

NZOIA Quarterly

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW ZEALAND OUTDOOR INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

Issue 44

March 2008

THE ELUSIVE GURU and NZOIA Level 2 Awards

I'll start with something I don't like doing which is quoting, this time from the NZOIA Syllabi and Assessment Methodology Review paper that was sent out with the September Quarterly.

"There is also a growing perception that some of the Level 2 Awards are at a level that is verging on impossible to gain."

OK call me an elitist dinosaur but I'm quickly riled by anything which tries to subvert doing something well. So I thought that I'd try to put the NZOIA Level 2 Awards that I assess in perspective.

In the last 7 months I've assessed on Rock 2, Alpine 2 and Bush 2 courses. 14 candidates turned up and all passed. Must be young, super fit and dedicated people. Well no. Without being exact, their ages ranged from mid twenties to mid forties, some had families, most had real jobs, one had a slight disability and, perhaps a reflection on the outdoor industry or merely a statistical blip, only one was a woman. But then when the Rock 2 standard went to grade 20 the first 4 people to pass were all women. So much for the argument that it would prevent women from achieving Rock 2. As Penny Holland said to me "raising the standard inspired me to improve my climbing." Need I say more? Well yes I will and about myself. Level 2 assessors can't sit down and watch, they have to do the physical tasks the candidates do. For rock that means climbing to grade 20 to check pro placements, for alpine it means climbing the peak and plugging through afternoon mush and for bush doing the distance with the camping gear. Now if a 62 year old 60kg weedy grandfather can do all of these things what is the problem for people half my age? When I consider my fellow assessors (not a subject to dwell on) and Level 2 Award holders, most of them lack youth, have jobs and some have families, even grandchildren, they are not superhuman, they just work hard.

To quote again from the same publication "There is a perception (among assessors, instructors and others) that

Level 2 is 'guru level'" I'll ignore 'others' as merely an easily surveyed group to throw in to add weight to an argument, and turn to 'guru' - another word batted about without much regard to its meaning. My dictionary defines a 'guru' as either a holder of esoteric religious knowledge or the head of a religious sect. Now it is possible that NZOIA has as many Level 2 award holders as the Hindu religion has gods, but somehow I don't think that these are comparable. For a start the knowledge required to gain a Level 2 award is not at all esoteric, it is common place. There is no shortage of information on NZ geology, flora, fauna, Maori and European settlement and the history and development of the particular skill involved in the award. Nor are Level 2 candidates required to have a PhD in all of these subjects, just some knowledge and an idea of past processes and recent developments. I could interpret 'guru' to mean a superb performer in all of the skills enshrined in a NZOIA Level 2 syllabus so let's see what that would involve...

I'll start with rock because it's easy to put numbers on it. That makes it scientific, like quoting makes things sound erudite. Current top performance rock standards are about 33-35, so let's allow our 'guru' a minimum of 30. That doesn't leave many kiwis in the field so I'll go for 25. But grade is only one aspect of rock performance. How about some multi-pitch routes? 5/6 pitches at Arapiles is a bit feeble. What is needed are some 15-30 pitch routes and let's pop a few of them in exciting places like the Darrans or on the right hand side of the North Wall of the Eiger. Now add all of the rest like geology, flora, fauna, history, coaching and instructing and, perhaps, a few new routes, and some new ideas on equipment and we begin to get what a true rock 'guru' looks like. Wow!

Compared with Alpine that was easy. The top world performers do huge Himalayan and Alaskan faces alpine style in fast times, they summit 8000m peaks without

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NEW ZEALAND**

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Executive Report

A number of years ago NZOIA suffered a decline in membership that the Executive has worked hard to turn around. Many of our current initiatives are geared towards making NZOIA relevant to the future outdoor community while not forgetting the standards and values of the past. Our success in meeting the needs of the sector will be reflected in large part by membership numbers, and so its pleasing to report that early indications reinforce our direction with membership recently topping 500 representing 21% growth over the same time last year.

I hope the many members who attended the International Outdoor Recreation and Education Conference in Christchurch in January found it an interesting, informative and beneficial event. Putting together a conference of this size is no mean feat and the staff of ONZ and their voluntary supporters contributed a mammoth effort to make this a success. A number of members have expressed interest in learning more of the work of some of the NZ speakers and in particular of Grant Davidson's research into the causes of accidents in the outdoors. Grant's work is of great practical relevance to those working in the field and their managers so we will look at ways to enable more members to hear Grant's presentation of his research.

