

Extrication



**UNITED
KINGDOM
RESCUE
ORGANISATION**
Advancing
professional
rescue

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Road Traffic Collisions (RTC) are still the biggest killer of people in the United Kingdom (UK). The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 now places a duty on Fire and Rescue Services (FRS) not only to train and respond to such incidents, but also to obtain information to support response and work in partnership with others to reduce death on our roads.
- 1.2 The aim of the UKRO Extrication Challenge is to bring together teams of FRS personnel who are committed, not only to displaying their ability, but also to expanding their practical skills by learning from and teaching others involved in the same field.
- 1.3 The UKRO Extrication Challenge is open to all UK emergency FRSs.
- 1.4 Teams from FRSs throughout the UK are brought together to a single venue where their skills are put to the test by tackling different RTC scenarios, over a period of two days.
- 1.5 The skills that the teams have developed in training for the UKRO Extrication Challenge and acquire during the two days will return with them, to their individual FRSs. This experience, knowledge and skill will be used to great effect when the team members deliver their next training sessions and/or attend their next RTC involving 'Persons Trapped'; there is no doubt, that a given casualty(s) will receive a far better service from firefighters who have taken part in the UKRO Extrication Challenge.
- 1.6 The emphasis of the UKRO Extrication Challenge is on developing and promoting 'Best Safe Practice'; the ethos is not merely to win. The UKRO Extrication Challenge is designed to improve the knowledge, skills and understanding of UK FRSs enabling them to deliver an improved, professional service to the communities they serve.
- 1.7 The UKRO Extrication Challenge may appear to be all about the competition, this couldn't be further from the truth. The UKRO Extrication Challenge is a learning platform, testing skills through strict assessment where participants are encouraged to make hard and critical examination of their own rescue practices and techniques. Successful teams will need to study current extrication philosophy and search for new and innovative ideas.
- 1.8 Although one team will be adjudged the 'Best Team' overall, in truth the real winners of the UKRO Extrication Challenge will be the future casualties of RTCs throughout the UK.

2 The Objectives

- 2.1** The UKRO Extrication Challenge will provide an arena for FRS personnel from across the UK to come together, in order to stimulate and develop proficiency levels in all areas of RTC rescue, including:
- Incident Command,
 - Team Approach,
 - Safety,
 - Physical and Medical Extrication,
 - Pre-Hospital Medical Care, and
 - Expert Use of RTC Rescue Equipment.
- 2.2** The UKRO Extrication Challenge will identify 'Best Safe Practice' through the assessment of the knowledge, skills and understanding demonstrated by participating teams and subsequently enable those 'Best Safe Practices' to be transferred back into the participating teams FRSs.

3 The Benchmarks

- 3.1** The UKRO believes that the Extrication Challenge is a learning environment and that the teams taking part are subsequently better able to achieve the following RTC related benchmarks:
- Adopt a 'Casualty Focused, Safety First' approach which will be underpinned by dynamic incident command,
 - Possess high and very proficient levels of pre-hospital medical care attained through a casualty centred approach,
 - Able to demonstrate their broader knowledge across the spectrum of extrication principles, techniques and scene safety,
 - Able to demonstrate ingenuity and innovation in terms of technical/practical skill, through deployment of suitable and sufficient resources,
 - A thorough understanding of the 'Safe Person Concept', and
 - The dissemination of an agreed 'Best Safe Practice'.

