

# **ELMWOOD RESCUE RIDE-A-LONG PROGRAM**

## **Guide Lines**

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## **A. PURPOSE**

1. To give prospective members an opportunity to ride along on actual rescue calls for a period of 90 days. This will help the prospective member decide if he/she desires to become a member of the Elmwood Rescue Squad.
  - a) EXCEPTION; An individual who is already an EMT- A or B with a valid Nebraska certification will ride along for 30 days.
2. To give officers and members a chance to observe a prospective member's manner and attitude during rescue calls. This will help officers and members decide if the Elmwood Rescue Squad will invest in membership and training of the Ride-A-Long candidate

## **B. APPLICANTS FOR THE RIDE-A-LONG PROGRAM**

1. Any person wishing to become a member of the Elmwood Rescue Squad must first participate in the Ride-A-Long program.

## **C. HOW TO ENTER THE RIDE-A-LONG PROGRAM**

1. Any person interested in participating in the Elmwood Rescue Squad Ride-A-Long program must first fill out an application form which may be obtained from any current member of the squad.
2. Application must be filled out, turned in, and signed by one sponsoring current member of the squad.
3. If said applicant is accepted by the squad, he/she will fill out the necessary insurance forms supplied by the squad secretary. The squad secretary will submit the forms, and inform the Ride-A-long when he/she is cleared to ride the squad.
4. The Ride-A-long will be issued a pager, and a copy of the By-Laws. The rules and regulations of the program will be explained by the Training officer.

## **D. RIDE-A-LONG RULES**

1. Ride-A-Long personnel are NOT members of the Rescue Squad.
2. A Ride-A-Long may only go as an observer and as crew capacity dictates. The Ride-A-Long cannot drive, cannot participate in hands-on patient care, cannot fill out NARSIS forms or use the radio, UNLESS, he/she is instructed to do so by the person or persons in charge of the call and or patient. Violation of any of these rules will be just cause for immediate dismissal from the program. Such action will be carried out by a majority vote of squad membership. The individual who stands in violation will have no possibility for entering into Squad membership.
3. A Ride-A-long may help carry jump kits, oxygen kits, the cot, and other squad equipment as directed by squad member on that call.

4. Squad calls are private and privileged information that is not to be discussed with outsiders. The patients name and problems are not to be revealed to the public.
5. Ride-A-Longs will not respond to a rescue call under the influence of alcoholic drink or any controlled substance.[Influence is defined as any alcoholic drink or controlled substances of any kind or amount].
6. Ride-A-Longs should conduct themselves in a professional and responsible manner, using common sense as any situation warrants.
7. The Ride-A-Longs will follow all instructions by the EMT and person in charge on the rescue call.
8. At the end of the rescue call, the Ride-A-long will help in the cleanup and restocking of supplies on the squad.
9. The Ride-A-Long is required to attend the monthly business meetings and training sessions as part of the orientation process, but will not be able to vote on any issues.

## ***E. COMPLETION OF THE RIDE-A-LONG PROGRAM***

1. After 90 days and a minimum of 4 rescue calls {30 days and a minimum of 2 rescue calls for the already documented Nebraska EMT}, the Ride-A-Long's application will be submitted to the membership for a 2/3rd majority vote of the membership in attendance at the next regular monthly meeting as to whether or not to accept the applicant into membership.
2. If the Ride-A-Long is accepted into membership he/she will be eligible to begin training in squad procedure as an EMT.

## ***F. PROBATION***

1. All new members must serve a probationary period of six months and complete a United States Department of Transportation Emergency Medical Technician Basic course and an American Heart Association course of Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers. This training must commence as soon as possible after the Ride-A-Long program and after approval of application. At the end of the six month probationary period and completion of required training, the member shall be confirmed for full membership by a majority vote at the first regular business meeting.
2. When a new member begins his/her EMT training said person will pay from his/her own purse the tuition, books, and any other expenditures associated with the E.M.T- B class, at that time per receipts said person will receive ½ reimbursement, upon completion of class which includes passing the National Registry Exam said person will receive ¼ reimbursement, and after a period of 6 months of being on the squad and answering calls said person shall receive the remainder ¼ of the tuition. If said person does not complete the E.M.T. B. course or does not pass the National Registry Exam, resigns or moves from the responding area said person shall reimburse the full amount within 30 calendar days to the Elmwood Rural Fire District.

Revised and accepted July 2001