FUTURE OF THE QUARTERLY

In the December Quarterly we informed you of our partnership with other organisations in developing a combined periodical magazine. The aim of Outdoors NZ is to have the first edition out in autumn. Because of our contribution to the new magazine our Quarterly budget has reduced and that explains the return to black and white. Further changes are likely dependent on the extent to which the new magazine is able to fulfill the functions of the Quarterly, however we do envisage that the Quarterly will continue to convey information that is specific to our members. No matter how things evolve the future Quarterly we'll be changing to a different format because postage costs for A4 are about to increase by 50%. As many people are nowadays happy to receive electronic newsletters you'll soon receive an email asking if you would like to take this option. With this in mind we're going to place the quarterly on the members' only side of the website and will email you a link each time a new edition is there for you to download if you wish.

If you have articles or advertising for the new magazine these should be sent to: communications@outdoorsnz.org.nz

LEADER AWARDS DEVELOPMENT

This project is moving forward with the establishment of an advisory group to oversee the process of researching sector needs at the entry leadership level. This group will

also assist us to ensure that the consultation NZOIA and Sfruto does is sufficient to ensure that the new qualifications are a best fit with the tasks that leaders perform. Shortly you will be invited to review, comment on, and have input into draft syllabi for leader level awards in bush, kayak, rock, and mountain bike, with sea kayak and ABL / ropes course qualifications likely to follow.. These qualifications will sit below the level of current NZOIA Level one, most likely at Level 4 on the National Qualifications Framework. We hope you will take the opportunity to help shape these new qualifications.

OUTDOOR REGISTRATION BOARD AND QUALIFICATION REVALIDATION

A number of members have been in touch with us about developments in this area and particularly with concerns about revalidation. To allay some common concerns I'd like to emphasise that we are trying to ensure that the criteria for revalidation are fair and do not disadvantage particular groups, and to this end we are working to develop ways in which to accommodate the needs of as many people as possible while creating a robust and credible system. In particular we are developing process to allow the following:

- Registration 'holidays' for members who temporarily stop working as instructors (such as for child-birth, overseas travel, study).
- Straightforward re-entry / renewal after more extended periods of not instructing.
- Criteria that will enable club / volunteer and part-time instructors to maintain registration.
- Ways to avoid excessively loading multiple award holders.
- Straightforward ways for migrant instructors with overseas qualifications to gain registration and meet cross credit requirements.

It is a priority for us to finalise this process and get the information out to you. You can be assured that any developmental delays will be reflected in the time allowed for you to meet the revalidation requirements.

Sadly, since the temperature has dropped and it's pouring down outside as I write this, it looks a bit like summer has come to an early close. Hopefully the weather will cheer up again and we'll get a few more sunny days before we all start looking forward to winter. As always, do contact myself or any member of the Executive to discuss matters of concern to you.

Matthew Cant – Chief Executive
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...The Elusive Guru continued from page 1

supplementary oxygen and in Europe, for example, sprint around massifs doing back to back ascents of difficult climbs, often in winter. Back to NZ where we have some pretty exciting mountains and even more exciting weather so what's our 'guru' look like. Weather beaten I'd say. Let's try all of the faces of Aoraki, the Balfour on Tasman, the south face of Hicks and some winter ice for a start then add on a couple of long traverses along the high part of the Divide and one through the Darrans, chuck in a hand full of new routes, superb avalanche awareness and then pile on all of the other skills. I'm exhausted just writing it down. And I forgot to add zen stoicism to sit out all of the bad weather.

Finally Bush. I'll keep this in NZ. One quote from the Bush 2 Syllabus almost defines a 'bush guru' as "light a fire above the bush line in adverse conditions." To modernise it, all it needs added is "in an environmentally appropriate manner." Please don't ask me why? Bush is the trickiest of the Level 2 awards to define as it has no numbers like rock nor the dramatic high points of alpine. But here goes for our 'guru'. Let's launch him/her on a huge pass hopping river crossing traverse of a big chunk of the South Island, a bog wade across Stewart Island and a long North Island bush bash. That's a physical start so how about the extras like knowledge of flora and fauna and how it has been changed by human impact and what DoC is trying to preserve and how and where. Next, NZ's unstable geology and climate changes in shaping the landscape. Add on human settlement and the exploration of NZ to explain why NZ has such a rich history of back country travel. Oh and did I mention the collection of the instructor skills necessary to inspire others. Plus heroic resistance to swarms of sand flies and the gathering clouds of wasps. Sounds like another huge ask.