4 The Challenge

- 4.1** The UKRO Extrication Challenge will be run in two sections over two days. All teams and team members will take part in the first section and are designated a 'Run Off' time.
- 4.2** Each team will be assessed, using common criteria, by a minimum team of four UKRO Assessors who will score the following areas:
- Incident Command and Control (Command),
 - Physical Rescue and General Extrication Techniques (Technical), and
 - Pre-Hospital Medical Care and Casualty Extrication (Medical – Interior and Exterior Assessors).
- 4.3** The first UKRO Extrication Challenge section/day consists of one 30-minute scenarios, which may involve a number of vehicles in differing positions, e.g. on the side, on the roof, etc. and more than one casualty.
- The live casualty or casualties (also known as Interior Assessor's) will be included in each scenario and there will also other vehicles or 'Props', in the vicinity, to ensure that the scenario is realistic, some of the casualties may have time critical injuries or medical conditions, these may include a simulated absolute entrapment, physically by a part of the vehicle(s).
- The presence of Large Goods Vehicles (LGV) within the scenario will require stabilisation techniques to be demonstrated, and consideration of lifting plans.
- 4.4** Teams are allocated thirty minutes to complete as much of the scenario as is safely possible for them to do so. The 30-minute scenario requires all (six) team members to participate.
- 4.5** On the second day of the UKRO Extrication Challenge, all teams will take part in a 20-minute scenario. As with the thirty minute scenario on day one it may involve a number of vehicles in differing positions e.g. on the side, on the roof, etc and more than one casualty.
- The live casualty or casualties (also known as Interior Assessor's) will be included in each scenario and there will also other vehicles or 'Props', in the vicinity, to ensure that the scenario is realistic, some of the casualties may have time critical injuries or medical conditions, these may include a simulated absolute entrapment, physically by a part of the vehicle(s).
- The presence of Large Goods Vehicles (LGV) within the scenario will require stabilisation techniques to be demonstrated.
- 4.6** Teams are allocated twenty minutes to complete as much of the scenario as is safely possible for them to do so. The 20-minute scenario requires all (six) team members to participate.
- 4.7** Teams are expected to create space in order to extricate the casualty; techniques that are considered to demonstrate 'removing the casualty from the vehicle', 'rather than the vehicle from the casualty', unless dictated by the casualty's injuries, will be assessed accordingly.

- 4.8** In the event that a team successfully extricates a casualty from the vehicle(s) and suitably stabilises and packs the casualty on a longboard, there will be an opportunity to provide a one minute handover to the Medical Assessor. On completion of this handover the casualty is deemed to be in the hands of a medical professional. In any event, on the completion of scenario the team medic will be required to answer any questions the UKRO Medical Assessor may have to clarify any medical related points.

Further confirmation of the above will be provided at the 'Team Leader's Briefing', including what information will be available as 'Medical Injects'.

Note: Simply asking or not demonstrating an accurate assessment of Respiratory Rate, Pulse Rate, etc. will result in the Interior Assessor remaining in character and not providing the 'Medical Inject' information.

- 4.9** Each team will be given a 'Hot' debrief immediately following their 'Run Off', by the UKRO Assessing Team.

- 4.10** A 'Feedback Document' regarding each team's performance at the UKRO Extrication Challenge is normally made available at the Closing Ceremony.

- 4.11** During the scenarios UKRO Assessors will be vigilant in respect of their positioning within the 'Pit' Area, affording the appropriate space for teams to operate. It is, however, recognised that UKRO Assessors will have to be in close proximity to some operations in order to oversee the actions, techniques, etc. and reflect an accurate assessment.

Due to communication requirements with the Interior Assessor(s) (The Live Casualty(s)), it should be anticipated that the Medical Assessor(s) may be in close proximity at all times.

- 4.12** All Team Captains will be expected to attend an assessor 30 minute debrief at the end of the first day, where general feedback from the UKRO assessing team will be given.

5 The Rules

- 5.1** No team/team member will participate in the UKRO Extrication Challenge without the appropriate 'Authorisation to Compete' from a senior manager of their FRS, preferably the Chief Fire and Rescue Officer, Chief Executive Officer or their Deputy.

- 5.2** All teams/team members must attend and take part in the mandatory UKRO Educational Workshops, as per the UKRO Extrication Challenge timetable. The challenge is the opportunity for twelve teams to pre-book their Education Workshop on the afternoon of the Thursday before the challenge (Pre-event Extrication Workshops). Teams will be selected on a first come, first served basis. Teams accepted will also be provided with a pre-determined

early Extrication Challenge 'Run Off Time'.

To pre-book the Education Workshops, indicate accordingly on the Team Registration Form.

Note: Failure to attend the UKRO Educational Workshops may result in a team not being allowed to compete.

5.3 Each team will consist of a crew of six (this includes a nominated 'Team Leader' and 'Medic').

Note: All team members must be employed by the rescue team they are representing.

