



Internationale Kommission für Alpines  
Rettungswesen IKAR  
Kommission für Bodenrettung  
International Commission for Alpine Rescue ICAR  
Commission for Terrestrial Rescue  
Commission Internationale de Sauvetage Alpin CISA  
Sauvetage Terrestre



## **Minutes of the Assembly of Delegates of the Terrestrial Rescue Commission**

Place: Lake Tahoe (Nevada, USA), Harveys Hotel

Date: October 7, 2014

Time: 8:10 a.m.

Participants: Delegates of the Terrestrial Rescue Commission

Chairmen: Gebhard Barbisch and Kirk Mauthner

Minutes: Fabienne Jelk

### **1. Welcome**

Gebhard Barbisch welcomes all participants, in particular the interpreters. He informs the assembly that Ortovox would only be present today. As well, a short presentation by Recco is added to the agenda.

### **2. Distribution of Ballots**

The delegates are asked to pick up either one ballot (B members) or two ballots (A members) from the table up front.

### **3. Distribution of Forms for Activities with other Organizations**

Organizations which took part in activities in other countries or had other countries take part in their activities last year are asked to enter this onto the list.

### **4. Points of Contact for the Countries**

It is important for the commission to have a point of contact for each organization in order to communicate effectively. The participants are asked to check the current point of contact and to update the information if necessary.

## **5. Minute of Silence for Fallen Comrades**

A minute of silence is held for comrades who have passed. Participants are welcome to speak about the specific accidents if they wish to do so.

## **6. Minutes from Bol, Croatia**

The minutes are approved.

## **7. ICAR Information**

Currently, there isn't any news. The results of last year's motions of the Austrian Mountain Rescue Service will be presented at the Assembly of Delegates on Thursday. At that time next year's venue in Ireland will also be confirmed.

## **8. Internet Information**

Gebhard Barbisch asks the participants to make use of the Internet platform. When signing up, a search agent has to be activated. The homepage will undergo a change in the near future.

## **9. Use of Avalanche Beacons Year-Round - Discussion**

Last year it was decided to form a work group to discuss this topic and to present the results afterwards. There were no volunteers and therefore the topic was not addressed. The question now is whether or not to pursue this topic further.

Bruno Jelk: This topic needs to be discussed further. There were five avalanche deaths this past summer in Wallis (CH).

Gebhard Barbisch is asking for any interested participants to come forward; these include Jean Babtiste Estachy and Herbert Streibel. The work group is made up of the aforementioned three delegates in addition to Bruno Jelk, Gebhard Barbisch, and Kirk Mauthner.

## **10. ICAR Recommendations (Terrestrial Rescue)**

Gebhard Barbisch presents the recommendations to be discussed. There are proposed changes by Gebhard Barbisch and Kirk Mauthner. The participants are asked to come forward if they have any additional suggested changes. The recommendations including the highlighted changes are attached to these minutes.

- *REC B 0003: Canyoning – Training for commercial guides*

This recommendation is fine in the opinion of the chairmen. No comments from the assembly.

- *REC B 0004: Static rope knots for rope extension*

This recommendation was changed last year. Kirk Mauthner commented that the figure-eight reference was unclear as this knot is used in a different manner in the USA. Kirk Mauthner details which knots are used to extend ropes as well as their breaking strength. The minimum required breaking strength is about 15 kN.

The following should be added to the recommendation:

Figure-eight follow-through, flat figure-eight or double fisherman's knot are used.

One of the participants comments that he thought the flat overhand was okay but the flat figure eight was not because it would slide.

Kirk Mauthner: Both knots slide but it is not a hard slide.

The addition to the recommendation should resolve all questions regarding the figure-eight knots.

Vote: The change is approved.

Kirk Mauthner asks who in the assembly uses the fisherman's knot and who uses the flat figure eight. No one uses the flat figure eight.

- *REC B 0005: Redundancy by lowering or raising people with fiber ropes.*

No comments.

- *REC B 0006: Static rope brakes*

This recommendation was adopted in Geiranger in 1995. The basis for the recommendation was that when long static ropes were fed through a brake there was a spin.

Discussion: Is there a need for the addition: "This applies to the carabiner brake and similars".

Vote: This existing addition will be removed.

- *REC B 0008: Winter rescue equipment*

Gebhard Barbisch and Kirk Mauthner are of the opinion that the recommendation should stay the way it is with the exception of the following correction: The word "both" will be added. This is a textual clarification.

Vote: Approved.

- *REC B 0009: Systems in Mountain Rescue*

Suggested change: Grammatical correction of replacing "he is" with "they are".

Vote: Approved.

## **11. Motions to the Commission**

None.

## **12. Motions to the Executive Committee**

None.

## **13. Goals 2015**

Next year's practical meeting emphasizes terrestrial rescue. Suggestions for goals:

Alistair Read: The human aspects in mountain rescue operations.

Perry Beckham: The use of lighter ropes in mountain rescue.

Both topics can be discussed concurrently. Gebhard Barbisch suggests that "The human aspects in mountain rescue operations" be made the main topic for all commissions and to use "The use of lighter ropes in mountain rescue" as a subtopic for the terrestrial rescue commission.

Vote: Approved.

Jean Babtiste Estachy: While he approves of the topics, he suggests that when talking about equipment, not only technical aspects should be discussed but also about form of use.

This suggestion will be put forward.

#### **14. Practical ICAR in Ireland (Terrestrial Rescue 2015)**

There are no suggestions from the participants for the practical meeting. The topic will therefore stay open. At yesterday's meeting, it was very well received that the participants could actually take an active part. This should be increasingly continued in future meetings.

#### **15. Miscellaneous**

A combined meeting with the Medical Commission is planned. The topic will be „*Avalanche Victim Resuscitation Checklist*“. This checklist only works if the rescuers carry it with them and actually use it, especially since physicians are usually not the first on scene. It makes sense to discuss this checklist with the physicians. The Medical Commission will re-present the checklist again to the Terrestrial Commission. In addition, the Medical Commission suggested a work group to discuss how to proceed with injured victims. Yesterday, only the medical triage was discussed. However, the whole approach needs to be discussed. Therefore it makes sense to have rescuers take part in that work group.

End of Meeting: 9:20 a.m.

The President

The Vice-President

Gebhard Barbisch

Kirk Mauthner

For the English Translation: Olivia A. Cashner