

Minimum Standards for Rescue Team Members

In order to be a member of the KZN Section Search and Rescue Team members must meet the following minimum standards.

General Search and Rescue

Must be a paid up member of the KZ-N Section of the MCSA.

Technical Rescue Team.

Have at least 5 years of hiking and climbing experience.

Have completed 10 overnight hikes in southern Africa, with the emphasis on the Drakensberg.

Have lead or alternate lead 2 major technical mountain routes. For example: Rhino "S" route or a route on Blouberg north face.

Are able to lead competently on Traditional climbs.

Have attended 5 cliff rescue practices.

Assistant Rescue Organisers

Have had at least 3 years of technical team experience.

Have completed at least 20 overnight hikes in southern Africa, with the emphasis on the Drakensberg.

Have lead or alternate lead, 10 major technical mountain routes of 3 pitches or longer.

Are able to lead competently on Traditional climbs. (Normally several hundred pitches at least would have been climbed.)

Can navigate accurately using map and compass.

Have an intimate knowledge of the geography of the Drakensberg. (Including the names and locations of major rivers, peaks, passes, path junctions, rock-climbing routes and KZN Wildlife ranger stations)

Have leadership qualities.

Can set up stretcher haul systems, stretcher lowering systems, aerial cableway systems, one-man pick-offs and various mechanical advantage hauling systems.

Can rig and run helicopter winching systems, stretcher down and up.

Know the call-out protocols for KZ-N province.

Rescue Organizers

They should have all the experience of an Assistant Organizer but in addition would have run several cliff and helicopter practices.

They should have been an Assistant Organizer for at least 2 years.