delete this. Change to:- Rope only - life-lining - anchor attachment - waist belay.

Use of fixed aids - add - bolts.

P. 66 Core Skills - Mine amend as above.

P. 69 and P. 71 Use of assistant leader - add - if appropriate.

P. 13 2.3.2.1. Party Leadership - A leader is responsible for appropriate use of an assistant leader if (s)he feels the necessity for one.

Further discussion was curtailed. Panel members to look over handbook before next meeting. G.M. asked panel to look at:- Assessments, re-validations, library references and Trainer/ Assessor section. Please make a suggestion for your own wording for any changes.

7 Date of next Meeting:-
 9th February 2007
 15th June 2007
 8th October 2007

LCMLA REVALIDATIONS ON A FIVE YEAR BASIS

1. Introduction date. Proposed from Jan. 2008, there being insufficient time before Jan. 2007 to inform Award Holders, organise the necessary workshops and amend the Handbook.

2 Award holders due for SR in 2007. These to continue as before.

3 Award holders due for LDR in 2007. If these revalidate by workshop they will be given 5 years from the expiry of the award. If they revalidate by the myriad of other routes this will be 3 years from the expiry of the award. (Note if these are overdue candidates they will be treated in accordance with existing procedure).

4 Award holders due for SR or LDR from 2008 will do a workshop and get 5 years.

5 Award holders who are out of date by more than 1 year must attend a workshop from 2008.

6 Award holders who are out of date by more than 1 year. In 2007 existing arrangements apply. (Must apply to Training Officer). From Jan 2008 they must attend a workshop and will receive an Award for 5 years dated from the expiry of the previous award.

7 Award holders who are more than 1 year out of date. These should attend an individual re-assessment day covering the whole of the syllabus at core skills, (Module 1 or 3).

8 From 2008 when a candidate achieves Level 2 from Level 1. It is essential that the assessor realises that they are also revalidating the Level 1 sites at the same time.

9 From 2007. All new awards will be for 5 years from the date of the assessment.

Area panels must organise themselves to arrange Revalidation workshops on a regular basis from late 2007. This is essential for Award Holders who are now given no alternative routes except workshops to revalidate.

Can CIC assessment/ training be used to revalidate? Yes. Completing module 2 or 3 can reset the clock providing the candidate requests revalidation for

LCMLA. (This requires that the CIC assessor can assess LCLMA and cover local knowledge).

NCP must produce wording for all the clauses which need to be changed in the Handbook, not just the candidate's section.