5.4 Only Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) which is approved by the team's FRS is permitted to be worn by team members, including the 'Medic'.

In addition to approved coveralls, etc. all team members must wear head, eye, hand and foot protection at all times, 'Full Face' protection must be worn when appropriate

5.5 The Pre-Hospital Medical Care of the casualty will be evaluated using the CACBD and E protocols, with safety being of prime importance.

C = Catastrophic Haemorrhage.

A = Airway Management.

c = Cervical Spine.

B = Breathing and Resuscitation.

C = Circulation.

D = Disability.

E = Examine and Expose.

5.6 As mentioned previously, each scenario will have a minimum of four UKRO Assessors allocated to it (The UKRO Assessing Team). Each UKRO Assessing Team works under the direction of the Head Assessor/Extrication Lead and Deputy Lead. All UKRO Assessor written information/feedback will remain the property of the UKRO and shall remain confidential.

5.7 A Head Assessor/Extrication Lead will be appointed to coordinate the UKRO Assessors and resolve any disputes.

Where a team leader of any team has a grievance or dispute regarding the content of their 'Hot' debrief, they must report it, in writing, to the Head Assessor/Extrication Lead within one hour of completing the given scenario.

5.8 It must be noted that the UKRO Head Assessors decision is final and all teams/team members are asked to respect that decision.

5.9 A nominated individual/UKRO Assessor will be appointed as a Safety Officer (SO) who will supervise each scenario with authority to halt any action deemed to be in breach of safe working practices. Such a breach may incur time penalties, however this is at the discretion of the UKRO Command Assessor and ratified by the Head Assessor/Extrication Lead and/or

Deputy Lead.

- 5.10** Teams may use radio communications equipment, in the form of either hand-held radios and/or helmet attachments, as long as they do not interfere with the UKRO and/or 'UKRO Challenge Hosts' communication equipment. Approval for the use of such radio communications equipment must be sought from the UKRO Logistics Lead during Isolation/ Equipment Preparation.

It will be the team leader's responsibility to supply the UKRO Command Assessor with the team's radio communications equipment, on the same frequency, etc. at the start of any given scenario.

- 5.11** The UKRO and 'UKRO Challenge Host' will supply a comprehensive selection of RTC equipment (Refer to the Tools and Equipment Section of this document (Section 7)).

Equipment provided for heavy rescue, not forming part of the standard stowage on each of the appliances, will be available in the 'Pit' Areas, where required.

- 5.12** Teams will have to provide all of their own PPE, including consumable items, i.e. dust masks, disposable gloves, etc.

- 5.13** It is mandatory that all team leaders' or their designated deputies attend the 'Team Leader's Briefing'.

Teams will not be allowed to 'exchange' any of the RTC equipment on the Tools and Equipment list, in Section 7 (Currently under review).

Tool belts may be provided and worn by teams, but all items of equipment must be safely stowed and the tool belts approved by the teams own FRS and the Extrication Lead (Further details on how to seek this approval is published on the UKRO Website).

Additional medical items of equipment may be stored in the Trauma Bags provided, but must be approved by the teams own FRS and the Extrication Lead.

Note: Any team who is found not to conform to these rules may be disqualified from the UKRO Extrication Challenge.

- 5.14** Teams may 'loan' approved equipment to other teams, for use as part of their 'Team Equipment', but must ensure that the recipients are fully familiarised with the equipment, specifically any safety features.

- 5.15** All teams/team members are requested to respect the RTC equipment supplied by the UKRO, 'UKRO Challenge Host' FRS and/or other teams ('loaned' equipment).

- 5.16** Teams will present themselves to the Team Registration Area, at least sixty (60) minutes prior to their designated 'Run Off' time or when directed by the UKRO Extrication Challenge

timetable.

Note: Failure to attend the Team Registration Area by the expected time may result in a team not being allowed to compete.

5.17 The UKRO and 'UKRO Challenge Host' FRS will not be responsible for any damage or loss of any equipment as a result of participating in this event.

