



EXMOOR SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM -AN INTRODUCTION TO TRAINEE MEMBERS

PRIOR TO APPLICATION

While considering becoming a team member please bare in mind the following expectations / qualities we require:

- A love of the outdoors, whatever the weather.
- An ability to walk at least 10 miles comfortably in any weather conditions over any terrain, carrying full kit.
- Have a Mobile Phone.
- It may be very difficult to be operationally effective if you do not hold a driving licence and have your own transport

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. On receiving your completed application form we may invite you to attend a prospective trainees induction evening. These are held quarterly at our Headquarters in South Molton. If you are unable to attend this induction evening you will be invited to the next quarterly induction evening. This is an opportunity for you to meet the training officers and some of the Team. The second part of the induction is a day or evening walking on the moor in the company of some team members. **Both parts of the induction are a chance for us to assess your ability to become a Team Member and for you to assess whether you wish to continue with your interest in joining the Team.** You will also meet fellow prospective trainees.
2. A two month probationary period as a trainee then commences. During this time you will gain a greater understanding of the ethos and demands of the team and the team leadership can further assess your suitability. Training undertaken during this period will be logged so as to add into your log book should the probationary period be successful.
3. After this period a full log book is issued, which needs to be substantially completed before final assessment and full team membership is granted. Depending upon your prior level of skill and how much time you can devote to the training, it may take between six months and a year to complete the basic training sections of the log book.

A CRB Check will be undertaken whilst you are a Trainee. Should we receive an unsatisfactory response from the CRB, your Training with the team will cease immediately.

BASIC TRAINING

Training is organised on a quarterly calendar, and consists of the following;

- ❑ The first Thursday of the month is an indoor training session together with an administrative meeting. These are presently held at our Unit at South Molton.
- ❑ An outdoor evening training session is usually held on the middle Wednesday of the month.
- ❑ The last Sunday of each month is an all day outdoor exercise/training session.

The outdoor sessions are held in a variety of locations, usually on Exmoor.

Trainees are encouraged to ask for additional training that is particularly targeted at helping complete sections of the Training log book.

Training can take approximately 6 months or more to complete to the level that the Team Leader deems suitable. Their recommendation for membership is then put to the Executive committee for ratification. It is also important that during the training period and after it is complete you get to know all the other members of the Team. All members of ESRT will be expected to hold a 'First aid at Work' certificate (or Mountain First Aid). Ideally this will be obtained through the workplace, otherwise the team will fund 50% of a course after 1 year, and 100% after two years in the team.

MEMBERSHIP

When your membership has been agreed by the committee, you will be placed on our call-out list. We are on call 365 days a year 24 hours a day. Understandably there will be times when you may be unable to attend, but you will be expected to attend a **minimum** 60% of all organised training activities as an ongoing commitment to your continued training. You will also be required to participate on a regular basis in the cleaning and maintenance of the team's premises, vehicles and equipment.

As a charity we have to raise all our own funds. Public relations and fund raising events form an important part of the Team's activities and your commitment and participation in these is also expected. June 2010