

NORTH AMERICAN VEHICLE RESCUE ASSOCIATION



Extrication Challenge Rules

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Extrication Challenge Rules

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“Prepare today.....Succeed tomorrow”

1. Foreword

The NAVRA Rescue Challenge is an event managed by a Host Organization on behalf of and under the auspices of the North American Vehicle Rescue Association, Inc. (NAVRA). These guidelines take precedence over local or organizational arrangements though it is recognized that some local adaptation may be required.

These guidelines are such that an event can take place with as much formality as possible across the various organizations involved with NAVRA. Even though local arrangements will be such that the disciplines contained within this document may require minor amendments, this can only be achieved with consent of the NAVRA Executive Committee (EC).

2. Definitions

The term “organizers” hereinafter refers to NAVRA as the official organizers of the NAVRA Rescue Challenges. The term “Host” hereinafter refers to the agency or organizations hosting any particular challenge.

3. Introduction

Firefighters and Rescue workers are increasingly being asked to deal with more challenging casualty related situations than ever before. Their skills in dealing with casualties at incidents (motor vehicle accidents) are constantly being challenged.

The objective of the North American Vehicle Rescue Association (NAVRA) Extrication Challenge is to assist in the development of trauma related skills of firefighters and rescue workers to enable them to deal successfully with the vast range of casualty-centered incidents and to bring together teams of emergency rescue personnel to a single venue where they can be challenged to demonstrate their skills in realistic rescue scenarios in a quality-controlled training and learning environment.

Participating teams will be assessed on their “lifesaving” capabilities, technical and command skills at up to three (3) different motor vehicle accident-based scenarios.

The NAVRA Extrication Challenge will focus on developing and promoting life support, technical rescue and incident command skills of rescue personnel.

Emergency service teams from around North America, together with visiting teams from other International Rescue organizations, will gather at a single venue for this three-, or four-day event.

The Challenge will consist of:

- **An EDUCATIONAL DAY – Certified instructor classes and vendor demonstrations will be carried out for teams and individuals. It is the intent that each participant will receive the set Continuing Educational Unit (CEUs) or Train-the-Trainer credits for attending each class and having signed documentation confirming attendance.**
- **The EXTRICATION CHALLENGE - All participating teams will use their professional skills and abilities in the extrication of a trapped casualty, or casualties, from a severely damaged vehicle or vehicles.**

What the participating emergency service personnel observe and learn during this challenge will go back with them to their own services where some person may directly benefit from this new-found knowledge. Thus, knowledge and practices learned can cascade across the services.

The emphasis in the **Extrication Challenge** is on developing and promoting **Best Safe Practice** and **Safe Systems of Work**. The real challenge is not primarily to win, but to safely and effectively use what is learned at these events in real vehicle accident incidents that we attend.

Even though the '**Challenge**' is presented as a competition, it is far more than that. It is a learning platform, matching talents and skills through structured assessment, encouraging participants to make hard and critical examination of themselves and their own rescue practices, their techniques and their knowledge of the tools they have available to them.

It should always be a rescue practitioner's aim to study the current philosophies of approach to whatever the incident, search out new developments and innovate with new ideas.

Although one team will be adjudged the best team overall in each event, and the performance of team members and individuals will be recognised, in truth, the real winners will be the future victims of motor vehicle accident incidents.

4. The Mission

To provide a platform to help emergency rescue personnel come together to stimulate and develop high levels in the areas of vehicle extrication, through the established systems of Incident Control, Safety, Extrication, Pre-Hospital Emergency Care, and proficient use of equipment.

5. Criteria for Participation

Participants must be competent within the field of road rescue/motor vehicle accident extrication and currently be members of an emergency service or formal emergency response team who provide road rescue/motor vehicle accident extrication services within the community.

Teams require written authorisation from their Fire Chief, Chief Executive Officer or Head of their Department, Service or Organizations and must be members of NAVRA.

Teams will secure a place in the NAVRA Rescue Challenges subject to the consideration of the NAVRA EC.

The NAVRA EC will base the decision for participation upon key criteria which may include, but not be limited to:

- Teams being members of NAVRA.
- Where entry fees are submitted with application forms on a 'first come' basis.
- The maximum number of teams the event can support.
- A balance between participating Regions.
- The introduction of new Teams or Organisations.

The decision of NAVRA will be final although every effort will be made to accommodate as many Teams as possible.

Teams which are declared as winners of the NAVRA National Rescue Challenge (NRC) will attract priority in securing a place at the annual World Rescue Challenge (WRC).

