



International Commission for Alpine Rescue

Conference Innsbruck 2026

Full Conference Schedule



Innsbruck, Austria · October 6 – 10, 2026

Updated October 6, 2026



AIR

Air Rescue



AVA

Avalanche
Rescue



DOG

Dog Rescue



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				
Morning 09:00–12:00	Practical Day Session AIRCOM · Members Only	Practical Day Session AVA · Members Only	Practical Day Session Dog-Handlers · Members Only	Practical Day Session MEDCOM · Members Only	Practical Day Session TERCOM · Members Only Ground anchors / Drop loop / Tyrolian shared tensioned rope system
12:00 until 13:30	 Lunch Break and Helicopter Demo				
Afternoon 13:30–17:00	Practical Day Session AIRCOM · Open to All Delegates (4 Stations)	Practical Day Session AVA · Afternoon Topics	Practical Day Session Dog-Handlers · Afternoon Topics	Practical Day Session MEDCOM · Afternoon Topics	Practical Day Session TERCOM · Afternoon Topics Shared Tension Winch System
18:30	 Welcome Ceremony  Hall "Innsbruck"				
19:00	 Welcome Dinner Catering by CMI				
19:30					

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>	Highlines vs. Crosshauls <i>Tom Wood, Rich Siemer/MRA</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>	REMS - Rapid Extraction Module - Fast techniques for fast rescue at wildfire accidents <i>Craig McClure, Guilherme Settanini/CMC</i>			
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 – DOG/TER  Held in the TERCOM room Extensive Search for Missing Person, New Zealand — Case Study <i>Peter Zimmer/NZLSAR</i>	ICAR MEDCOM Recommendation on Frostbite Care for Physicians <i>Alex Poole, Linda Johansson/CSMM</i>	 Joint Session – DOG/TER  Held in the TERCOM room Extensive Search for Missing Person, New Zealand — Case Study <i>Peter Zimmer/NZLSAR</i>			
10:30	Incidents & accidents report <i>Panel discussion moderated by Clayton Horney/CHRT & 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		Hindsight: Lessons we Carry Forward	Workshop: Discussion about last year`s operations and training sessions	Update on Emergency Care for Avalanche-Buried Patients <i>Giacomo Strapazon/EURAC</i>	Swiss alpine rescue – A key link in the rescue chain, from preparedness to response <i>Andrea Dotta/ARS</i>			
11:30		Hindsight: 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 <i>Klaus Drexel/ÖBRD</i>			
12:00	 Lunch Break							
12:30								
13:00	AIRCOM recommendations <i>Panel discussion moderated by Dale Wang/MRA & 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>	Deep Purple – Cave rescue in Morca 2023, Turkey <i>Dinko Novosel, Giuseppe Conti, Denes Akos Nagy, Bülent Genc/HGSS/ECRA</i>			
13:30		Avalanche accident Ruderer Berg – From the snowpack to the rescue mission <i>L. Rastner, T. Mair/BRD-AVS</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>				
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/MC</i>	Workshop: Discussion about last year`s operations and training sessions	Rescuers Competencies Project <i>Kazue Oshiro/AMMR</i> 	Education curriculum around risk management <i>Craig McClure, Guilherme Settanini/CMC</i>			
14:30	Gondola rescue training program <i>Damjan BEVK, Slovenia</i>	 PM Break	Workshop: Discussion about last year`s operations and training sessions	Regional Pain Management and Procedural Sedation <i>Marc Blancher/ANMSM</i>	 PM Break			
15:00	 PM Break	Norwegian Red Cross Avalanche Card <i>J.P. Hoggen/NRK</i>	 PM Break	 PM Break	The Final Patient: Extending the Life-Saving Value of Mountain Rescue Through Operational Learning and Purposeful Storytelling <i>David Nel/MCSA</i>			
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. <i>TOPR</i>	Avalanche accident Zinkenschlucht <i>Reinhard Hirschmuggel/ÖBRD</i>	Use of Hybrid Model for SAR Medical Training <i>Chris van Tilburg/MRA</i>				
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/HSCR</i>	First Aid Training Introduced as a National Standard for Mountaineering and Outdoor Activities <i>Julia Fielser/NRK</i>	(Internal) TERCOM session <i>Election of Vice-President Recommendation Nr. 12 Working groups Future of Practical Day within TERCOM</i>			
16:30	EHA - EUROPEAN ROTORS <i>Frank Liemandt</i>		Adjusting Training for Rescuers in Response to Global Warming <i>Fabrice Huot/GSM</i>	The role of MEDCOM in providing guidelines for training and CME in MR 				
17:00	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 - NEW Regulations and Learning Outcomes Project <i>Jason Williams/UNM-IMMC</i> 				
17:30	HOIST EMERGENCIES AND ABNORMAL SITUATIONS <i>Panel discussion moderated by Alexander Weissenboek and ESPN R</i>	 Joint Session – AVA/DOG  Held in the AVACOM room Cooperation between rescuers and dog handlers at the accident scene. <i>Marcel Meier/ICAR, Kyle Hale/CARDA</i>	 Joint Session – AVA/DOG  Held in the AVACOM room Cooperation between rescuers and dog handlers at the accident scene. <i>Marcel Meier/ICAR, Kyle Hale/CARDA</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	 Women In Rescue  Kater Noster Cafe & Bar with the support of Corpuls							
20:00								

