

UC Mountaineering Club Outdoor Leadership Scholarship Application.
21 October 1998

Candidate: Robert Sexton

Course Information and Eligibility

American Canoe Association (ACA) Swiftwater Rescue Instructor certification consists of two separate, related components: an Instructor Development workshop, and a Candidate Evaluation. The whole process takes a total of 4 days, and is a combination of classroom and on-water training. Course information is attached. As required by the course, I am a member of the ACA in good standing.

Proof of Medical Insurance, Student Status and GPA are attached.

Scholarship availability

There appear to be no applicable scholarship funds available.

Statement of Purpose

In the 20 year history of the UCMC, there have been no major accidents or injuries. This is an enviable safety record, and reflects our ongoing commitment to self responsibility and training. As more members of the UCMC venture into the backcountry, our need for good Safety and Rescue training has increased. The likelihood that a UCMC member will be the first on the scene in a rescue or emergency situation increases every year.

Our Whitewater training efforts have been largely successful. In recent years, we have required all of our Raft guides to attend and pass an ACA Swiftwater Rescue Class. This training is an important part of our commitment to safe whitewater boating. In the past, we have sent students to Columbus for training. The Ohio DNR operates a good boater education program which is not consistently available to our club members. By completing Instructor Certification, I can move the annual teaching of Swiftwater Rescue to within the UCMC, giving us better control over classes and Schedules.

Locally available rescue training will also benefit the local boating community. Far too few paddlers in our area have rescue training of any kind, or know how to handle a whitewater emergency. By including the larger boating community into our Rescue training, we can increase the exposure of the UCMC to the larger community and further our reputation as a source of wilderness expertise and authority. As the clubs' Swiftwater Rescue Trainer, I will conduct annual classes for the Members of the UCMC, and continue with my existing role in training new Raft guides and whitewater paddlers.

My Qualifications

I have been a member of the UCMC since 1989. I worked for the University of Cincinnati at the time, and produced the Clubs' first computer typeset newsletter. I left Cincinnati in 1991, and returned here in 1996. Since that time, I have led and participated in many club trips. My personal interests include (but aren't limited to) Caving, Backpacking, Mountaineering, and Whitewater. In 1996, I set up the club's first email list server, and I continue to maintain the club email lists. I have guided rafts for the Annual UCMC Memorial day Ocoee rafting trip in 1997 and 1998, and organized the trip in 1998. I have organized our 1998 Wilderness First Aid Class and trained new raft guides for the club.

As a non-traditional student, I bring maturity and experience to the Club. I became a full time student in June of 1998, and was elected Vice President of the UCMC. As vice president I continue to serve the Mountaineering Club, and carry on much of the day to day business.

I have a strong interest in bringing new people to the Club activities, and I have worked to include less experienced club members in trips, as well as fostering skill development in newer Club members. I see Rescue training as an Integral part of this responsibility, and I look forward to advancing the collective knowledge of the Club.

Course Description and fees information as provided by Wayne Sundmacher

ACA Swiftwater Rescue Instructor Development Workshop

Instructor Trainer: Wayne Sundmacher, Co-Author "Whitewater Rescue Manual" RMP/McGraw-Hill 1995

Fee: \$195

ACA Swiftwater Rescue Instructor Candidate Evaluation

Instructor Trainer: Wayne Sundmacher, Co-Author "Whitewater Rescue Manual" RMP/McGraw-Hill 1995

Fee: \$150

These courses are part of an Instructor Certification program. Participants must meet minimum levels of competency in skills, knowledge, and teaching ability to successfully complete each module. While every effort is made to assist each participant in achieving his or her goals, successful completion remains solely the responsibility of the participant!

To qualify for instructor certification all participants must be ACA members. Therefore, an ACA number must be provided upon registration. To maintain instructor certification, successful candidates must maintain their ACA membership for the duration of their instructor certification.

Prior to registration, each participant should purchase a copy of "Whitewater Rescue Manual" Walbridge & Sundmacher, Ragged Mountain Press/McGraw-Hill 1995. Participants should be thoroughly familiar with all the basic rope systems, anchors, and knots illustrated in the text, and capable of demonstrating them without reference.

Participants must provide their own equipment and boats. Participants are responsible for their own meals, lodging, and travel arrangements. Directions and a list of local motels are available by fax.

Travel & Lodging:

It will be necessary to drive to the course, with a boat. The course will probably be in New Jersey. Lodging will be approximately \$50/day and Auto expenses will be approximately \$.10/mile. Receipts will be provided, and unused monies returned to the Scholarship fund. I will camp if possible, reducing expense.

In addition, the applicant provided the Selection Committee with his current ***Student Account Summary*** and ***Report Card*** showing his GPA