6. Code of Conduct

It is incumbent upon each individual involved in the management or participation within NAVRA to apply the principles of fairness and dignity to all people at all times.

NAVRA will not condone inappropriate behavior nor discrimination and will act swiftly to prevent it.

Each individual is accountable for their actions.

All participants are reminded that they are not only representatives of their own Department, Service or Organization but also that they represent the Emergency/Rescue Services as a whole and are to conduct themselves accordingly.

All assessors, officials and NAVRA members are professional / experienced rescuers or managers of rescue organizations and seek to deliver a fair and unbiased event. An appropriate degree of reciprocated professional respect is expected from all participants.

Fair play and good sportsmanship is expected of all participants and their teams during their evolutions and as spectators.

All participants are requested to respect the equipment of other teams, the equipment provided by the event management and the facilities provided at the Challenge Venue and accommodation.

Participants whose general health may give cause for concern, who may be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance during the Challenge or any associated workshops, lectures etc. will be expelled and barred from further entry.

During the event, participants are not to canvass any assessor, official or NAVRA members.

Assessors, officials, pit crews and NAVRA Members will declare any interest in a particular team to the NAVRA Head Assessor.

Both, the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, are formal functions and appropriate uniforms or corporate wear is to be worn. Dress may be relaxed at the discretion of the organizers and due notice will be given.

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 smart and approved by the team manager.

It is accepted that the evening's events perform an important part of the socializing aspect of the Challenge. Participants are again reminded to behave in a manner befitting their Service/Organization and have due regard to non-service persons who may share the same facilities.

7. Team Membership

Each team will consist of six (6) members, one of whom must be designated Team Leader and at least one as medic/first aider. A team member can only participate in the event upon the approval of a principal manager from the organisation they are representing.

Teams are allowed up to two (2) alternates.

Teams may switch a team member for an alternate, but this must be done before teams present themselves to the "Check In" area prior to their run-off time, and upon approval of the Head Assessor. All personnel will be allowed to participate in all classes.

At the discretion of the NAVRA Head Assessor, a team may substitute a team member in the case of an illness or injury.

Teams may use radio communications as long as they do not interfere with the host's radio frequencies and comply with local spectrum management agencies. It will be the Team Leader's responsibility to supply an assessor with an additional radio in order that communications can be monitored.

If, for any reason, any teams are placed in the position where they are short of a competing member, a request may be submitted to the Head Assessor and/or NAVRA Liaison Officer requesting a substitute from another team, but the substitute cannot fill the role of Command or Lead Medic.

For International Team participation, the International Team is responsible for the provision of language interpretation where English is not the predominant language used during the event.

The team will need to discuss the issues and methods of achieving this with the NAVRA Head Assessor who will ensure that any interpretation is accurate and reflects the performance of the team.

8. Injury

If, during the Challenge, an accident or injury occurs to a team member, casualty, spectator, or any other person, that affects the running of the scenario, the injury will be advised to the organisers and hosts as an authentic occurrence.

The NAVRA Head Assessor, Scenario Assessors or Safety Officer, will immediately instigate competent medical attention to the situation via the local provider or crew on standby at the site.

If, during a scenario, a team member is injured and has to withdraw, the team, if able, may continue until they complete the scenario or 'Time' is called.

In addition, in the case of the medical competency, it is expected that team medics will be competent in the administration of emergency medical care and as such approved by their own Organisation to do so.

The delay or ceasing of that scenario will be at the discretion of the Assessors led by the Command Assessors in that pit.

The Challenge Coordinator is to be advised immediately.

9. Pit Access

The pit area will be off limits to all persons unless authorised by the organisers. Authorised persons will be admitted entry only by pass or other approved means and if wearing the appropriate protective equipment.

Full protective clothing shall be worn in the pit and service areas and this should not be relaxed during 'preparation and make up' as hazards still exist, and relaxation can lead to complacency and the potential for injury.

10. Insurance

Adequate insurance for third parties (or equivalent) and or Injury Insurance for the participating teams will be the responsibility of that team's Service, Agency or "Employing Organisation".

Nevertheless, the host organization should supply third party liability insurance.

11. Registration

Team application and registration for the Challenges can only proceed on an official entry form, accompanied by the prescribed fee, which will be determined by NAVRA from year to year.

As part of the process of registration, teams must confirm that all members of the team comply with the requirements of rules 5 (Criteria for Participation).

Registration of arrival will take place prior to the Challenge. Once the Challenge begins, late arriving teams will not be allowed to compete.