By now you'll have got my drift. Our NZOIA 'gurus' have been swiped off their pedestals or whatever fate 'unfrocked gurus meet'. They are ordinary humans. Back to Rock 2 where the asking grade is 20. If I count climbs under 5 as scrambling then the grade range runs 5-35 which puts 20 as the median, now from my observations in NZ, Australia, Canada, Europe and Great Britain (I know that

it is officially part of Europe, but at times it is hard to tell) I reckon that 18/19 would be about the mean and modal grade with 20 just a touch on the better than average (mean) climber's grade. About right don't you think? As for Alpine 2 if I consider IFMGA Guide to be highest level then the entry requirements for Alpine 2 don't even come anywhere near what one has to do to start the NZMGA Scheme. That demands 2 Grade 5's and several 4's, the European schemes demand bucket loads of these climbs. The Alpine 2 Syllabus reads like it is directed to North Island mountains not even the Southern Alps. My view is that the minimum physical mountaineering skills required are below what an average amateur mountaineer would aspire to. It is the instructional skills which raise the level of this award. Finally Bush 2, again my personal prejudices derived from plenty of observations, but nothing scientific. My view is that the Bush 2 candidates I have assessed have been well above the standard of the average trumper, especially in ecological and environmental knowledge and their open minded attitude to new ideas. Bush 2 assessments seem to have rolled along as seminars for all while travelling through and camping in some great country. Definitely a healthy award.

So a few last words - what a relief shout the few who have read so far - let's not drag NZOIA Awards down. They are not unachievable sky high awards. In fact they are well within the mainstream of what amateur participants in these activities do. Let NZOIA have something that its entrant instructors can aspire to with awards that ask more than mediocre personal performance.

John Entwisle

Editors Note: John has been a member of NZOIA since its inception and was awarded life membership in 2006 for his contributions to the association. He is an Assessor to Level 2 in Bush, Rock and Alpine and an IFMGA Guide. Is he a guru?

The Quarterly welcomes responses to this article.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

13 September 2008 - Wellington

(venue to be confirmed)



ASPECTS OF OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP

Inner Alignment by Ray Hollingsworth

If you died tomorrow, would you have made a difference? If we spend approximately one third of each day working and we work for approximately 40 to 50 years in our lives, then our work has the potential to be many things besides a source of money: pride, self-esteem, power. But how many of us can say that our work contributed to the greater good of a society? That our work changed lives for the better? That what we did had a definite positive impact on how an individual perceived and performed in the world.

It was over a year after he accidentally flew his glider into a mountain, that I heard about Greg Brosnan's death. In January 2006, Ben Louie and I emerged from a rain-soaked trans-alpine crossing of the Alps, from Jackson on the West Coast to the Dart. Not enough food and too many days on a wrenched knee had left me broken. Recovering amid the warm hospitality of a friend's house in Wanaka, I read about Greg in the local paper, how a group of friends had marked the anniversary of his death with a small celebration of his life. Stunned, I sat quietly and thought about the loss of a good man. My contact with him over the years had been sporadic and we had never been close friends as such, yet each contact had impacted upon me, had helped me grow.

I had escaped a very dull graduate career in soil science to volunteer at the Tihoi Venture School. Greg arrived on a motorbike wearing a Balti wool cap as a helmet, and sunglasses to keep the dust out of his eyes. In a very comfortable looking chair on the gas tank, was a tiny black dog called Gob, a kelly with personality. Lithe and bearded, dressed predominantly in a Helly Hansen one-piece mountain bib, Greg's piratical good looks and smile contributed to the enormous charisma the man had. I spent many days hanging out with Greg while he built the anchors for the Tihoi climbing wall. Along with the Tihoi instructors Steve Gore, Bruce Webber and Dave Bailey, Greg contributed to the notion that I'd stumbled upon an alternative society, where politics and power and money were not the driving force. A society of eccentrics who lived fully every day, where having adventures was considered normal and compulsory.

