

Course Development Worksheet

This form is to be maintained for all approved NSP courses and used by instructors leading the course. Some elements are required across all courses so they are not listed here, including course registration and closure, participant completion of an evaluation, IT completion of a QA form, a signed NSP release form by all participants, and use of the conflict resolution process in the NSP Policies & Procedures. Some courses may have local/divisional variants that should be documented elsewhere.

Standard Course Elements:

Certified Module 2 Low Angle/Lift Evacuation

Program / Discipline: Certified

Suggested resources (use latest publication editions)

- *The Lift Evacuation Manual*, National Ski Areas Association (NSAA)
- *ANSI B77.1* and *ANSI B77.1a*
- *Cordage Institute*
- State and Local Tramway Boards (if applicable)
- *Mountain Travel & Rescue*, National Ski Patrol (NSP)
- *Outdoor Emergency Transportation*, National Ski Patrol
- *Local Search and rescue teams*

Module Objective:

- a) To evaluate certified program candidates in specific low angle rescue techniques including the preparation and application of a 3:1 mechanical advantage.
- b) To evaluate certified program candidates in safe lift evacuation techniques from the initial lift down notification to the lift evacuation completion and all processes in between including but not limited to OSHA regulations.

This module is a two-part evaluation that are evaluated separately consisting of:

- 1) Low Angle Rescue
- 2) Lift Evacuation

Module structure –

- a. **Venue** – Both segments of the evaluation will be held outdoors. The low angle rescue portion will be held on a slope not exceeding 40 degrees. The lift evacuation portion will be held at a lift that have been approved by the area management and is completely shut down. (locked and tagged). There will be no one actually evacuated from the lift.

- b. **Class size** – Both segment of this evaluation will be individual certified candidates
- c. **Instructor/student ratio** – 3:1 optimal; 2:1 Minimum
- d. **IT Oversight Needs**
 - I. Frequency/Timeframe – every exam needs to have a qualified IT present for QA purposes
 - II. The Division Certified Supervisor is responsible for the consistency of every exam

Module content – Low angle rescue

- Demonstrate the ability to properly tie essential rescue knots
- Demonstrate the ability to construct a variety of anchors and anchoring systems
- Demonstrate proper belay techniques
- Demonstrate how to construct an off-trail rescue system with a 3:1 mechanical advantage
- Demonstrate proper safe raising and lowering technique of the system constructed by the candidate

Module content – Lift Evacuation

- Demonstrate ability to implement their home areas LEP (Lift Evacuation Plan)
- Demonstrate a knowledge of lift design, safety and codes
- Demonstrate a knowledge of Evacuation planning as it relates to their home areas LEP
- Demonstrate knowledge of Post Evacuation procedures as it relates to their home areas LEP

(NOTE: In accordance with NSP in the interest of risk management, the NSP lift evacuation component will not include the actual lowering of people.)

Estimate on timeframe needed to meet content needs: up to 1 ½ hours for each segment

Resources required

- a. **Examiners** –3:1 is ideal, 2:1 is acceptable
- b. **Helpers** – None required
- c. **Equipment** – Each candidate is expected to bring their own equipment. Each Candidate should check with the Certified Division supervisor for changes to this rule
- d. **Educational Materials** – See suggested resources above

Instructor Credentials –

- Certified members as approved by the Division Certified Low Angle Rescue/lift evacuation module lead
- or MTR Instructors that have previously passed this module
- Local Search and Rescue team members as approved by the Certified Low Angle Rescue/lift evacuation module lead

All examiners to attend a calibration clinic once every three years. This clinic will cover all relevant CPI's for successful completion of the module. It will also cover any updated to local protocols, regulations, and industry best practices related to low angle rescue and lift examination. Examiners will be expected to show proficiency by demonstrating hands on knowledge of the module content.

New evaluators will serve in a Provisional status until successfully completing an evaluation and receiving feedback as to the accuracy of their assessment.

Module Requirements – NSP membership, NSP classification of Alpine Patroller.

Evaluation format – There are two parts to each of the two components of this module:

- 1) Low angle rescue – This portion of the module starts indoors with the candidate expected to tie these essential knots: Bachman, Prussik, Follow through Figure 8, Figure 8 on a bight, Double Fisherman's, Water knot, Munter Hitch, Clove hitch. After the candidate successfully ties these knots they will move to the next part of this station. The candidate will then proceed outdoors to set up a lowering system and then convert the system to a 3:1 mechanical advantage haul system and raise the litter. (Z-drag).
- 2) Lift Evacuation – This portion of the module also starts indoors with the candidate expected to answer questions concerning the process for handling all aspects of lift evacuation from inception to completion (Some divisions expect the candidate to bring a copy of their home mountain lift evacuation plan for discussion). Once they have discussed the complete process so that the exam team is convinced that the candidate completely understands the process the candidate is taken to a lift (previously locked and tagged out) where they are expected to confidently set up a lift evacuation station without being expected to evacuate anyone.

Scoring scale/structure

The scoring of this module is performance based. Each candidate in the low angle rescue portion is expected to accurately tie the essential knots listed above and efficiently set up a lowering system and then convert the system to a 3:1 mechanical advantage haul system and raise the litter. (Z-drag). There is a twenty minute time limit on the completed and working mechanical advantage system.

The scoring of the lift evacuation portion starts with the oral exam where the candidate has to describe accurately the procedures involved with an actual lift evacuation. There is no time limit on the set up of the outdoor lift evacuation station, however, the candidate is expected to complete the setup without complication.

This station is Pass/Fail for both segments

Reporting requirements –

- **Class/Course Registration** – On line (follows normal course registration, Divisions have the option of keeping individual module records but must register the exam if that option is chosen)
- **Course completion** – On line completed by the Division Supervisor
- **Course feedback** – Course evaluation form completed by students
- **Other** – As per local (Division) policy

Risk management considerations –

- a. NSP Release Form
- b. Local Area Release Form (if needed)

There is an inherent risk involved in all instructional activities. All instructors must provide an environment that will permit anyone who is not comfortable attempting any portion of the training to elect to not participate in any activity. All participants need to sign an Event/Training release form. A copy of the release forms need to be kept for at least seven years unless division's policy directs differently.

Conflict resolution –

Due to the potential for disruption of an orderly process, appeals because someone does not agree with a test score on any education or skill test, while permitted, should be done with the ranking test official on the test day while all the pool of test judges are present. When an appeal is filed because someone does not agree with a test score on any education or skill test after the test has concluded and the test judges have departed, this appeal should be denied unless it can be shown by clear and convincing evidence the test result was not based on program standards but the result was due to clear evidence of bias, prejudice or a violation of the program rules and only then is an appeal to the next highest level warranted. The officer at the next highest level should obtain evidence on the issue from the test judges present during the test along with evidence from the person making the appeal. Otherwise the officer to whom the appeal is made should deny the appeal. Any appeal filed more than thirty days from the date of the test should be denied unless not to grant the appeal would shock the conscious of fair-minded patrollers.