

Rescue Organisation Ireland
Eagraíocht Tarrthála Éireann



Registered charity no. CHV19166

**ROI National Road Traffic Collision &
Trauma Challenge 2013**

*Monaghan Fire Station
Co Monaghan, Ireland*

April 13th (& 14th), 2013



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“Its not the winning – but the taking apart”



1. Introduction

- 1.1 The loss and injury through road traffic collisions is a modern phenomenon that knows no boundary. Wherever there is a motor vehicle then, inevitably, people can become victims to it.
- 1.2 The objective of the National Extrication & Trauma Challenge is to bring together teams of rescue personnel who are committed, not only to displaying their ability, but to expanding their practical skills by learning from and teaching others involved in the same field.
- 1.3 Teams from across Ireland & visiting teams from abroad will gather at a single venue (Monaghan Fire Station) for one or most likely two days (depending on team numbers – **this will be clarified 5 weeks before the event**). The Challenge will consist of,
 - a) **The EXTRICATION challenge - this will aim to see all of the participating teams use their professional skill and ability in the extrication of a trapped casualty from a severely damaged vehicle;**
 - b) **The TRAUMA challenge - this will aim to see all of the participating teams use their professional skill and ability in the treatment of a person suffering from severe trauma.**
- 1.4 What these personnel observe and learn during this challenge will go back with them to their own Brigades and Services where some person may directly benefit from this new found knowledge. Thus knowledge and practices learnt can cascade across the Country, benefiting all those who become victims of a Road Traffic Collision.
- 1.5 The emphasis in the National Extrication & Trauma Challenge is on developing and promoting 'Best Safe Practice'. The challenge is not primarily to win, but to use what is learnt at these events in protecting and saving those whom we serve, as well as ourselves, the rescuers.
- 1.6 Although the 'Challenge' appears to be a competition, it is far more than that. It is a learning platform, matching talents and skills through assessment. Encouraging participants to make hard and critical examination of their own rescue practices, techniques and knowledge of the tools they have available to them. It is necessary to study current extrication philosophy, search out new developments and innovate with new ideas.
- 1.7 Although one team will be adjudged the best team overall in each event, in truth the real winners will be the future victims of motor vehicle collisions and trauma injuries.



2. Mission Statement

- 2.1 To provide a medium for rescue personnel from across Ireland to come together, in order to stimulate and develop proficiency levels in all areas of rescue, but specifically in Incident Control, Safety, Extrication, Pre-Hospital Care and the use of equipment with control.

3. The Objectives

- 3.1 To provide a forum whereby rescuers of all disciplines meet and share knowledge; develop skills; stimulate ingenuity; all of which will culminate in a higher level of efficiency and professionalism.
- 3.2 To develop an education platform for rescuers, to assist them in dealing with the extreme demands placed on them by the modern motor vehicle collision.

4. The Benchmarks

- Develop a Safety First attitude amongst all rescuers.
- Emphasise patient, rescue personnel and scene safety.
- Encourage higher and more proficient levels of pre-hospital care.
- Create the broader spectrum of extrication principles and techniques.
- Develop the systematic approach to incident command.
- Stimulate ingenuity in terms of skill, practices and equipment to advance the best safety first concept.
- Through co-operation, develop an agreed code of best practice.



5. The Challenge

5.1 The National RTC & Trauma Challenge will be open to all local authority Fire Brigades in Ireland. It will also be open to a limited number of International teams who wish to take part.

5.2 The Extrication Challenge will consist (on alternate days if event 2-day) of
1) a **'Standard'** evolution
2) a **'Rapid'** evolution

Each evolution will incorporate one of the following scenarios

A single vehicle on its wheels

A single vehicle on its side

A single vehicle on its roof

There may be other vehicles or staging props in the vicinity to act as obstacles.

Teams may use any of the tools shown in section 8 of this document.

A live casualty will be used in each scenario.

5.2.1 For the 'Standard' evolution teams will be allowed a maximum of **20 minutes**.
For the 'Rapid' evolution teams will be allowed a maximum of **10 minutes**.

5.2.2 Each team will be assessed by a panel of three assessors using a common criteria & marking scheme.

The following areas will be assessed:

Incident Command and Control

Physical Rescue and tool operation

Pre-Hospital care

5.3 The Trauma Challenge will consist of 2 simulations (on alternate days if event 2-day).

It will consist of a team of two personnel dealing with a simulation of a trauma incident using live casualties.