Teams that are unable to participate in the Challenge must notify the organizers, in writing, of their decision to withdraw, or they will be deemed to be a 'No show' and be disqualified.

Teams that withdraw less than 14 days before the first official day of the Challenge will forfeit their entry fee.

The Registration for the Rescue Challenge will have a "Register by" date noted. All fees must be paid by the end of the Registration period. Fees will not be collected after that date as plans have to be made and the monies received allow the host to budget for the event.

12. Assessors and Appeals

Assessors are selected from rescue organisations that are members of NAVRA, through the 'NAVRA Assessor co-ordinator'.

Each Rescue Challenge requires that a balance is maintained between the various NAVRA member organisations and the host. A rotation of assessors is applied in order that experience is spread, and individuals are not repeatedly assessing each year.

The NAVRA Head Assessor will co-ordinate the Assessors and resolve any disputes.

The Team Leader of any team that has a grievance or dispute must report it in writing to the NAVRA Head Assessor within one hour of completing the scenario concerned on the day.

During the event the NAVRA Head Assessor will, where possible, facilitate 'shadow' assessing. In the first instance, shadow assessors will primarily be from the host agency in order that experience can be gained, and the development of their own rescue organisation can be progressed.

All appeals in respect of a technical performance and associated scoring will be heard by the NAVRA Head Assessor who will, where required, investigate, or discuss the issue with any involved assessors and whose deliberation is final.

All allegations of unfair assessment will be investigated thoroughly from all perspectives by the NAVRA Head Assessor who will present their findings to representatives of the NAVRA EC for their deliberation.

Assessor teams will comprise of at least three (3) persons (Tier III scenarios may have an additional medical assessor making a team of four (4)) assessing team performance in, Command, Technical and Medical disciplines.

All Assessors must be qualified to participate in a NAVRA Rescue Challenge and nominated by NAVRA Assessor Co-ordinator.

Assessor teams will be formed for each challenge class with the designated lead being the Command Assessor.

Each Assessing team will assess all teams attempting one class only; this ensures that each team demonstrates their skills before each of the Assessing teams.

13. Assessment Sheets

The assessment sheets will remain the property of NAVRA and will not be available for viewing or scrutiny by any unauthorized persons.

Score sheet summaries for each team will be made available to that team after the conclusion of the challenge.

Each Assessor will have a different mix of parameters to assess based on their expertise.

14. The Benchmarks

- Develop a **Safety-First** attitude and approach amongst all rescuers.
- Emphasize patient, rescue personnel and scene safety.
- Encourage higher and more proficient levels of motor vehicle accident response and pre-hospital emergency care.
- Develop a broader spectrum of trauma principles, extrication principles and techniques and incident command.
- Stimulate ingenuity in terms of skills, practices, and equipment to advance the **best safety-first** concept and enhance technical competence.
- Through co-operation, develop and promote an agreed code of best practice.

15. The Challenge

The **North American Vehicle Rescue Association's Extrication Challenge** is primarily open to the participation of all North American Rescue & Emergency Services and is also open to attendance by a limited number of International Fire & Rescue Service ("guest") teams

Participation in a NAVRA Rescue Challenge is by application alone. All applications must be submitted to the Secretary of NAVRA using the application forms that will be posted on the NAVRA website.

Each team consisting of six members will compete and be assessed in two (2) or three (3) scenarios during the two to four days.

The scores for the two or three scenarios will be evaluated from which the challenge winner will be identified.

The team will be assessed in the following areas:

- Incident Command
- Technical Rescue
- Treatment of Patient

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

Marks will be awarded each day with all sets being collated together and the highest combined score will determine the order of places.

At the **National Rescue Challenge**, up to three of the North American teams placed in the National Rescue Challenge will be nominated to go forward and represent NAVRA and North America at the World Rescue Challenge.

If there are vacant spaces for the World Rescue Challenge, NAVRA will propose the runners up as options for said event.

If any “guest” team excels and is declared to have placed in the top three positions, they will receive the award for the position they achieved, but they cannot be designated as representing NAVRA and North America at the World Rescue Challenge.

16. Scenarios

There will be a bank of scenarios controlled by the organisers. The exact scenario delivered to each team in each class will remain confidential.

It is envisaged that a selection from the following classes will be compulsory for a host to administer on behalf of NAVRA.

The scenario duration will be:

- Tier III - Complex Rescue (two live casualties with an entrapment) - 30 minutes.
- Tier II - Standard Rescue (one live casualty) - 20 minutes.
- Tier II - Limited Rescue (one live casualty - No hydraulic tools) - 20 minutes.
- Tier I - Rapid Rescue (one live casualty - Medical Emergency) - 10 minutes.