Convinced I'd found my way forward, I paid my money and enrolled in the OPC Outdoor Educators Course for 1986. Greg was one of the instructors there. Surrounded by

multi-talented people, 'Guru's', overawed, acutely aware of my own lack of ability, I struggled desperately with it all. Greg always had a cheerful word and a crazy laugh for me, sometimes emerging from a dark night into the festering confines of the 'M.O.W' with a rifle and Gob in tow. "Sometimes," he'd say, "sometimes you've just got to go and shoot something". Then he'd grin and disappear in search of possums and rabbits.

Many years later I found myself working at OPC. The 'Guru's' had mostly gone, and I was part of a newer generation of instructors having controlled adventures and trying to inspire kids. Every week I'd get a new group and every week I'd put on the mask of professionalism – smiling, interested, organised, adventurous – and every week some dark knot inside of me tightened. My brother and sister-in-law had both been killed in a motorbike smash just before I'd started work at OPC. Few people acknowledged it and no one really wanted to talk about it. That winter – 'the winter of discontent' I named it because it rained every day for twelve weeks, the road started slipping down the hill, and relationships that seemed stable became rocky – I tried to numb myself from the roller coaster of emotions, with a variety of substances. Dying a slow, unnoticed death, it was Greg who helped me towards the light. We got very drunk one night and he started talking about the death of his sister, how it had compelled him to seek out young people and help them, so they never got to the dark place that had claimed her. It was the trigger I needed. We talked into the small hours before he wobbled home and something changed inside me. That winter, he was only there for a few weeks but his presence was comforting and guiding. He'd been there and he'd got through. I could too.

Through his work at OPC and with the 'Hoods in the Woods' courses he used to run, through his days on 'The Journey'

continued over...

...Aspects of Outdoor Leadership continued

with Graeme Dingle, and the many mountain adventures he had, Greg must have encountered and influenced a large number of people. Later he constructed, literally, a new life for himself as a builder in Wanaka. I know very little about that life; our paths no longer crossed. No doubt his charm and talent endeared him to that community. Greg made a difference in his life. I know this because I was one person he touched directly. I have no doubt there were others.

The power we wield as outdoor instructors is more than the ability to manipulate immediate behaviours and to coerce folk into adventurous activities. The power we have is more than the ability to teach skills and to demonstrate our competence. In outdoor education, the 'how to do' and

the 'when to do' are the easiest concepts to learn. The 'why to do' is the hardest but the most important concept to grasp. Examining your own motives for working in the outdoors will help guide not only the direction you go in, but also how you operate with other people. It was Goethe who

said: "Be bold and mighty forces will come to your aid". Perhaps I could rephrase this in relation to the 'outdoor industry': "Be true and mighty forces will come to your aid". Greg Brosnan was true – he had examined his inner self and decided he wanted to make a difference to young people. When that no longer felt right or his desire had been satisfied, he walked away from that life and started a new career. How many of us can say that what we hold as 'true' – our inner core values – aligns with what we do for a job, and results in a positive contribution to our society? It is this alignment that is critical for our own growth as individuals; it is the end result that is most needed in our society.

Ray Hollingsworth walked away from teaching in the outdoors in the mid 1990's. He sailed to Australia, walked the length of Fiordland, wrote two books and worked as a freelance writer/editor before returning to working in the outdoors. He aspires to having a cabin in the woods and a book contract. In the meantime, he teaches a variety of outdoor subjects at AUT University



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CONGRATULATIONS! CONGRATULATIONS!

The following members recently gained NZOIA Awards:

- ALPINE 2:** Stuart Arnold.
- BUSH 1:** Matt Buchan, Wayne Goodchild, Aaron McLeish, Andrew West.
- BUSH 2:** Daniel Moore, Rebecca Dryland, Hamish Reid, Tim Wills, Ray Hollingsworth, Kevin Pasco, Stephanie Bowis.
- CANOE:** Jonathan Taylor, Steve Brown, Jenny Riley, Aaron Agnew, Andrew Riley.
- CAVE 1:** Reuben Jones, Andrew Murphy, David Gold, Ian Fox, Kane Flemming, John Parker, Andrew Mitchell, Ross O'Halloran.
- ROCK 1:** Daniel Pennington, Ben White, Georgie Griffiths, Robert Griffiths.
- SEA KAYAK GUIDE:** Sam Brewer, Andy White, Steve Batley.

FOR SALE

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- **GETTING IT RIGHT**
How to successfully run your outdoor business.
- **NZOIA T-SHIRTS**

LEGAL INFORMATION WEBSITE

Here is a useful link to simple, easy to use legal information for the non-profit sector.