5.18 Insurance, etc. for the protection of team members shall be the sole responsibility of the team/team members FRS. No team will participate in the UKRO Extrication Challenge without the appropriate 'Insurance Indemnity'.

The 'UKRO Challenge Host' FRS will supply Third Party Liability Insurance.

5.19 Each team is responsible for the provision of language interpretation where English is not the predominant language anticipated to be used during the event. In the event of such a provision, the Head Assessor/Extrication Lead or Deputy Lead must be consulted with in advance of the event and any given scenario.

6 Code of Conduct

6.1 All teams/team members are reminded that they are not only representatives of their own FRSs, but also the Fire and Rescue profession as a whole, therefore, all teams/team members are requested to conduct themselves accordingly.

6.2 Both the Opening and Closing Ceremonies are formal functions and teams/team members are expected to present themselves in their FRS's 'Shirt Sleeve Order'. Caps are not to be worn.

6.3 Teams/Team Members are expected to be smartly dressed whilst at the UKRO Extrication Challenge venue, it is preferred that 'Working Rig/Workwear' be worn to tour the site, however this can be relaxed to casual wear, so long as it is smart and approved by the team manager.

6.4 Full PPE will be worn in the 'Pit' and 'Service' Areas, i.e. Equipment Preparation, this may be relaxed during 'Make-Up' at the discretion of the UKRO Command Assessor, Safety Officer and/or Logistics Lead.

6.5 While it is accepted that a variety of evening events perform an important part of the socialising aspect of the UKRO Extrication Challenge, participants are again reminded to conduct themselves in a manner befitting their FRS/Fire and Rescue profession and have due regard to non-FRS persons who may share the same facilities, etc.

Note: Team members whose general health gives cause for concern, i.e. as a result of individuals being under the influence of alcohol or any other substance, during the UKRO Extrication Challenge and/or the Educational Workshops, will result in a team/team member not being allowed to compete.

- 6.6 As required by common good manners, teams/team members are kindly requested to use appropriate language at all times, especially, whilst in public and while in FRS uniform.
- 6.7 All UKRO Assessors and Officials are experienced RTC related rescue professionals and will deliver a fair and unbiased Extrication Challenge. An appropriate degree of reciprocated professional respect is expected from all teams/team members.
- 6.8 Fair play and good sportsmanship is respected and valued. It is expected from all teams/team members during their own scenarios and as spectators to other team's scenarios.
- 6.9 Teams/Team Members are not to canvass any UKRO Assessor(s) or Official(s).
- 6.10 Team Leaders/Managers will be held accountable for their respective teams/team members.

7 Tools and Equipment

- 7.1 The 2017 National Challenge will see the following rule for the use of 'Team Equipment'. No longer will teams be allowed to utilise any equipment during their scenarios that is not on the standard inventory unless authorised under the innovation criteria.
- 7.2 Innovation - "The act or process of inventing or introducing something new".

Teams wishing to use 'Team Equipment' may only do so if the item of equipment is deemed as an innovation by the Extrication Lead, while supporting 'Best Safe Practice' and is approved by the applying teams FRS. This will not include any item of equipment that is currently a standard inventory item within the UKRO National Challenge, including medical equipment and hand tools.
- 7.3 To register the use of an item of equipment during the UKRO National Challenge under the innovation criteria, an email should be submitted to Paul maynard (Extrication Lead), using e-mail address pmaynard@ukro.org. Information provided should include evidence as stipulated in Sub-Section 7.4 supported by a brief description of how the item will support 'Best Safe Practice'.

For an innovation to be considered at the UKRO National Challenge the following procedure must be adopted.

- All mechanical, hydraulic, electrical tools or items of equipment that will be required to be stored on an appliance must be registered and approved by the Extrication Lead, at least one month before the UKRO National Challenge. In this case items of equipment will only be approved for use during the UKRO National Challenge if a supplier is identified to provide sufficient numbers to complement each of the appliances and a further item for competitor training (A minimum of five items in total).
- All hand tools or medical equipment must be registered and approved at least two weeks before the UKRO National Challenge. There will be a requirement for the applying team to present any hand tools or medical equipment to a member of the Extrication Lead at the 'Team Leader's Briefing'.

Note: The UKRO reserve the right to prevent the use of any item of equipment not listed on the standard inventory. If a team, at a later time is found to have used an item of equipment during their UKRO National Challenge scenario that is not listed on the standard inventory or approved by the Extrication Lead, they may be disqualified as per Sub-Section 5.13.

7.4 To maintain acceptable levels of safety and ensure that entries are classed as an innovation, due-diligence must have been completed by the applying team. To validate the suitability of the item of equipment the following criteria must be met:

- Any application must be endorsed in writing by the applying teams FRS.
- Any item of equipment which involves mechanical, hydraulic or electrical parts must conform to relevant legislative requirements and have a valid CE mark.
- No item can replace equipment listed in Section 7 (Currently under review), for example, using a 24v battery instead of an 18v battery or a different supplier's equipment which performs the same purpose.
- A suitable Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) assessment must be provided.
- Manufacturers technical specification must be provided.

7.5 The standard stowage of equipment for the National Extrication appliances can be viewed on the UKRO website, -<http://www.ukro.org/Challenges/Challenge-Guidance/Extrication-Challenge-Information/Tools-List-Extrication>

8 Health and Safety

- 8.1** A Risk Assessment (RA) will be conducted prior to each scenario by an appropriately qualified SO to ensure the safety of teams/team members, spectators and UKRO Assessors. Dynamic Risk Assessment (DRA) will occur throughout the scenario, not only by the team involved but also by the UKRO Assessors.
- 8.2** Any unsafe or potentially unsafe practice will be stopped immediately and corrected (see Rule 5.9).
- 8.3** All activities within the UKRO Extrication Challenge venue fall under the control of the 'UKRO Challenge Host' working in unison with the UKRO. All activities within working 'Pit' Areas of all the elements of the UKRO Extrication Challenge, including the setting-up and dismantling after are the responsibility of UKRO. To ensure the safety and well-being of all persons involved in these activities, a full programme of RAs have been implemented. All such RAs are updated prior to and following each UKRO Extrication Challenge.
- 8.4** No scenario will be allowed to commence without confirmation of the following:
- All team members are properly attired in approved PPE,
 - An appropriately qualified SO has declared the scenario complete and safe, and
 - Under no circumstances, that the scenario needs to be moved or changed, after the above declaration has been made.
- 8.5** Any UKRO Assessor, SO or other UKRO Official, who observes a potential or existing danger, will immediately halt the scenario. A whistle blast by any Exterior Assessor and/or the words '**For Real**' by any Interior Assessor (The Live Casualty(s)) will be the recognised signal for an imminent breach of safety. The scenario will not be re-started until the UKRO Command Assessor is satisfied there is no further breach of safety.
- 8.6** If, during a scenario, a team member is injured or is unable to continue, then the existing participating team members may, if they are able and subject to the decision of the UKRO Command Assessor, continue to the conclusion of the scenario. The decision of the UKRO Command Assessor will be based on the grounds of safety and maintaining the continuity of the event.
- 8.7** If, during a scenario, a team member is injured or is unable to continue, then the existing participating team members may, if they are able and subject to the decision of the UKRO Command Assessor, may continue to the conclusion of the scenario. The decision of the UKRO Command Assessor will be based on the grounds of safety and maintaining the continuity of the event.
- 8.8** All team members must wear their eye protection throughout the duration of any given scenario.

Team members in direct proximity to any vehicle cutting, spreading and/or relocation activities, utilising rescue tools, i.e. hydraulic rescue equipment, must wear their eye protection and utilise 'Full-Face' Helmet Visors during the equipment's use.

- 8.9** The live casualty must be appropriately protected at all times. If any item of the live casualty's PPE is removed by a team member, it must be replaced before full rescue activities can continue. Failure to do so may result in a loss of points or possible disqualification.
- 8.10** Testing of pneumatic chisels/tools will only be permitted on wooden blocks and with the 'head' facing away from any person.
- 8.11** Vehicle tyres can only be deflated by valve or valve stem removal. The slashing or puncturing of tyres is strictly prohibited.