In the Tier III (Complex) Scenario, if a team exceed the 10 minute removal time upon the Critical patient going unresponsive, the team will be penalized 3 points (1 point each for Command, Technical Team and Medical Team) for each minute, or part thereof, after the expected timeline has been exceeded.

The organisers will determine the sequence in which the teams participate prior to the Challenge to ensure each team has access to its preferred brand of hydraulic equipment and that there is reasonable time between classes.

In the interests of overall transparency and fairness the process of each team’s Scenario selection will be as follows:

All team Captain’s must present themselves at the Captain’s meeting the day before the Challenge, or when designated. On a random process, the Team Captains will select from two or three boxes [1 Rapid, or 1 Standard/Limited or 1 Complex scenario].

These scenarios will be numbered/lettered and will correspond with a list of scenarios held by the NAVRA Logistics Lead who will be responsible for event scenarios set up. These will form the team’s scenarios for the event.

It is important that **ALL** Team Captains present themselves for this selection process, otherwise a random selection will be made on the team’s behalf by the NAVRA Logistics Lead.

Attendance at the Captain's meeting allows Team's questions to be answered and gives direct access to the Assessors and Pit Bosses.

17. Scenario Aims and Class Objectives

The road rescue/vehicle extrication challenge is designed to meet the following outcomes:

- Replicate road rescue/extrication scenarios that emergency response crews maybe called to attend.
- Create an environment where:
 - Teams have the opportunity to demonstrate a range of techniques and options to extricate casualties.
 - Team performance can be analysed over a series of road rescue/extrication scenarios.
 - Learning and education in all facets of vehicle extrication is promoted.
 - Participants will leave being able to perform more competently at road rescue/extrication scenes, exercising current techniques in vehicle extrication and casualty treatment.

Scenario Descriptor

Scenario	Team Objectives	Time	Complexity (Guidelines only)
Tier III (Complex Rescue)	To demonstrate a casualty centered rescue with a high level of regard for the safety of all personnel. The use of hydraulic rescue tools for access, release and removal of a physically trapped casualty .	30 min	Two live casualties, (simulated entrapment). Entrapped by the vehicle/prop and/or injury. Some injuries are treatable in the vehicle. Single or multiple vehicles plus props.
Tier II (Standard Rescue)	To demonstrate a casualty centered rescue with a high level of regard for the safety of all personnel. To demonstrate the access, release and removal of a casualty using a variety of tools.	20 min	One live casualty, (simulated entrapment). Entrapped by the vehicle/prop and/or injury. Some injuries are treatable in the vehicle. Single or multiple vehicles plus props.

<p>Tier II (Limited Rescue)</p>	<p>To demonstrate a casualty-centered rescue with a high level of regard for safety of all personnel.</p> <p>To demonstrate the access, release and removal of a casualty using a variety of tools,</p>	<p>20 min</p>	<p>One live casualty, (simulated entrapment).</p> <p>Entrapped by the vehicle/prop and/or injury.</p> <p>Some injuries are treatable in the vehicle.</p> <p>Single or multiple vehicles plus props.</p>
<p>Tier I (Rapid Rescue)</p> <p>Medical Emergency Rescue</p>	<p>To demonstrate a casualty-centered rescue with a high level of regard for safety of all personnel.</p> <p>To demonstrate the access, release and removal of a casualty trapped by an injury entrapment and/or limb entrapment and ay be critically injured.</p>	<p>10 min</p>	<p>One live casualty, (simulated entrapment).</p> <p>Entrapped by the vehicle/prop and/or injury.</p> <p>Some injuries are treatable in the vehicle.</p> <p>Single or multiple vehicles plus props.</p>

Tier I, Tier II and Tier III Scenarios will have access to a full set of hydraulic tools and access to air, electric and hand tools as required depending on availability provided by the hosts and sponsors. If the Tier II scenario is declared as a “Limited Scenario”, **NO** hydraulic tools will be allowed.

Definition of the phases of vehicle extrication rescue and the effects on assessment:

Extrication can be divided into three broad phases:

- Casualty access, medical intervention and space making
- Extrication options for release
- Casualty packaging and pathway

Tier III (Complex Rescue):

Sufficient space will need to be created for medical assessment and intervention, with the casualties’ release/packaging reflective to their mechanism of injury.

Teams are expected to triage the casualties and identify the medical priority for extrication.