<http://www.nzfwo.org.nz/keepingitlegal>

AND CHECK OUT THE NZOIA WEB SITE AT

www.nzoia.org.nz

...your comments and suggestions are welcome!

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NZOIA QUARTERLY

The NZOIA Quarterly welcomes articles, photos, letters, news, details of coming events and bits and pieces from all readers. Submissions may be edited.

PLEASE FORWARD ALL ITEMS TO: Administration Officer, PO Box 11-090, Manners Street, Wellington 6142, or email to: ao@nzoia.org.nz
Articles should be submitted in Word format. All photographs must be supplied individually in jpg format and cannot be used if embedded in a Word document.

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NEW ZEALAND OUTDOOR INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

2008 Training Calendar

Course & Location	Provider	Course Date	Application Closing Date	Accommodation & Meals Included	Cost to Full & Associate Members	Cost to Non-Members
Kayak FW						
Auckland	NZOIA	18 October 2008	3 September	No	\$60*	\$100*
Christchurch	NZOIA	8 November 2008	24 September	No	\$60*	\$100*
Central North Is.	NZOIA	15 November 2008	1 October	No	\$60*	\$100*
Kayak 1						
Tongariro	OPC	1-2 Nov 2008	None	No	\$445	\$445
Cromwell	NZOIA	15-16 Nov 2008	1 October	No	\$120*	\$200*
Sea Kayak 1						
Christchurch	NZOIA	18-19 October 2008	3 September	No	\$120*	\$200*
Auckland	NZOIA	1-2 November 2008	18 September	No	\$120*	\$200*
Sea Kayak 2						
Picton	NZOIA	17-18 May 2008	2 April	No	\$120*	\$200*
Risk Management						
Tongariro	OPC	28 April-2 May 2008	None	Yes	\$995	\$995
Tongariro	OPC	7-11 July 2008	None	Yes	\$995	\$995
Tongariro	OPC	4-8 October 2008	None	Yes	\$995	\$995
Ropes Course Safety/ABL Horizons Unlimited						
Christchurch -	Horizons	9-10 May, 19-20 Sep	None	No	\$250	\$250
		Facilitation Skills Level 1				
Christchurch	Horizons	23-24 May, 17-18 Oct	None	No	\$330	\$330
		Facilitation Skills Level 2				
Christchurch	Horizons	5-6 & 12-13 Apr, 9-12 Sep	None	No	\$730	\$730
		Ropes Course Facilitation Training				
Christchurch	Horizons	15 Mar, 28 Nov	None	No	\$150	\$150
		Energiser & Activity Workshops				
Top Rope & Abseil Instructor OPC						
Tongariro	OPC	1-2 November 2008	None	Yes	\$455	\$455
Outdoor 1st Aid						
Tongariro	OPC	10-11 May 2008	None	Yes	\$445	\$445
Tongariro	OPC	November 2008	None	Yes	\$455	\$455
PHEC Horizons Unlimited (Pre-Hospital Emergency Care)						
Christchurch	Horizons	12-16 May 2008	None	No	\$900	\$900
Ruapehu/Turangi	Horizons	TBC	None	No	\$900	\$900
Christchurch	Horizons	3-7 November 2008	None	No	\$900	\$900
PHEC Refresher						
Christchurch	Horizons	24 - 25 May	None	No	\$385	\$385
Turangi	Horizons	TBC August	None	No	\$385	\$385
Wanaka (TBC)	Horizons	11-12 October	None	No	\$385	\$385
Christchurch	Horizons	18 -19 October	None	No	\$385	\$385
Cave 1						
Nelson	NZOIA	8 June 2008	23 April	No	\$175	\$225
Waitomo	NZOIA	22 June 2008	7 May	No	\$175	\$225
Cave 2						
Nelson	NZOIA	15-16 June 2008	30 April	No	\$275	\$375
Waitomo	NZOIA	28-29 June 2008	14 May	No	\$275	\$375
Rock 1						
Christchurch	NZOIA	1-2 November 2008	24 September	No	\$275	\$375
Queenstown	NZOIA	15-16 Nov 2008	1 October	No	\$275	\$375
Rock 2						
Central North Is.	NZOIA	11-12 October 2008	27 August	No	\$275	\$375