5.3.1 For each trauma simulation teams will be allowed a maximum of **10 minutes**.

5.3.2 Each team will be assessed by a panel of two assessors using a common criteria & marking scheme.

5.4 Rescue Organisation Ireland is one of the few organisations to use live casualties in extrication & trauma challenges. These are all medically trained personnel who will have an input into the medical rescue assessment.

5.7 Each team will be afforded a 'hot' debrief immediately following their scenario run off, with a written critique (post Challenge) on request. It must be noted that the assessors' decision is final and all participants are asked to respect that decision.



6. The Rules

- 6.1 No team will participate without the written authorisation of the Chief Fire Officer or Chief Executive of their organisation.
- 6.2.1 Each extrication team will consist of 5 members including the team leader and may include a paramedic.
- 6.2.2 Each trauma team will consist of 2 members including the team leader and may include a paramedic.
- 6.3 Only approved Fire Service issue PPE shall be worn by all team members including the medic if a Fire Service member. In the event of a Paramedic acting as medic, he/she must also wear full protective clothing with no exposed skin on arms or neck and a suitable helmet with face shield.
- 6.4 Each team will be assessed in 3 primary areas - Incident command & control; Physical rescue & tool operation; Pre-hospital care of patient. The urgency in which the whole evolution was undertaken will also be considered as part of the assessment.
- 6.5 There will be a time limit on the Standard evolution of twenty (20) minutes.
- 6.6 There will be a time limit on the Rapid evolution of ten (10) minutes
- 6.7 There will be a time limit on the Trauma evolution of ten (10) minutes
- 6.8 Live casualties will be used in the Challenge, within the vehicle, and marks will be awarded on 'Casualty Handling'. There will also be a listening device/ radio fitted to the inside of the vehicle or attached to the casualty.
- 6.9 Basic packaging of the patient will be evaluated using the ABC and S protocols, with care and safety being of prime importance.
A=Airway Management, B=Breathing & Resuscitation, C=Circulation, S=Spinal Care.
- 6.10 Each pit area will have allocated to it three assessors, who will be under the direction of the Head Assessor. All scoring information will remain the property of the Organisation and shall remain confidential.
- 6.11 The decision of the Head Assessor concerning any assessment or conduct will be deemed to be final.
- 6.12 A Safety Officer will supervise each evolution with authority to halt any action deemed to be in breach of safe working practice. Such a breach shall not on the first occasion incur time penalties; however subsequent breaches can incur penalties.
- 6.13 All participants must keep safety in mind at all times and only approved head, eye, hand, and foot protection shall be worn. Respiratory protection in the form of dust masks shall also be worn at the appropriate times. i.e. cutting windshields or glass.



- 6.14 Teams may use radio communications in the form of either, hand-held or helmet attachment, as long as they do not interfere with the host brigade's radio frequencies. It will be the team leader's responsibility to supply an assessor with a radio, on the same frequency, in order that instructions to the team can be monitored.
- 6.15 The organisers will ensure the supply of a comprehensive selection of equipment, (see tool section). Teams may only bring a very limited selection of their own personal equipment with them, for example hand tools and oxygen therapy equipment. This may include any home-made equipment, but such equipment must first be approved safe by the organisers prior to any use in this event.
Note all competitors are responsible for providing their own full PPE, to include dust-masks, medical gloves and eye protection.
- 6.16 Any home-made equipment to be used in conjunction with power rescue tools must carry a 'Notice of Certification' by an approved body or person.
- 6.17 Teams may lend equipment to other teams ensuring any safety features are fully understood by the recipient.
- 6.18 Teams must present themselves to the 'Registration' area 60 minutes prior to their designated run off time.
N.B. Failure to do so may result in elimination of the Team.
- 6.19 The organisers may substitute another team, in the event of a team 'No Show'.
- 6.20 There will be a briefing of all participants and this will take place at the same venue prior to the start of the challenge.
N.B. while preferable that all team members should attend this briefing, it is mandatory that all the team leaders attend
- 6.21 The Organisers and the host brigade will not be responsible for any damage or loss of any equipment as a result of participating in this event.
- 6.22 Workers' Compensation, Insurance etc. for the protection of the team members shall be the sole responsibility of the participants in the event. The host organisation shall supply 3rd party liability insurance.

7. Code of Conduct

- 7.1 All participants are reminded that they are not only representatives of their own Brigade or Service but also that they represent the Emergency Services as a whole, and are to conduct themselves accordingly.
- 7.2 Participants are expected to be smartly dressed whilst in the Challenge venue, it is preferred that working rig be worn to tour the site, however this can be relaxed to casual wear, so long as it is approved by the team manager.



