

ICAR Avalanche Dog Handler Meeting, Chamonix, Thursday, October 8, 2008, 14:00 -16:30 hours

Chair: Heini Malue D

Participants: Markus Wey CH, Marcel Meier CH, Igor Potocnik SLO, Mats Hjelle NOR, Dean Cardinale USA, Jake Hutschinson USA, Stephane Marcellin F, Hrvoje Dujmic CRO, Zoran Ateljevic CRO, Gregov Srecko CRO, Granic Josip CRO, 2 x Austria

Results:

1. Data shall be collected in the ICAR countries on the number of operational avalanche dog teams. Partial data may have already been collected by ICAR (or Axel Budde). Data will be collected by Marcel Meier.
2. Markus Wey and Marcel Meier propose an "information exchange on avalanche dog team training". Once the country-specific training structures and guidelines are known, a next step could consist of establishing binding training standards. The written proposal was handed out to the participants. Publishing the proposal on the ICAR website is suggested.
3. In a first step, members of the avalanche dog group participating in the 2009 ICAR Congress will briefly present the organization and structure of their avalanche dog team training.
4. Albert Lunde initiated a workgroup to investigate and analyze the critical factors in successful and unsuccessful deployments of dog teams in avalanche incidents on a broad basis, in order to subsequently develop a recommendation for the use of dog teams. Of the members present, Marcel Meier, Markus Wey, Igor Potocnik, Mats Hjelle and Dean Cardinale volunteered to participate in the workgroup.
5. The next workshop will take place in Baske Ostarije Gospic in Croatia on June 11-14, 2009. The main topic will be area search in the summer. The lessons learned from the workshop in Leogang will be expanded upon. The HGSS is requesting a copy of the report from Leogang. The dates will be published on the website. The dog handlers whose email addresses are known and the member organizations will be notified.
6. The participants of the HGSS give a presentation on their canine work and the site of the next workshop.
7. For future meetings of the avalanche dog handlers, a similar communication infrastructure should be provided as for the other commission meetings, i.e. computer projector, translator, etc.