



International Commission for Alpine Rescue

Conference Innsbruck 2026

Full Conference Schedule



Innsbruck, Austria · October 6 – 10, 2026



AIR
Air Rescue



AVA
Avalanche
Rescue



DOG
Rescue Dog-
Handlers



MED
Mountain
Medicine



TER
Terrestrial
Rescue



Tuesday | October 6, 2026

Arrival, Registration & Practical Day Briefing

TIME	AIR Air Rescue Commission	AVA Avalanche Rescue Commission	DOG Dog Rescue	MED Emergency Mountain Medicine	TER Terrestrial Rescue Commission
08:00					
08:30					
09:00					
09:30					
10:00					
10:30					
11:00					
11:30					
12:00					
12:30	Registration 8:00 – 18:00 ICAR Executive Board Meeting: 8:00 – 16:00				
13:00					
13:30					
14:00					
14:30					
15:00					
15:30					
16:00					
16:30					
17:00					
17:30					
18:00					
18:30					
19:00	Practical Day Briefing Hall "Innsbruck"				
19:30					
20:00	Dinner Catering at conference centre				

Wednesday | October 7, 2026

Practical Day — Field Stations & Welcome Ceremony

TIME	AIR Air Rescue Commission	AVA Avalanche Rescue Commission	DOG Dog Rescue	MED Emergency Mountain Medicine	TER Terrestrial Rescue Commission
	 Seegrube (1900 M above sea Level) Pick up @ Hotels				
	 Registration continues at the Conference Centre 8:00 – 18:00				
08:00					
08:30					
09:00	Practical Day Session <i>AIRCOM · Members Only</i>	Practical Day Session <i>AVA · Members Only</i>	Practical Day Session <i>Dog-Handlers · Members Only</i>	Practical Day Session <i>MEDCOM · Members Only</i>	Practical Day Session <i>TERCOM · Members Only</i>
10:00	Station 1: ESPNR human external cargo OATMC HC on static	RECCO training		TOPICS:	Ground anchors
10:30	Station 2: Personnal carrying device systems (PCDS) ARA HC on static	Deep Burials	Practical Day Session <i>Dog-Handlers · Members Only</i>	1) Point-of-care Ultrasound	Light 2 rope system
11:00	Station 3: Drones	IC Systems in AVA Response		2) Mechanical CPR in the field	Stretcher handling
11:30				3) Hypothermia Management and Forced Air Rewarming	
12:00	 Lunch Break and Helicopter Demo				
12:30					
13:00					
13:30	Practical Day Session <i>AIRCOM · Open to All Delegates (4 Stations)</i>	Practical Day Session <i>AVA · Afternoon Topics</i>	Practical Day Session <i>Dog-Handlers · Afternoon Topics</i>	Practical Day Session <i>MEDCOM · Afternoon Topics</i>	Practical Day Session <i>TERCOM · Afternoon Topics</i>
14:00	Station 1: ESPNR human external cargo OATMC HC on static	AVA Rescue with multiple technologies	Socialization and behavior training for puppies and young dogs aroundbd strangers	Hypothermia Management in the field - Hypothermia Simulation Station	Ground anchors
15:00	Station 2: Personnal carrying device systems (PCDS) ARA HC on static				Light 2 rope system
15:30	Station 3: The airmen approach of risk management AUSTRIAN POLICE HC on display				
16:00	Station 4: Drones				
16:30					
17:00					
17:30					
18:00					
18:30	 Welcome Ceremony  Hall "Innsbruck"				
19:00	 Welcome Dinner Catering by CMI				
19:30					
20:00					