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  Held in the TERCOM room Hypothermic Cardiac Arrest <i>S.C. Skaiaa/RNAF-330sqn, T.Nissen (Denmark)</i>	 Joint Session – MED/AVA/TER/DOG  Held in the TERCOM room Hypothermic Cardiac Arrest <i>S.C. Skaiaa/RNAF-330sqn, T.Nissen (Denmark)</i>	 Joint Session – MED/AVA/TER/DOG  Held in the TERCOM room Hypothermic Cardiac Arrest <i>S.C. Skaiaa/RNAF-330sqn, T.Nissen (Denmark)</i>	 Joint Session – MED/AVA/TER/DOG  Held in the TERCOM room Hypothermic Cardiac Arrest <i>S.C. Skaiaa/RNAF-330sqn, T.Nissen (Denmark)</i>
08:30	 Joint Session – AIR/AVA/TER  Held in the TERCOM room 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  Held in the TERCOM room 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 <i>Imboden Philipp/KWRO-OCVS</i>	 Joint Session – AIR/AVA/TER/MED  Held in the TERCOM room DRONES (60 min) 08:30 — Drone-Use of Human External Cargo <i>M. Van Veelen/EURAC</i>	 Joint Session – AIR/AVA/TER  Held in the TERCOM room 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>	From Training to Partnership: A Decade of Mountain Medicine Education in the Khumbu <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  Held in the MEDCOM room Japan Winter Hazards <i>K. Oshiro, T. Murakami/AMMR</i>	Why Doghandlers Shouldn't Be Afraid of High Technology <i>Ion Santuloiu/ANSMR</i>	 Joint Session – AVA/MED  Held in the MEDCOM room Japan Winter Hazards <i>K. Oshiro, T. Murakami/AMMR</i>	Waterproof Drysuit for Injured Persons During Cave and Canyon Rescue Operations <i>Giuseppe Antonini, Francesco Berti/CNSAS</i>
10:30	 Joint Session – AIR/MED  Held in the MEDCOM room The Medical Operational Workflow <i>S.C. Skaiaa, D.R. Vatile/RNAF-330sqn</i>	 Joint Session – AVA/MED  Held in the MEDCOM room ÖGSL Digital Snow & Avalanche Tools <i>Dr. J-T. Fischer (ÖGSL, Austria)</i>	WBR <i>Margie van Komen/WBR</i>	 Joint Session – AIR/MED  Held in the MEDCOM room The Medical Operational Workflow <i>S.C. Skaiaa, D.R. Vatile/RNAF-330sqn</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  Held in the AVACOM room “When Every Minute Counts – Insights from Incident Command” <i>Rendl avalanche, St. Anton am Arlberg, Feb 20 2026</i> <i>Christian Riepl/ÖBRD</i>	 Joint Session – AVA/DOG  Held in the AVACOM room “When Every Minute Counts – Insights from Incident Command” <i>Rendl avalanche, St. Anton am Arlberg, Feb 20 2026</i> <i>Christian Riepl/ÖBRD</i>	 Joint Session – TER/MED  Held in the TERCOM room 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  Held in the TERCOM room 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 – TER/MED  Held in the TERCOM room ALPINLOG — Digital Incident Documentation Platform <i>Tobias Huber/ÖBRD</i>	 Joint Session – TER/MED  Held in the TERCOM room ALPINLOG — Digital Incident Documentation Platform <i>Tobias Huber/ÖBRD</i>
12:00		 Joint Session – AVA/MED/TER/DOG  Held in the TERCOM room Automated Verbal Commands During Avalanche Companion Rescue <i>B. Wallner/ÖAMTC</i>	 Joint Session – AVA/MED/TER/DOG  Held in the TERCOM room Automated Verbal Commands During Avalanche Companion Rescue <i>B. Wallner/ÖAMTC</i>	 Joint Session – AVA/MED/TER/DOG  Held in the TERCOM room Automated Verbal Commands During Avalanche Companion Rescue <i>B. Wallner/ÖAMTC</i>	 Joint Session – AVA/MED/TER/DOG  Held in the TERCOM room Automated Verbal Commands During Avalanche Companion Rescue <i>B. Wallner/ÖAMTC</i>
12:30	 Lunch Break				
13:00					
13:30	Static electricity hazard <i>Jostein Rødseth Brede, Lasse/RNAF-330sqn, Clayton Horney/CHRT</i>	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  Held in the TERCOM room Epidemiology & Characteristics of Canyoning SAR in Italy, 2009–2023 <i>G. Strapazzon, A. Tomasi/CNSAS</i>	 Joint Session – TER/MED  Held in the TERCOM room Epidemiology & Characteristics of Canyoning SAR in Italy, 2009–2023 <i>G. Strapazzon, A. Tomasi/CNSAS</i>
14:00		 Joint Session – AVA/TER  Held in the TERCOM room 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  Held in the TERCOM room 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 Altitude Medicine and Rescue Research Update <i>Aaron Brillhart/UVM</i>	CNSAS-SNATE “National organization and technical helicopter rescue training” <i>Ennio Rizzotti, Francesco Valgòl/CNSAS</i>
15:00	AIRCOM recommendations <i>Panel discussion moderated by Dale Wang/MRA & Jelien 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>	(Internal) Voting block / Working groups / Future / Wrap up
15:30	 Coffee Break				
16:00	 Joint Session – AIR/MED  Held in the MEDCOM room 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  Held in the TERCOM room Rescued Alive from Avalanche after 1.5h <i>Meier Marcel/ARS</i>	 Joint Session – DOG/AVA/TER  Held in the TERCOM room Rescued Alive from Avalanche after 1.5h <i>Meier Marcel/ARS</i>	 Joint Session – AIR/MED  Held in the MEDCOM room 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  Held in the TERCOM room Rescued Alive from Avalanche after 1.5h <i>Meier Marcel/ARS</i>
16:30	AIRCOM recommendations & wrap up	Voting Block: Recommendation Updates <i>+ Wrap Up (combined)</i>	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>	(Internal, continued) Voting block / Working groups / Future / Wrap up
17:00					
17:30					
18:00					
18:30					
19:00	 Tiroler Abend with Family Gundolf 19:00 – 22:00 Alpensaal an der Messe				
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>Kjetil Nevøy/NRK, Elin Seim/NRK, Stein F. Møller/NLA, Dag Rune Vatle/RNAF-330sqn</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/MRA, Clayton Horney/CHRT</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/MRA</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 15:30 – 17:30  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					