

Surface Ice Rescue Levels I and II

Surface Ice Rescue Level I Course

The level I system we put in place is for rescue scenarios which involve shorter ranges, less than 250 feet from shore to victim, for rapid deployment. We examine incidents from the past that may be indicative of future outcomes. We teach the department simple drills to stay focused. We focus on communications, hand signals and effective whistle signals that minimizes rescuer task overload. We realize that more victims are seriously injured from the point of extrication to the ambulance. We teach proper handling and care of all victims. We emphasize the importance of pre-planning for the response area.

By the end of this course, the rescuer will have gained the knowledge and the skills necessary to be a safe and effective Surface Ice Rescue Technician. We offer the latest techniques that are in use, and examine why older methodology may put rescue technicians at risk. We guarantee you'll be a safer first responder! These are a few of our Surface Ice Level I highlights:

- Proper donning of protective gear
- Victim extrication
- Patient handling
- Self-rescue scenarios
- Team operations - Who should be doing what?
- Write an effective SOP and SOG
- Advanced equipment and rescue techniques
- Stages of hypothermia and its effects on rescuer and victim
- Safer animal rescue techniques
- "No go" incidents examination
- Victim assessment
- U.S.C.G. Cold Water Boot Camp study
- Study - Why ice rescues fall apart
- Awareness, operations, technician responsibilities

Surface Ice Rescue Level II Course

The level II system we put in place is for rescue scenarios which involve rescuing victims from distances greater than 250 feet from shore and require rapid deployment. We focus on rescuing multiple victims using a more advanced "conveyor system" for fast and efficient extrication. The system uses an in-haul and out-haul method that will offer the rescuer rapid victim extrication from weak and unstable ice conditions.

During the Surface Ice Level II course we will emphasize proper handling and care for victims that are or may be hypothermic. We examine past rescue incidents and how they were handled to better prepare for safer more effective future rescues. This course is an extremely dynamic class that requires everyone on the shore to maximize a successful outcome. Our systems are completely color coded to minimize confusing communication.

By the end of this course the rescuer will have more knowledge and will be safer and more effective with multiple victims at longer ranges.

These are a few of our Surface Ice Level II highlights:

- Long-range rescues (greater than 250 feet)
- Multiple victim extrication
- Advanced system set-up
- Ropes and rigging
- Dynamic in-haul and out-haul operations
- Color-coded systems for the best communication practices
- Advanced equipment and rescue techniques
- Advanced care for hypothermic patients

