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OF7 RM68 MDSU TPO PT241 LD
MDSU LD EL.5
MDBO PT121 FC APPALACHIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE CONFERENCE
PT101 Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group, ASRC
P.O. Box 602
Ambridge, PA 15003
MDSU PT241 LD
MDSU LD
MDNM PT110 OF12 RM55 TP3 FL LBHeader RHA LBRecipient Peter McCabe
LBDate April 4, 1992
Page PN

MDBO MDNM Reply To: FR
Keith Conover, M.D.
36 Robinhood Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15220-3014
412-561-3413
FL

LBDate April 3, 1992

LBAddress Peter McCabe
11034 Berrypick Lane
Columbia, MD 21044

Dear LL.5,0 LBTitle Peter:

SSHX, IP=4, 0, LL=0.5, 0 SSBX, IP=4, 4, LL=0, 0 SUBJECT: LBSubject MDBO MRA Team Standards: Snow and Ice

MDNM IP4, 0 LBBody I am writing to document the conversation you, Tom Faulkner of MRA National, and I held a few days ago. I understood initially that there was some question as to whether Appalachian Region teams' certification test must include snow and ice. The consensus we arrived at is as follows: Appalachian Region Teams must be competent at:

p Searches and semitechnical evacuations in snow. Use of snowshoes or cross-country skis is optional, but members should be capable of traveling trails or cross-country in icy conditions, i.e., members must have crampons or instep crampons ("creepers") and have experience in their use.

p Winter vertical evacuation. Members must have footgear suitable for long periods of standing or simple climbing in very cold conditions, must have mittens suitable for winter ropework, and must be experienced in their use.

p Rigging and crossing short ice pitches. Each team's Rescue Members should have ice axe and crampons and be able to cross and rig short ice pitches for the other members of the team.

Since it is so difficult in our Region to predict whether snow and ice will be available within a reasonable travel distance, we will not plan to conduct snow and ice testing as part of the regular team testing.

Instead, we will depend on individual team training sessions (e.g., individual members or small groups going to the White Mountains of New Hampshire or the

Adirondack High Peak Region of New York on a regular basis). Individual teams will attest that they have enough members with this training to conduct winter operations.

As the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference and Virginia are now developing detailed standards for ASRC/Virginia Rescue Member certification, the MRA Appalachian Region will work closely with these organizations to ensure these standards are as compatible as possible, and will try to make ASRC and MRA Rescue Member standards identical if possible.

I hope this accurately reflects our consensus. If I've made any errors in this summary, please let me know. Thank you.

©IP0,0 ©LBClosing Sincerely yours,

©LBSender Keith Conover, M.D.

AMRG MRA Appalachian Region delegate ©IP0,8

cc: ©LBcc Note MRA Appalachian Region Officers and Teams, Tom Faulkner, ASRC Chairman, Virginia DES

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