To achieve success teams should work within the full three phases of vehicle extrication rescue to affect a thorough release and removal of both casualties.

Tier II (Standard/Limited Rescue):

Teams are expected to assess the casualty and identify the correct pathway for extrication, whilst recognizing the capability of the tools available.

To achieve success teams will need to work efficiently and manage all the resources at their disposal to complete extrication of all casualties within the available time frame.

Tier I (Rapid Rescue (Medical Emergency)):

Teams are expected to recognize the immediate lifesaving needs of the casualty.

To achieve success teams will need to demonstrate a balance between efficiency, safety, and urgency to achieve the task within the prescribed time frame.

18. Prop positioning and Relocation

Props may be positioned in pits to represent field objects, road furniture or other vehicles on the road.

Every effort will be made by the organisers and hosts to ensure the realism of these props.

This means that if the object is intended to be fixed and immovable, it will be placed in the scenario in such a way as to make it immovable.

Props that are deemed immovable are **not** to be moved or relocated by competing Teams.

If the hosts Logistics Manager is unable to create an equitable scenario a simulated immovable object may be used.

Clarification about the mobility of any prop can be sought from the Command Assessor at any stage during a scenario or the prop will be marked as such.

19. Tools and Equipment

A degree of flexibility in the availability of equipment has to be acknowledged due to the location of the event, sponsorship deals and availability.

Therefore, a definitive list of available items will be finalized prior to the challenge commencing.

A list of equipment that will be available will be posted on the NAVRA website.

The hosts will arrange to provide a range of makes and models of rescue tools which will ensure as much as possible of the equipment listed in the organisers recommended equipment list is provided for each pit.

Teams may have access to hydraulic, electric and/or air operated equipment depending on the scenario class and availability.

Every effort will be made by the hosts and the organisers to ensure that the preferred make of hydraulic tools is available for each team, but this is not guaranteed.

The organisers, with the host, will supply a comprehensive selection of equipment. NAVRA and the host will not be responsible for any damage or loss of any equipment as a result of participating in this event.

With reference to large tool allocation teams will be limited to the following items for each of the classes:

- One Large jaw operating cutting device (powered by hydraulic, electric or battery)
- One large spreading device (powered by hydraulic, electric or battery)
- One large ramming device (powered by hydraulic, electric or battery)
- One small/medium ramming device (powered by hydraulic, electric or battery)
- A small cutting device e.g. pedal cutter (powered by hydraulic, electric or battery)
- 4 stabilisation devices e.g. Tension Buttress, Strut Systems or similar devices.\.

Any deviation from this rule will be on the discretion of the NAVRA Head Assessor and their decision will apply to all teams.

Teams are expected to supply their own consumables (e.g. PPE, tapes, sprays, etc.). Hosts are asked to ensure they have sufficient stock to re-supply teams, but this should not be assumed by participating teams.

The following items of equipment are prohibited:

- Knives that do not have a locking and shatter proof blade. Examples include Stanley type knives and the retractable hobby knives that have disposable blades designed to snap off at predetermined points;
- Knives for which the blade is not sheathed when not in use;
- Hack saw blades that are not bi-metal construction (i.e. shatter proof);

The hosts local rules may apply in the prohibition of certain items of equipment and should this be the case all teams will be informed prior to the Challenge.

Note: All team members should make themselves familiar with any tool that they may use at the Challenge. NAVRA and the organizers recommend that tools should only be used by people competent in their operation.

If vendors are providing any power tools, the Brand and Model should be announced prior to the event.

Allowed Tools

Teams may bring a limited number of tools and/or equipment for use in any of the pits.

These items should be available for all other teams to use from the first until the last scenario of the Challenge in all pits or in a specific pit.

Any home-made equipment to be used in conjunction with power rescue tools must carry a 'Notice of Certification' approved by a body or individual person.

Teams may lend equipment to other teams ensuring any safety features are fully understood by the recipient.

Engineering certification must be produced for any tool or piece of equipment brought by a team that is likely to bear load or be put under mechanical stress.

The Assessors' decision on tool and equipment suitability will be final.

Personal Equipment

Teams may bring a limited amount of personal equipment.

All of these items, tools and personal equipment must be scrutinised by the Head Assessors at a time and place determined by the organisers/hosts, prior to the commencement of the Extrication Challenge.

Items supplied in the tool area, which perform a similar function to equipment that teams introduce, will be removed.

This is to ensure that teams bringing additional equipment do not gain a quantity advantage.