Thursday | October 8, 2026

Opening & Committee Sessions

TIME	AIR Air Rescue Commission	AVA Avalanche Rescue Commission	DOG Dog Rescue	MED Emergency Mountain Medicine	TER Terrestrial Rescue Commission
08:00	Welcome & introduction President report <i>Renaud Guillermet/ICAR</i>	Welcome and President Report <i>Stephanie Thomas/ICAR</i>	Welcome and President Report <i>Marcel Meier/ICAR</i>	Welcome & President's Report <i>Natalie Hölzl/ICAR</i>	Welcome & President Report <i>Stefan Blochum/ICAR</i>
08:30	Local rescue team presentation <i>Markus Amon/ÖAMTC & Michael Schweiger/ARA</i>	Country Reports	Internal Topics Dog-handler	Snow Submersion Asphyxia <i>Kyle McLaughlin/PC</i>	Accident report ÖBRD <i>Sebastian Kren?</i>
09:00	Adaptation of helicopter mountain rescue operations to climate change <i>Julien Benet/GSM</i>	Country Reports (con't)	The Austria Team Introduces itself <i>Reinhard Hirschmuggel, Head of the Doghandlers/ ÖBRD</i>	Fatal Non-Avalanche Snow Burial in Japanese Backcountry Terrain: A Five-Year Case Series <i>Kazue Oshiro/AMMR</i>	Highlines vs. Crosshauls Tom Wood/ Rich Siemer (USA)
09:30	ESPNR Humans external cargo with sling <i>Jakob USKE (AIRBUS) & Jonathan Hall (EASA)</i>	Country Reports (con't)	☕ AM Break	☕ AM Break	☕ AM Break
10:00	☕ AM Break	☕ AM Break	🔗 Joint Session – SESSION DOG / TER Extensive Search for Missing Person, New Zeland <i>Case Study Peter Zimmer/NZLSAR</i>	ICAR MEDCOM Recommendation on Frostbite Care for Physicians <i>Alex Poole, Linda Johansson/CSMM</i>	🔗 Joint Session – SESSION DOG / TER Extensive Search for Missing Person, New Zeland <i>Case Study Peter Zimmer/NZLSAR</i>
10:30	Incidents & accidents report <i>Panel discussion moderated by Clayton Horney (CHRT - USA) & Nigel Harling/MREW</i>	Country Reports (con't)	Workshop: Discussion about last year`s operations and training sessions	HAI Frost – Iloprost Study <i>Lea Dümpelmann/EURAC</i>	Search for missing people - what are we doing wrong in Norway <i>Sondre Langenes/NRK</i>
11:00		Hlindsight: Lessons we Carry Forward	Workshop: Discussion about last year`s operations and training sessions	Update on Emergency Care for Avalanche-Buried Patients <i>Giacomo Strapazzon/EURAC</i>	Swiss alpine rescue – A key link in the rescue chain, from preparedness to response <i>Andrea Dotta/ARS</i>
11:30		Hlindsight: Lessons we Carry Forward (con't)	Workshop: Discussion about last year`s operations and training sessions	Gradient Expectations: Rethinking Core Temperature in Accidental Hypothermia & Minimum Reporting Standards in Accidental Hypothermia <i>Steve Roy/ISMM</i>	Cable car incident Karren Klaus Drexel, ÖBRD Vorarlberg
12:00	☕ Lunch Break				
12:30					
13:00	AIRCUM recommendations <i>Panel discussion moderated by Dale Wang (MRA - USA) & Jellen Benet/GSM</i>	A3 Pro Rescue & Pro AvSAR Courses <i>J. Reddy/A3</i>	Workshop: Discussion about last year`s operations and training sessions	MEDCOM internal updates on recommendations ◆ Stress Resilience Guideline Final Update <i>Jon White/MREW</i> ◆ Medical Assessment of Mountain Rescuers <i>Evelien Cools/ARS</i>	Accident report Norway <i>Stein Moeller/NLA</i>
13:30		Avalanche accident Ruderer Berg – From the snowpack to the rescue mission <i>L. Rastner / T. Mair, Italy (South Tyrol)</i>	Workshop: Discussion about last year`s operations and training sessions	HEMS DOC Training and Competencies <i>Matthias Haselbacher/ÖAMTC</i> ◆ Airway Management in Mountain Rescue Recommendation <i>Matthias Jacob/BWB</i>	Deep purple <i>cave rescue in Morca 2023/ Turkey Dinko Novosel, Guiseppe Conti, Denes Akos Nagy, Bülent Genc (Croatia)</i>