- 7.3 Full protective clothing shall be worn in the pit and service area, this may be relaxed during 'preparation and make up' at the discretion of the head assessor, when weather conditions demand.

8. Tools & Equipment List

The following equipment will be made standard stowage on each appliance for the Challenge. All teams must use this equipment - Teams may not provide their own equipment, other than personal small gear, i.e. hand tools, medical collar etc.

Type of Equipment	Quantity	Remarks
DP Extinguisher	2	
Small Gear		
Halagan Tool	1	
Ratchet Strap	2	
Glass punch	1	
Hand axe	1	
GP Line	2	
Tool Set		
Rubber mallet	1	
Screw driver slotted	3	
Screw driver posidrive	3	
Hacksaw & blades	1	
Set of spanners	1	
Adjustable spanner	1	
Pliers	1	
Locking Knife		
Dewalt 24volt saw	1	2 further batteries
Windscreen saw	1	
Socket set + torque drivers	1	
Duct tape	2	
Seat belt cutter	1	
Bolt Croppers	1	
Airbags with regulator + cylinder	2	
Stability Equipment		
Step blocks	10	5 wood & 5 Plastic
Crib blocks	8	
Wedges	15	10 wood (s&l) & 5 Plastic
Short extension ladder (two section)	1	
Stability system	1 set	'Stabfast' system or similar



Hydraulic Rescue tools	1 complete set	Chosen by teams
Protection Equipment		
Tear drop - hard protection	2	
Soft protection sheet set	1 set	

Salvage sheet	1	
Screen sheet	1	
Sharps covers	1 set	
Medical Equipment		
Long spine board	1	
Medical collars	1	
Resuscitator/ O2 therapy unit + O2 cylinder	1	
Trauma bag	1	
Blanket	1	

Please note:

All the above equipment will be stowed either in the pit or on the appliance in several lockers, leaving a further 1 locker available for each team's personal small gear.

Teams shall provide their own dust mask, latex gloves, goggles and ear defenders as appropriate.

9. Health and Safety

- 9.1 A risk assessment will be conducted prior to each evolution to ensure the safety of both participants and spectators. Dynamic risk assessment will occur throughout the evolution, not only by the team involved but also by the assessors and safety officer. Any unsafe or potentially unsafe practice will be stopped immediately and put right.
- 9.2 All activity within the Challenge site, i.e. Pit area, Service area, Vehicle storage and disposal area, Team and Tool preparation area falls under the control of the Pit Controller who is empowered by the Organisers.
- 9.3 No Team will be allowed to commence their evolution without direct approval of the Pit Controller, subject in all cases, to the following:
- (i) All Team members are properly attired in their approved personal protective equipment.
 - (ii) All non-proprietary equipment is accompanied by the relevant documentation.
 - (iii) The Pit Controller has 'cleared' the scenario.



- 9.4 Should, in the opinion of any Official, a potential or existing danger, or an unsafe condition be seen to exist or caused to exist, then that Official must immediately halt the assessment by a long whistle blast. Any activity carried out after the blowing of the whistle, other than to ensure safety, will be penalised at the discretion of the Senior Pit Assessor.
- 9.5 Should any member of a team participating notice an existing or potential danger, or an unsafe condition, to exist or be caused to exist, they must call a halt to any activity by shouting '**Still**'. Any activity carried out after the calling of '**Still**', except to make safe, will be penalised at the discretion of the Senior Pit Assessor.
- 9.6 No team member will be permitted to commence moving, cutting or breaking any vehicle component without the casualty being protected and other team members in direct proximity having their face visors in the down position.
- 9.7 Should any item of the casualty's personal protective equipment, be removed by a team member, for any reason, it must be replaced before work can recommence. Failure to do so may result in loss of points or possible disqualification.
- 9.8 Testing of pneumatic tools will only be permitted on wooden blocks and with the 'head' facing away from any live target. No Hydraulic power units are to be started without the feed and return lines connected to a tool and the control valve shut.
- 9.9 Vehicle tyres can only be deflated by valve or valve stem removal. The slashing or puncturing of tyres is prohibited.

