



International Rafting Federation

GT&E Meeting – 23rd May 2009, Banja Luka, BiH

Introductions and Role call:

Gaspar Goncz (Hungary)	Peter Micheler (Germany)
Sue Liell-Cock (South Africa)	Robert Kazik (Czech)
Graeme Maifredi (Australia)	Silvio Gurrieri (Argentina)
Fabian Alejandro Bonanno (Argentina)	Pieter Bekkers (NL)
Dirk Ladiges (NL)	Joe Willie Jones (Chile)
Nick Chatter (NZ)	Kianoosh Mehrabi (Iran – non-member)

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

1. Quality and Value of IRF certification:

a. Report, statistics:

Gaspar ran through the GT&E certification statistics put together by Raewyn which were very informative. Discussed the value of the GT&E Scheme and what the aims of it are:- make it an acceptable certification all over the world. NZ / Japan/ Swiss are already doing this – can be done on a world level if we focus on what needs to be done. Need governments on board. Peter mentioned Euro Union being an option for support – he will investigate this.

b. tasks:

i. activate instructors, form an active GT&E Committee:

Clear we need to remove non-active Instructors so that have core group of active instructors. Some Instructors are active but not reporting in to us. Need to get them working with system so that can make scheme stronger and more internationally visible.

ii. develop documentation and standards:

Need documentation and standards so that we can present it to governments when needed. NZ has already done this in great detail. Need to combine theirs with others so that its suitable internationally. Need someone to do this. Discuss with Raewyn.

2. Modifications on the AS

a. miniraft and safety kayak certificates:

Decided in-line raft is best description. Was unanimously accepted to add “in-line raft” and “safety craft” certifications to the scheme.

b. class 4 certifications (Alan Carette, IRF Instructor, AUS):

After thorough discussions it was voted to turn this down. Unanimous except for Freddie who abstained.

c. reduce minimum commercial experience requirement (Swiss Rafting Federation-SRF):

Unanimously turned down. However, wording will be altered to “required whitewater craft experience”.

3. Review Instructor workshop formats (SRF, Zeljko Kelemen)

a. Trip leader workshop – as a collective team work (SRF):

Unanimous vote: no changes required of certification workshop format
confusions around what a certification workshop means were cleared.

4. Review administration system and fees (Robert Kazik, Zeljko Kelemen and SRF's request)

a. introduction of the online system developed by Joao Martins

Gaspar introduced the system and encouraged everyone to go and have a look at it at guide.intraffed.com

b. administration on national federations' level following IRF guidelines:

Some federations are big enough and doing regular enough certifications to be handling their own administration for the GT&E certifications. Only federations who are communicating efficiently with GT&E Admin and following the guidelines set out by the GT&E admin will be given this status.

c. fees for national federations, instructors, etc:

National Federations as described above will be allowed to pay an annual fee of - \$300 / year as they are handling nearly all of their own administration.

Producing their own cards using templates provided by IRF, or can order cards 15USD each.

Instructors fee - \$100 fee paid once at the assessment. If they become non-active (which can happen if they do not send in their lists of guides and trip leaders they are assessing) they will have to be reassessed and pay the fee again.

Guide - \$30 at time of assessment

Trip Leader - \$50 at time of assessment

Renewals for Guide and Trip Leaders - \$15 every 2 years

Cards – only issued if requested and at cost of \$15.

Certificates can be emailed in pdf format for those being assessed. Must clearly have on it when did course, when expires, that only valid if also accompanied by recent 1st Aid certificate.

5. instructor discussion:

a. miniraft and safety kayak certificates:

was left for another time

b. logo use agreement:

GT&E Instructors can ONLY use the IRF logo or name if they have sent the details of their course to GT&E Admin well prior to the course being run. This includes private courses being run for companies. Admin needs this knowledge so that we can track how courses are being run for our own statistics and knowledge. Instructors who have their own Instructor businesses can have a link from the Instructors website.

Companies can ONLY use the IRF logo and name if ALL their guides are IRF certified and if they have signed the Logo Agreement available from IRF admin. They can then get their company's logo with link placed on the IRF website.

c. River signals

Be discussed at workshop

6. Badges

Can be made, just with IRF logo and Guide on it. Peter, Sylvio and others will investigate costs.

Meeting closed.