14:00	An example of multi agencies coordination & cooperation " Lessons learned from the Ahr Valley flood 2021" <i>Volker Lischke & Gerd Windhausen/DRK</i>	GIS Multiscale Avalanche Risk Analysis <i>Davide Rossi, Meteomont National Center, Italy</i>	Workshop: Discussion about last year`s operations and training sessions	Rescuers Competencies Project <i>Kazue Oshiro/AMMR</i> ◆ Regional Pain Management and Procedural Sedation <i>Marc Blancher/ANMSM</i>	Deep purple <i>cave rescue in Morca 2023/ Turkey Dinko Novosel, Guiseppe Conti, Denes Akos Nagy, Bülent Genc (Croatia)</i>
14:30	Gondola rescue training program <i>Damjan BEVK, Slovenia</i>	☕ PM Break	Workshop: Discussion about last year`s operations and training sessions	☕ PM Break	☕ PM Break
15:00	☕ PM Break	Nowegian Red Cross Avalanche Card J.P. Hoggan-Norway	☕ PM Break		☕ PM Break
15:30	Lezard educational program and limitations <i>Jean François Martin/GSM</i>	Multi-Modal Search for buried subject in Kozia Dolina: NeoSoft, Recco, Probing. TOPR	Avalanche accident Zinkenschlucht <i>Reinhard Hirschmuggel/ÖBRD</i>	Use of Hybrid Model for SAR Medical Training <i>Chris van Tilburg, Hood River Crag Rats</i>	Working groups
16:00	Emotions Save Lives — But Are We Training Them? <i>Eleonora AVI, Renaud Guillermet/ICAR</i>	(INTERNAL) Working Groups (parallel): Recommendations / Common Language / Database of Practices	Integration of Geodata and Technologies <i>Jan Hepnar, Czechia</i>	First Aid Training Introduced as a National Standard for Mountaineering and Outdoor Activities <i>Julia Fieler/NRK</i>	REMS - Rapid Extraction Module - Fast techniques for fast rescue at wildfire accidents <i>Craig McClure/ Guilherme Settanini, CMC USA</i>
16:30	EHA - EUROPEAN ROTORS - Frank Liemandt		Adjusting Training for Rescuers in Response to Global Warming <i>Fabrice Huot, France</i>	The role of MEDCOM in providing guidelines for training and CME in MR ◆	The Final Patient: Extending the Life-Saving Value of Mountain Rescue Through Operational Learning and Purposeful Storytelling <i>David Nel/MCSA</i>
17:00	HOIST EMERGENCIES AND ABNORMAL SITUATIONS <i>Panel discussion moderated by Alexander Weissenboek and ESPN R</i>	PARTNER PRESENTATION Digital Training Tool <i>M. Vogt / G. Vogl, Germany</i>	K9 HAZMAT & Veterinary Aid Training <i>P. Czermak/GOPR</i>	Diploma in Mountain Medicine Updates <i>NEW Regulations and Learning Outcomes Project — Jason Williams/UNM-IMMC</i> ◆	
17:30		🔗 Joint Session – AVA/DOG Cooperation between rescuers and dog handlers at the accident scene. <i>Marcel Meier/ICAR, Kyle Hale — GADSAR, Canada</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AVA/DOG Cooperation between rescuers and dog handlers at the accident scene. <i>Marcel Meier/ICAR, Kyle Hale — GADSAR, Canada</i>	Rethinking training: from field experience to digital learning: Medical Training for ICAR Project: Train the Trainers & Train the Rescuers <i>Martin Musi/UNM-IMMC</i>	
18:00	🥂 ICAR Board plus Partners: Partner Apéro Reception with snacks				
18:30	📌 ICAR Board plus Partners: Partner Apéro (continued)			🍷 Dinner	
19:00					
19:30					
20:00	📌 Women In Rescue 📌 Kater Noster Cafe & Bar				

Friday | October 9, 2026

Joint Sessions & Committee Wrap-ups

TIME	AIR Air Rescue Commission	AVA Avalanche Rescue Commission	DOG Dog Rescue	MED Emergency Mountain Medicine	TER Terrestrial Rescue Commission
08:00	ICAR IDWG - Update <i>Nigel Harling/MREW</i>	🔗 Joint Session – MED/AVA/TER/DOG Hypothermic Cardiac Arrest <i>S.C. Skaiaa/RNAF-330sqn, T.Nissen (Denmark)</i>	🔗 Joint Session – MED/AVA/TER/DOG Hypothermic Cardiac Arrest <i>S.C. Skaiaa/RNAF-330sqn, T.Nissen (Denmark)</i>	🔗 Joint Session – MED/AVA/TER/DOG Hypothermic Cardiac Arrest <i>S.C. Skaiaa/RNAF-330sqn, T.Nissen (Denmark)</i>	🔗 Joint Session – MED/AVA/TER/DOG Hypothermic Cardiac Arrest <i>S.C. Skaiaa/RNAF-330sqn, T.Nissen (Denmark)</i>
08:30	🔗 Joint Session – AIR/AVA/TER DRONES (60 min) 08:30 — Drone-Use of Human External Cargo <i>M. Van Veelen/EURAC</i> 08:50 — Current & Planned Drone Fleet Capacity <i>TOPR</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AIR/AVA/TER DRONES (60 min) 08:30 — Drone-Use of Human External Cargo <i>M. Van Veelen/EURAC</i> 08:50 — Current & Planned Drone Fleet Capacity <i>TOPR</i>	Trust your Dog KWRO <i>Imboden Philipp</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AIR/AVA/TER DRONES (60 min) 08:30 — Drone-Use of Human External Cargo <i>M. Van Veelen/EURAC</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AIR/AVA/TER DRONES (60 min) 08:30 — Drone-Use of Human External Cargo <i>M. Van Veelen/EURAC</i> 08:50 — Current & Planned Drone Fleet Capacity <i>TOPR</i>
09:00	09:10 — RECCO Drone Detector <i>P. Dryer (USA)</i>	09:10 — RECCO Drone Detector <i>P. Dryer (USA)</i>	New Training Center for Disaster Search Dogs <i>Knut Skar/NRH</i>	Nepal: Training Sherpa at the Khumbu Climbing Center <i>Aaron Reilly/UNM-IMMC</i>	09:10 — RECCO Drone Detector <i>P. Dryer (USA)</i>
09:30	 AM Break				
10:00	Challenges and possibilities concerning helicopter flight in icing conditions <i>Erik Nordmann/NLA</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AVA/MED Japan Winter Hazards <i>K. Oshiro/AMMR</i>	Why Doghandlers Shouldn't Be Afraid of High Technology <i>Ion Santuloiu, Romania</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AVA/MED Japan Winter Hazards <i>K. Oshiro/AMMR</i>	Education curriculum around risk management <i>Craig McClure/ Guilerm Settanini, CMC USA</i>
10:30	🔗 Joint Session – AIR/MED The Medical Operational Workflow <i>S.C. Skaiaa/RNAF-330sqn</i>	ÖGSL Digital Snow & Avalanche Tools <i>Dr. J-T. Fischer (ÖGSL, Austria)</i>	WBR <i>Margje van Komen/WBR</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AIR/MED The Medical Operational Workflow <i>S.C. Skaiaa/RNAF-330sqn, D.R. Vatle (Norway)</i>	From Ad Hoc Response to Modular Capacity: How Three Disasters Shaped HGSS into a UCPM-Ready Organisation <i>Marko Rakovac/HGSS</i>
11:00	EASA Update <i>Fabrice Legay, Eric Benett — EASA</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AVA/DOG “When Every Minute Counts – Insights from Incident Command” <i>Rendl avalanche, St. Anton am Arlberg, Feb 20 2026 Christian Riepl/ÖBRD</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AVA/DOG “When Every Minute Counts – Insights from Incident Command” <i>Rendl avalanche, St. Anton am Arlberg, Feb 20 2026 Christian Riepl/ÖBRD</i>	🔗 Joint Session – TER/MED Manual CPR: Still Alive! Improving Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Techniques and Outcomes in the Mountains and Winter Rescue Environment <i>Aaron Brillhart/UVM</i>	🔗 Joint Session – TER/MED Manual CPR: Still Alive! Improving Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Techniques and Outcomes in the Mountains and Winter Rescue Environment <i>Aaron Brillhart/UVM</i>