10. Assessing and Scoring

- 10.1 Each extrication team will be evaluated in the following areas by a panel of three assessors.
- (a) **Incident Command and Control.**
 - (b) **Physical Rescue and Tool Control.**
 - (c) **Pre- Hospital Care.**
- 10.2 Copies of all the assessment sheets in use will be provided to each accepted team prior to the event (Copies can also be sourced by visiting the website: www.rescue-org-ireland.com)
- 10.3 Points awarded per sub-section will be totalled and each sub-section added together to give an overall score for that particular criteria.
- 10.4 The total points awarded in each category will be calculated as a placing (i.e. highest points = 1) and all three total placings will be added together towards an overall award for that evolution. (lowest placing total = 1st)



- 10.5 In addition, each score sheet will be compared, in order to recognise the 'Best Individual' team member in each criteria. i.e. Command and Control, Physical Rescue, Pre-Hospital Care.
- 10.6 Every Team will be afforded a 'Hot Debrief' immediately following their performance, with a follow-up written critique 'post Challenge' on request.
- 10.7 It must be noted that the Assessors' decision is final and all participants are asked to respect that decision. Award sheets will be available to each Team Manager after the Awards Presentations.

11. Awards

Each year Rescue Organisation Ireland recognises the performances of the Team AND the individuals of every Team. The effort and dedication that has been put in by team members and supporters towards this Challenge over many weeks & months shows the value of just such an event as this.

Official awards will be made to the top placing teams at Monaghan Fire Station immediately following the event, in the following categories,

EXTRICATION

Best Overall Team
2nd Place Team
3rd Place Team
Best Individual IC
Best Tech Team
Best Individual Medic
Best International Team

TRAUMA

Best Overall Team
2nd Place Team
3rd Place Team
Best International Team

Note: The awards for Best Overall Team can only be won by Rescue Organisation Ireland teams as there will be a separate award for the Best International Team.

There will also be an award to the Team that were most representative as Ambassadors for the Rescue Challenge concept & ethos at this event – to be decided by the Assessors on the day.



12. Documentation

12.1 Enclosed you will find the following forms:

- 1) **TEAM REGISTRATION DOCUMENT**
- 2) **AUTHORISATION TO COMPETE**
- 3) **INSURANCE INDEMNITY**

These must be completed and returned, together with the full entrance fee, to the following address:

**Pádraig Ó Longaigh,
Rescue Organisation Ireland,
c/o Navan Fire Station,
Abbey Road,
Navan,
Co Meath,
Ireland**

Or by email to polongaigh@meathcoco.ie

12.2 The entrance fee must be received **before** your team can be accepted as a participant in the ROI National Road Traffic Collision & Trauma Challenge 2013.

The fee may be paid by cheque, sent to the address above, or by bank transfer to

Acc. Name: Rescue Organisation Ireland
Bank Details: Allied Irish Bank,
72/74 The Quay, Waterford, Ireland
Acc. Number: 10602041
Sort Code: 93-42-75
IBAN: IE17AIBK934275 10602041
Swift Code: AIBKIE2D

NOTE: Payment is due before 28th Feb, 2013



EXTRICATION TEAM REGISTRATION

Full Team Entry fee of **€350** must accompany the Team Registration before **28th Feb 2013**

Specify payment method: Date:.....

ORGANISATION REPRESENTED	
LIAISON OFFICER	
CONTACT TELEPHONE/FAX	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	
TEAM ADDRESS	
TEAM MEMBERS –	
RESERVE	
PREFERRED HYDRAULIC EQUIPMENT <u>PLEASE SPECIFY</u> (eg HOLMATRO / WEBER/ LUKAS etc)	

To be completed by the Team Manager.

**On behalf of the Rescue Team
I confirm that we have read and understand the rules governing this Challenge and
undertake to abide by the requirements set.**

Signed:

**Name:
Date:**

Position:



TRAUMA TEAM REGISTRATION

Full Team Entry fee of **€150** must accompany the Team Registration before **28th Feb 2013**

Specify payment method: Date:.....

ORGANISATION REPRESENTED	
LIAISON OFFICER	
CONTACT TELEPHONE/FAX	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	
TEAM ADDRESS	
TEAM MEMBERS –	
RESERVE	

To be completed by the Team Manager.

**On behalf of the Trauma Team
I confirm that we have read and understand the rules governing this Challenge and
undertake to abide by the requirements set.**

Signed:

Name:

Position:

Date:



AUTHORISATION TO COMPETE

I hereby confirm that the team from
is duly authorised by their Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive, to participate in the ROI National Road Traffic Collision & Trauma Challenge 2013, as representatives of their parent organisation and that for the purposes of insurance they are deemed as being on official duties whilst attending this Challenge.

Signed: Position:

Organisation: Date:

INSURANCE INDEMNITY

I hereby confirm, that for the purposes of insurance, the team from:

.....

are deemed as being on official duties whilst training/practising and attending the ROI Road Traffic Collision & Trauma Challenge 2013. This has been duly authorised by their Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive.

Signed: Position:

Organisation: Date: