



To: Ice Rescue and Emergency Response Instructor Candidates

From: Chris A. Calhoun – Course Coordinator

Date: 11/7/2024

Re: Course Information and Registration Form

Training Course Overview:

This two-day course will instruct the student how to teach the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) Ice Rescue and Emergency Response – NFPA 1670 Technician level water rescue curriculum. This 16-hour course is designed to provide rescue personnel with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively evaluate and respond to ice-related emergencies. Participants will learn how to identify various ice conditions, use ice rescue equipment, and practice essential shore, boat, ice based, and direct contact ice rescue techniques. Emphasizing safety protocols, efficient communication strategies, and decision-making, this comprehensive training will prepare rescuers to respond to the challenges of ice rescue situations. They must also demonstrate all practical skills at **technician instructor** level proficiency.

Dates and Times: February 1-2, 2025

- 2/1/2025 (Saturday) Classroom and pool session (**Start time 8:00 am**)
- 2/2/2025 (Sunday) Classroom and outdoor practical

Location of Training:

• PFBC Regional Office – 595 East Rolling Ridge Drive - Bellefonte, PA 16823

Course Cost:

PA Resident - \$450	Out-of-State - \$550					
Lodging and meals are not included in	dging and meals are not included in the cost. Participants are responsible for					
arranging their own accommodation	arranging their own accommodations in the Bellefonte/Penn State area.					

Student Prerequisites:

- Water Rescue and Emergency Response Instructor
- Ice Rescue and Emergency Response (basic) or equivalent nationally recognized ice rescue training program
- CPR and first aid training
- Teaching experience in EMS, rescue, fire, or similar discipline
- Copies of certifications must be included with application

Swim Test Standard

- 100 yards unaided swim any stroke (should demonstrate all four strokes) 6 minutes
- 100 yards full clothed (long pants and T- shirt) and PFD and helmet 8 minutes
- Tread water 10 minutes

<u>Health and Safety Plan</u> – Information will be provided prior to training. Plan will follow universal health mandates and guidelines at time of training.

Hazards of Training:

Students must be prepared to engage in strenuous activities in <u>extreme weather and water conditions</u>. Students must be able to swim. If a student has a known medical condition that could foreseeably jeopardize his/her safety during participation or be aggravated by participation, <u>the student should not participate</u>.

<u>WATER HAZARDS</u> - cold, deep, and ice covered - water obstructions (i.e. rocks, strainers, free floating debris, etc.) - other water users – please be courteous.

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS - Uneven walking surface, loose debris, snow- and ice-covered shoreline, slippery rocks, steep slopes, poisonous plants, animals, insects, traffic.

<u>WEATHER HAZARDS:</u> Temperature – hot (hyperthermia) or cold (hypothermia) - storms – lightening (all training will stop until storm has passed). Students will be directed to shelter. Rain, snow or hail may or may not stop training exercise. Weather emergencies will be handled at the discretion of the instructor trainers. Sun exposure (risk of sunburn).

Student Equipment Requirements:

- Customized US Coast Guard approved PFD with knife, 2 locking carabineers and whistle
- Water rescue helmet must provide front, side, and back of head protection
- Appropriate thermal protection for weather and environmental conditions: Mandatory Dry suit or ice rescue suit. Thermal layering under dry suit inner wicking material (i.e. polypropylene) Middle insulation material (i.e. polyester)
- Pool session clothing swim suit and towel
- Hand protection neoprene gloves and winter gloves
- Feet protection appropriate thermal protection for snow and ice conditions ice cleats recommended
- Straps for glasses
- Fluids (water or sports drink) and food (high energy snacks)
- Sunscreen SPF 30 minimum recommended
- Personal items (first aid needs (i.e. inhalers, epi pen), hygiene items, etc.)
- Gear bag to hold wet items

If you have any questions regarding the training, please contact me at 724.287.8711 ext. 8238 or by email chris.calhoun@bc3.edu (include in the subject line of the email water rescue training — I will not open email from unknown senders because of email virus concerns).



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