Teams wishing to introduce their own equipment should speak to the Head Assessor at the team briefing to gain approval.

Approval cannot be given on the day of the Challenge.

20. Team Presentation at Challenge

Teams will present themselves at a location (“Team Check-In”) nominated by the hosts, and specified during the Team briefing, at the time indicated on the timetable (usually thirty (30) minutes prior to their designated run off time). Failure to do so may result in elimination of that team.

Once the team is presented, they are to remain there until they are escorted to the tool staging to commence their equipment inspection.

The team will have a set time as detailed on the timetable to stage all of their tools and equipment.

When the team has either completed equipment preparations or the time has expired, they will be taken to an isolation area out of sight of the pit to allow for the staging of their scenario.

Any items the team identifies as being missing or unserviceable are to be brought to the attention of the Pit/Logistics Manager before the team enters isolation.

The Pit/Logistics Manager will be responsible for resolving the issue and communicating the outcome to the team while they are in isolation.

The team will be taken to the Challenge Pit once their scenario has been staged.

While in isolation, the use of mobile phones/devices, pagers, and digital cameras by team members is prohibited. Any teams found in violation of this rule will be disqualified.

21. Breakdown of Scenario

At the conclusion of their scenario, each team must help in the breakdown of the tools and equipment and assist the pit team in reorganising items ready for the next scenario.

This may be varied at the discretion of the Hosts subject to the number of personnel in the pit crew available to break the scenario down.

22. Assessment of Performance

A panel of qualified Assessors will assess each team’s performance.

Assessor teams will be formed for each Challenge class (Rapid, Standard, Complex) with the designated lead being the Command Assessor.

Each Assessing team will assess all teams attempting one class only; this ensures that each team demonstrates their skills before each of the Assessing teams. e.g. The Rapid Challenge Assessors will assess all of the Rapid Challenge events. The Standard Challenge Assessors will assess all of the Standard Challenge events.

The parameters assessed are detailed in the Assessor's Guidelines and on the Challenge Assessment Sheets.

These are based on best practice within NAVRA's agreed format following liaison and agreement from partner rescue organisations' Technical Groups.

To that end teams are encouraged to strive for the standard of excellence described in all areas.

Teams should note that Assessors are briefed to assess a team's performance on what they see and hear, not what they expect to see and hear.

With this in mind, teams are urged not to 'play up' to the Assessors by giving a running commentary of what they might do under certain conditions, but to actually do what they would normally do if they encountered the same scenario in real life.

The decision of the Head Assessor concerning any assessment or conduct will be deemed to be final.

Copies of all the assessment scoresheets and guidelines in use each year are available on the WRO website.

23. Debriefing

Following each scenario, in each class, the assessor team managing that class will conduct a short debrief with each participating team.

The debrief is designed to provide a learning opportunity for all involved.

To that end, teams are encouraged to have their manager or any their support person take notes or video the discussion. Subject to approval by both the Team Leader and the Assessor.

A follow-up written critique 'post Challenge' can be provided upon request, via the Trauma Lead.

It is important for the assessors to inform the teams of the areas where they scored half of the allowable points or less for sections with maximum score of 10 points or less and a quarter of the sections scoring above 10 points, so teams can know and learn which areas of their performance needs improving.

Teams should not be surprised that they scored poorly in any area without their knowledge when the scores are handed out after the award ceremony.

The Team Leader of any team that has a grievance or dispute with the debriefing must report such in writing to the Head Assessor within one hour of completing the debriefing session, following the scenario concerned on the day.

Recorded video or still photographs may be used to help settle such disputes.

The Head Assessor will be appointed to coordinate the Assessors and resolve any disputes.

Once all the evidence has been reviewed and all concerned parties have been allowed to make their presentations, a determination will be made.

This determination will be made by the Head Assessor and this determination shall be final.

24. Personal Protective Equipment

All competing team members will, at all times during the challenge, wear suitable clothing and personal protective equipment as approved by their agency.

As a minimum, suitable turn out gear, coveralls, safety boots, eye protection (in the form of safety glasses) and where appropriate, ear and/or respiratory protection is required.

Teams representing agencies that require their personnel to wear and use helmets with visors (for facial protection) will be expected to wear and use them during the challenge.

NOTE: All competitors are responsible for providing their own full PPE, to include dust-masks, medical gloves, and eye protection.

In keeping with occupational health and safety practices, teams are expected to supply and use their own latex gloves, masks and other consumable personal protective equipment supplies.

Only approved Emergency Service issued PPE shall be worn by all team members including the Medic.