9 Assessing and Scoring

- 9.1** Each team will be assessed, using common criteria, by a minimum team of four UKRO Assessors who will score the following areas:
- Incident Command and Control (Command),
 - Physical Rescue and General Extrication Techniques (Technical), and
 - Pre-Hospital Medical Care and Casualty Extrication (Medical – Interior and Exterior Assessors).
- 9.2** Copies of the UKRO Extrication Challenge Scoresheets and Guidelines, as utilised by the UKRO Assessors, are available on the UKRO website.
- 9.3** Points awarded per Assessing Discipline Sub-Section will be totalled and each Sub-Section added together to give an overall score for that particular Assessing Discipline.
- Each Assessing Discipline score, for each scenario type ('Standard' or 'Complex') will result in a ranking, i.e. the highest score within Command, will be ranked first, equating to 1 point.
- 9.4** A team's overall scenario type and/or UKRO Extrication Challenge score will be the combined ranking points, i.e. where a team finishes first in Command (1 point), eighth in Technical (8 points) and fifth in Medical (5 points), their total team score for that scenario is 14 points. Should the same team score 12 points within the next scenario, their UKRO Extrication Challenge score will be 26 points.
- 9.5** The 'Best Team' will be decided by the lowest combined ranking points across all categories.
- 9.6** In the event of two teams being tied in any scenario and/or UKRO Extrication Challenge, etc. a 'Count Back' process will be undertaken to establish the final overall ranking. The 'Count Back' process will be conducted as follows:

- The total scores for the all Assessing Disciplines and scenarios will be added together, the highest total score will be declared the winner,
- Where the above result is tied, the Command Assessing Discipline, with the highest ranking Incident Commander (IC) will dictate the winner, due to the IC's overall responsibility for the Health and Safety of the casualty(s) and emergency service responders, at any given incident,
- Should the above still result in a tie, the Medical Assessing Discipline will be compared, and so on, and
- If every criterion above is tied the scenario and/or UKRO Extrication Challenge will be declared a 'dead heat' and both teams will be awarded the same recognition.

10 Awards

At each UKRO National Challenge, recognition is given for the performances of the team and team's members in the form of awards. The effort and dedication that has been undertaken by participants for this challenge, over many months, culminates in a formal award ceremony at a prestigious venue, where the following achievements are acknowledged.

Best Team

2nd Best Team

3rd Best Team

Best Incident Commander

2nd Best Incident Commander

3rd Best Incident Commander

Best Medic

2nd Best Medic

3rd Best Medic

Best Technical Team

2nd Best Technical Team

3rd Best Technical Team

Awards will also be presented at the Closing Ceremony for teams/team members competing in the other UKRO National Challenge Rescue Disciplines.

11 Documentation

11.1 Please refer to the UKRO web site for the following forms:

- Team Registration Form
- Authorisation To Compete and Insurance Indemnity

Registration will open on 1st July 2021 and close on 31 July 2021.

In order to register please complete and submit by e-mail the 2 following documents:

1. Team Registration Form

This is a new multi-team entry form and so each Service needs to co-ordinate its entries and submit them on a single form. In the event that additional entries are required after submission then the original should simply be updated and resubmitted.

[PRESS HERE FOR THE TEAM REGISTRATION FORM](#)

2. Authorisation to Compete and Indemnity Insurance Certificate

This should be signed by a Principal Officer (or other officer authorised by your CFO).

In submitting the documents you are agreeing to the terms and conditions set out below.

There are 2 methods of payment:

1. By BACS
2. By Cheque (made payable to "UKRO").

Please ensure you provide a Purchase Order Number on the Team Registration Form so we can raise an invoice.

Teams should visit the UKRO website for specific information regarding accommodation.

[PRESS HERE FOR THE AUTHORISATION TO COMPETE CERTIFICATE](#)

Terms and Conditions of Registration

1. If for any reason a team is not accepted as a valid entrant to the competition all entry fees will be refunded in full.
2. All entry fees, once teams have been entered, are non-refundable unless the event is cancelled by UKRO.
3. In the event of cancellation the liability of UKRO shall not extend beyond the value of the entry fees paid.
4. Invoices must be paid with 14 days of being sent by UKRO by e mail