

Training

1. Objective/Purpose:

The Unit training program's objective is to provide initial and on-going training to new and existing members so that they can effectively participate in search/rescue and other Unit activities.

2. Scope:

This policy applies to all NMMSAR members and covers both initial and on-going training.

3. Policy:

The training program shall be under the management of the President and Unit Training Coordinator. The Training Coordinator shall present the proposed training program to the Review Board for approval before any training is implemented.

Training shall normally be provided through three types of sessions, regular, quarterly, and special. The first type is included with the regular monthly Unit meetings. The second type is held once a quarter in the morning, afternoon or evening, and the last is special sessions. Normally, the monthly meeting sessions will be of limited duration, approximately one hour and will be a classroom setting only. The quarterly sessions will be about four hours in length and may include both a classroom portion and a field exercise. The special sessions are intended for longer periods, a day or more, and may be internal Unit or external, such, as State SAR sponsored. The Unit training program shall be developed to satisfy any State SAR certification and re-certification requirements.

Typical training subjects are:

- CPR
- Map & Compass
- Search Techniques
- Radio Communication
- Horse Care
- Wilderness Survival
- Crime Scene Preservation
- De-spooking
- Wilderness First Aid
- Man Tracking
- Equipment Selection & Use
- Traffic Control
- Blood Pathogens
- Helicopter Landing Support
- Evidence Handling

Unit members are required to attend a minimum of 75% of the training offered each year. Members can be excused from training if they request to be excused prior to the specific training session and have a valid reason. Requests to be excused shall be made to the Training Coordinator or the Unit President. Approved absences shall not count against the 75%. Unit members not meeting the 75% requirement shall be referred to the Review Board.

Attendance at the annual New Mexico "Emergency Services Council Annual Preparedness Event" (ESCAPE) Training Conference, and/or any State SAR-sponsored training is not mandatory but will be counted to meet the individual member 75% training attendance requirement. However, all Unit members are encouraged to attend.

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