In the event of a paramedic or advanced paramedic acting as Team Medic, he/she must also wear full protective clothing with no exposed skin on arms or neck and a suitable helmet with face shield, if so supplied.

25. Challenge Safety

A risk assessment will be conducted prior to each evolution to ensure the safety of both participants and spectators.

Dynamic risk assessments will occur throughout the evolution, not only by the team involved but also by the assessors and Safety Officer.

A Safety Officer will supervise each evolution with the authority to halt any action deemed to be in breach of safe working practices (typically the IC Assessor).

Such a breach shall not on the first occasion incur time penalties, however subsequent breaches may incur them.

Continuous safety issues being addressed may result in a team being stopped from competing further in that scenario.

NOTE: Where there are safety issues which continuously need to be addressed, this may result in a team being stopped from competing any further in that scenario.

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, e.g. cutting windshields or glass.

Any unsafe or potentially unsafe practice will be stopped immediately and put right.

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 Event Coordinator who will liaise with the event Head Assessor who is responsible for the overall Health & Safety in these areas.

No Team will be allowed to commence their evolution without direct approval of the Event Coordinator, subject in all cases, to the following:

- All Team members are properly attired in their approved personal protective equipment.
- All non-proprietary equipment is accompanied by the relevant documentation.
- The Event Coordinator has 'cleared' the scenario.

Should, in the opinion of any event official or Assessor, a potential or existing danger, or an unsafe condition be seen to exist or caused to exist, then that official or Assessor must immediately halt the assessment.

Any activity carried out after this, other than to ensure safety, may be penalised at the discretion of the Head Assessor.

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 '**FOR REAL**' or '**STILL**', or a whistle is blown by the Assessor.

ALL members of the team will immediately stop their actions.
This command indicates that a safety problem exists.

Time will be stopped until the safety issue is rectified. Once addressed the Command Assessor will give the instruction for the team to continue and the clock will re-commence.

If there are any other safety stoppages during the same evolution, the time will not stop, and the team will have to rectify the situation while the clock continues to run.

The above safety calls can be made by any of the Assessors or Safety Officers.

If the problem cannot be rectified, the NAVRA Head Assessor may disqualify the team or cancel the evolution.

NOTE: Any activity carried out after the calling of 'FOR REAL' or 'STILL', except to make safe, may be penalized at the discretion of the Head Assessor.

No team member will be permitted to commence moving, cutting or breaking any vehicle component without the casualty being suitably protected and other team members in direct proximity having their face visors in the down position, if so provided.

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.

Vehicle tires can only be deflated by valve or valve stem removal. The slashing or puncturing of tyres is prohibited.

26. Timing

Assessors in each pit will be responsible for accurate timing of the scenario. The Command Assessor will call "time" or blow a whistle when time has elapsed.

Alternatively, the team leader can call "time" before the available time has elapsed, when the Team Leader believes the team has completed the scenario.

27. Casualties

Live casualties (interior assessors) will be used within the vehicles and marks will be awarded o 'casualty handling' at all NAVRA Rescue Challenges.

NAVRA, along with the other partner members of the World Rescue Organisation (WRO), are among the few organisations to use live casualties in Extrication & Medical Challenges.

These are all medically trained personnel who will have an input into the medical rescue assessment.

There may also be a radio fitted to the inside of the vehicle or attached to the casualty which enables the assessor to listen to the medic and casualty interaction.

Teams will be expected to assess the casualties for injuries and provide treatment consistent with the injuries they find and their skills.

Specific consideration should be given to maintaining the dignity of the casualties in this public training environment.

28. Non-Attendance of a Team.

In the event of a 'No Show' by any registered team at their appointed time for equipment inspection, the organisers may disqualify them from that class.

The Head Assessor may substitute another team in the event of a team 'No Show'.

29. Information

The organisers reserve the right to use any, and all information that may be obtained from the WRC and its participants for educational purposes.

30. Documentation

Documentation will be provided by the host on receipt of notification of interest to participate.

Documents must be completed and returned, together with the full entrance fee, to the NAVRA secretary.

The entrance fee must be received before your team can be accepted as a participant in the NAVRA Rescue Challenge.

31. Team Leaders and Medics Briefing

There will be a briefing of all participants, and this will take place at the same venue or at a designated location prior to the start of the Challenge.

It is mandatory for all team leaders and medics, or their designated deputies, to attend.

NOTE: While preferable that all team members should attend this briefing, it is mandatory that all the Team Leaders and Medics attend.

Other team members may attend for the provision of interpretation to the Team Leader or Medic.