11:30		🔗 Joint Session – AVA/MED/TER/DOG Automated Verbal Commands During Avalanche Companion Rescue <i>B. Wallner/ÖAMTC</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AVA/MED/TER/DOG Automated Verbal Commands During Avalanche Companion Rescue <i>B. Wallner/ÖAMTC</i>	🔗 Joint Session – TER/MED ALPINLOG — Digital Incident <i>Documentation Platform Tobias Huber/ÖBRD</i>	🔗 Joint Session – TER/MED ALPINLOG — Digital Incident <i>Documentation Platform Tobias Huber/ÖBRD</i>
12:00				🔗 Joint Session – AVA/MED/TER/DOG Automated Verbal Commands During Avalanche Companion Rescue <i>B. Wallner/ÖAMTC</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AVA/MED/TER/DOG Automated Verbal Commands During Avalanche Companion Rescue <i>B. Wallner/ÖAMTC</i>
12:30	 Lunch Break				
13:00					
13:30	Static electricity hazard - Dr Jostein Brede & Lasse redningsmann RNAF Norway - Clayton Horney CHRT USA	Avalanche Forecast in Rescue Ops <i>P. Nairz (Austria)</i>	(Internal) Working Groups <i>Development of a recommendation for dogs to dig in an avalanche</i>	🔗 Joint Session – TER/MED Epidemiology & Characteristics of Canyoning SAR in Italy, 2009–2023 <i>G. Strapazzon, A. Tomasi/CNSAS</i>	🔗 Joint Session – TER/MED Epidemiology & Characteristics of Canyoning SAR in Italy, 2009–2023 <i>G. Strapazzon, A. Tomasi/CNSAS</i>
14:00		🔗 Joint Session – AVA/TER Interference Effects During Avalanche Rescue <i>Dieter Kotlaba, ORTOVOX (partner), Germany</i>	(Internal) Working Groups <i>Development of a recommendation for dogs to dig in an avalanche</i>	Paramedic Administered Intranasal Esketamine in Alpine Rescue Service <i>Alexander Egger/ÖBRD</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AVA/TER Interference Effects During Avalanche Rescue <i>Dieter Kotlaba, ORTOVOX (partner), Germany</i>
14:30	Rotor Wing Disaster Response <i>Steve Soliz — Bell Helicopter</i>	(INTERNAL)Working Groups (parallel) <i>Recommendations / Common Language / Database of Practices</i>	(Internal) Working Groups <i>Development of a recommendation for dogs to dig in an avalanche</i>	Aconcagua Rescue Death and Pulmonary Edema Research <i>Aaron Brillhart/UVM</i>	Waterproof drysuit for injured persons during cave and/ or canyon rescues Guiseppe Antonini and Francesco Berti, CNSAS Italy
15:00	AIRCOM recommendations <i>Panel discussion moderated by Dale Wang (MRA - USA) & Jellen Benet/GSM</i>	(INTERNAL)Goal Check-In: Outputs from Working Groups	(Internal) Working Groups <i>Development of a recommendation for dogs to dig in an avalanche</i>	Pulmonary Function by Litter Position <i>Roger Mortimer/NCRC</i>	CNSAS-SNATE “National organization and technical helicopter rescue training”
15:30					
16:00	🔗 Joint Session – AIR/MED Patient Airway Management During Helicopter Hoist Maneuvers: Manual vs Automated Ventilation with an iGel Airway <i>Scott McIntosh, Jason Williams/UNM-IMMC</i>	🔗 Joint Session – DOG/AVA/TER Rescued Alive from Avalanche after 1.5h <i>Meier Marcel/ARS</i>	🔗 Joint Session – DOG/AVA/TER Rescued Alive from Avalanche after 1.5h <i>Meier Marcel/ARS</i>	🔗 Joint Session – AIR/MED Patient Airway Management During Helicopter Hoist Maneuvers: Manual vs Automated Ventilation with an iGel Airway <i>Scott McIntosh, Jason Williams/UNM-IMMC</i>	🔗 Joint Session – DOG/AVA/TER Rescued Alive from Avalanche after 1.5h <i>Meier Marcel/ARS</i>
16:30	AIRCOM recommendations & wrap up	Voting Block: Recommendation Updates + Wrap Up (combined)	Dog-Handlers Wrap Up: Goals, Next Steps	Summary, Outlook and Future Plans: Spring Meeting 2027 Sardinia (L. Festi), Future Congresses and Practical Days <i>Natalie Hölzl/ICAR</i>	Voting Block Recommendation Summary, Outlook and Wrap UP
17:00					
17:30	 Tiroler Abend with Family Gundolf 19:00 – 22:00 Alpensaal an der Messe				
18:00					
18:30					
19:00					
19:30					
20:00					
20:30					
21:00					
21:30					