32. Determination of Results

Each team will be assessed, using common criteria, by a minimum team of up to four Assessors who will score the following areas:

- (a) **Incident Command and Control (Command)**
- (b) **Physical Rescue and general extrication techniques (Technical)**
- (c) **Pre-Hospital Medical care and Casualty Extrication (Medical – Interior and Exterior Assessors)**

The urgency in which the whole evolution was undertaken will also be considered as part of the assessment.

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 (Tier I, Tier II or Tier III) will result in a ranking, i.e. the highest score within Command, will be ranked first place in Command for that Discipline.

A team's overall scenario type and/or NAVRA Extrication Challenge score will be the combined ranking points. i.e. the Points for Command, Technical and Medical for each Team will be added together and the team with the overall highest points win that category.

The 'Best Team' will be decided by the highest combined ranking points across all categories.

In the event of two teams being tied in any scenario and/or WRC 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 all the 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 if still tied the Technical Discipline will be compared,
- Should there still be a tie the best Complex Team, then Standard/Limited, then Rapid will be compared.
- If every criterion above is tied the scenario and/or WRC Extrication Challenge will be declared a 'dead heat' and both teams will be awarded the same recognition.

The assessment sheets will remain the property of NAVRA and will not be available for viewing or scrutiny by any unauthorised persons.

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 NAVRA website [www. Navraus.org](http://www.Navraus.org).

33. Awards

The North American Vehicle Rescue Association recognizes the performances of the Teams and the individuals of every Team.

Each year the NAVRA Committee recognizes the performances of the teams that compete.

The effort and dedication that has been put in by team members and supporters towards this Challenge over many months, shows the value of just such an event as this.

Official awards will be made to the top placing teams at the post event meal and Award Ceremony.

In any rate, awards will be made to the teams in the following categories of the Challenge:

Best Overall Extrication Challenge Champions

- Best Extrication Team Overall – 1st Place
- Best Extrication Team Overall – 2nd Place Team
- Best Extrication Team Overall – 3rd Place Team

- Best Extrication Team Overall – Developing Excellence Award – 1st Place

Best Extrication Team – Tier III Scenario

- 1st Place Team
- 2nd Place Team
- 3rd Place Team

Best Extrication Team – Tier II Scenario

- 1st Place Team
- 2nd Place Team
- 3rd Place Team

Best Extrication Team - Tier I Scenario

- 1st Place Team
- 2nd Place Team
- 3rd Place Team

Best Technical Team - 1st Place

Best Medical Team - 1st Place

Best Team Leader - 1st Place

Upon conclusion of the Rescue Challenge, Score sheets with Assessors comments will be available to each Team Manager after the Awards Presentations, or as soon as possible thereafter.

34. NAVRA RECOGNITION AWARD

Annually, following the National Challenge, the NAVRA Committee will select the recipient in recognition of an individual's or team's contribution/ services to rescue training and the 'Challenge Concept'

Disqualification

Any team or team member that does not adhere to these rules or brings disrepute upon the WRC may be disqualified.

Any matter concerning the possibility of a team disqualification or a matter bringing NAVRA into disrepute will be heard by a committee made up of the NAVRA Head Assessor and two other members from the organising body.

Any decision made by this group will be final.

Spectators or team supporters may encourage teams in the spirit of fair play; however, any "coaching", including calling time remaining, from the spectators or team supporters will result in a "**Freeze**" being called, but the clock will continue to run.

The Command Assessor will give a warning to the offending person or persons. Any subsequent coaching call will result in time being called on the participating team.

35. Updating Documentation

Each year following the National Rescue Challenge, the NAVRA Executive Board will establish a forum whereby teams and assessors can discuss and debate issues that have arisen or are arising and make suggestions and amendments on current techniques and standards.

This will then form the premise for a reference document, created by the assessors and members that can be used for acceptable practices and standards.

The day prior to each Rescue Challenge, designated assessors will attend a seminar to confirm the standards by which the event will be assessed, assure consistency in assessing and clarify/resolve any issues.

36. Participation in the Learning Symposium and Workshop

The intent of NAVRA is to explore, develop and promote best practice in the delivery of integrated road rescue and trauma care services.

To this end the challenge may include a learning symposium and/or a practical workshop during the challenge.

To ensure maximum learning opportunity by all participants, attendance at the symposium and participation in the workshop pit is mandatory and will allow participants to gain Continuing Educational Credits (CEU's) or Train-the-Trainer credits for educational sessions they attend and get signed acknowledgement.