Saturday | October 10, 2026

Plenary Presentations, Innovation Day & Gala Dinner

TIME	AIR Air Rescue Commission	AVA Avalanche Rescue Commission	DOG Dog Rescue	MED Emergency Mountain Medicine	TER Terrestrial Rescue Commission
08:00	Three Dimensions, One Readiness: An Innovative Model for Mountain Rescue Training <i>Claudio Artoni, Maria Chiara Pavesi, Piergiorgio Vidi/CNSAS</i>				
08:30	Hypothermia Treatment During Extreme Rescue <i>Sigurd Mydske, Stein Moeller, Karianne Wergeland Gundersen/NARG</i>				
09:00	United in Rescue – Prepared for Crisis: How Everyday Cooperation Creates National Resilience <i>Elin Seim, Kjetil Åsland Nevøy — NRK / RNAF-330sqn / NF</i>				
09:30	 AM Break				
10:00	The Shaky Isles – AF8: Disaster Planning for New Zealand's Alpine Fault Rupture <i>Sarah Gordon / Dick Price/NZLSAR</i>				
10:30	Preparing Austria's Mountain Rescue Service for Crisis and Disaster Response <i>Martin Gurdet/ÖBRD</i>				
11:00	Rockfall and Avalanche Danger Resulting from Helicopter Downwash <i>Dale Wang, Alison Sheets/MRA</i>				
11:30	Disaster Victim Identification in the Event of a Catastrophe in the Mountains <i>Corinna A. Schön/SGGM</i>				
12:00	100 Years of Camaraderie: Why Traditions and Change Are Vital <i>Dr. Chris Van Tilburg — Crag Rats, Hood River, USA</i>				
12:30	 Lunch Break				
13:00	Innovation Day 13:00 – 15:00				
13:30					
14:00					
14:30					
15:00					
15:30	Delegates' Assembly  Hall "Innsbruck"			Innovation Day continues to 17:00	
16:00					
16:30					
17:00					
17:30					
18:00					
18:30					
19:00					
19:30	Gala Dinner  Dogana				
20:00					