NEW ZEALAND OUTDOOR INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

2008 Training Calendar

Course & Location	Provider	Course Date	Application Closing Date	Accommodation & Meals Included	Cost to Full & Associate Members	Cost to Non-Members
Abseil 1						
Auckland	NZOIA	20 April 2008	5 March	No	\$175	\$225
Bush 1						
Central South Is.	NZOIA	8-9 November 2008	24 September	No	\$275	\$375
Central North Is.	NZOIA	15-16 Nov 2008	1 October	No	\$275	\$375
Bush 2						
Central South Is.	NZOIA	26-27 April 2008	12 March	No	\$275	\$375
Central North Is.	NZOIA	29-30 Nov 2008	15 October	No	\$275	\$375
Central South Island	NZOIA	6-7 December 2008	22 October	No	\$275	\$375
Alpine 1						
South Island	NZOIA	5-6 July 2008	21 May	No	\$275	\$375
Central North Island	NZOIA	2-3 August 2008	18 June	No	\$275	\$375
Tongariro	OPC	16-17 August 2008	None	Yes	\$445	\$445
Alpine 2						
South Island	NZOIA	2-3 August 2008	18 June	No	\$275	\$375
Central North Is.	NZOIA	9-10 August 2008	25 June	No	\$275	\$375

* **Water Safety NZ funding subsidy has been applied to this course (applies to all Kayak, Canoe and Sea Kayak courses run by NZOIA)**

NZKS - NZ Kayak School, Murchison. Accommodation and cooking facilities provided on site. Full gear hire available at reduced rates to participants.

OPC - Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre of NZ, Tongariro. Accommodation and all meals are provided on site. All gear is also supplied at no additional cost.

NZOIA - Accommodation and meals need to be organised by participants. Participants generally need to supply their own gear. If gear hire is available it will be advised in the pre course information after you have enrolled.

Application closing date - Applications for enrollment need to be received 6 weeks before the actual course date, however applications will be accepted beyond the closing date until the course maximum is reached. Places on training courses are allocated on a first in (with completed application form, summary sheets and course fee) first accepted basis.

Course cancellation - If minimum numbers are not achieved the course may be cancelled and you will be advised of this soon after the closing date for applications.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Ideally there should be a period of about 6 months between training and assessment. This allows you time to work on any gaps you need to fill that have been highlighted by the training course. In many cases training courses are run by assessors. It is NZOIA policy that no person shall be trained and assessed by the same person within a period of one month. Please be aware that booking training and assessment with less than a month gap is not recommended and may lead to disappointment because we generally cannot confirm who will be doing the training and assessing until just after the application closing date. Plan ahead and allow time both to prepare for assessment and to avoid the problem of the trainer being the assessor. Instructor training courses are just that, they are designed for those who wish to qualify as an instructor. In general terms you should be already working as an instructor under supervision or guidance. Your technical skills should be close to the standard expected on assessment (see individual award syllabi on our website). The course should provide you with new knowledge and skills and will help you identify any gaps you need to fill before your assessment. They are not introductory courses.

COURSE COSTS: All courses run by NZOIA are discounted for members; this includes Full, Student and Associate members. Kayak courses are substantially discounted because we receive funding support from Water Safety NZ. This funding is targeted by Water Safety as part of their overall aim of reducing water sports incidents and drowning. If you are not already a member it is probably worth joining to access discounted training.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND COURSE APPLICATION: Details of courses run by NZOIA, prerequisites, application forms and online payment are all available on the NZOIA website. Where courses are run by other providers you'll need to contact them directly for enrollment and direct payment of course fees. You'll find links to them from the NZOIA website.

WHO ARE THE COURSES FOR? Instructor training courses are just that, they are designed for those who wish to qualify as an instructor. In general terms you should be already working as an instructor under supervision or guidance. Your technical skills should be close to the standard expected on assessment (see individual award syllabi on our website). The course should provide you with new knowledge and skills and will help you identify any gaps you need to fill before your assessment. Ideally you should be aiming to complete your actual assessment within 6 to 12 months. They are not introductory courses.

EXISTING AWARD HOLDER AND NEED TO REFRESH YOUR SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE? Perhaps you are an existing award holder and either you've not instructed in a particular discipline for some time, or perhaps it's a long time since someone had a look at your skills? If this is the case you can come along on an instructor training course and treat it as a refresher or update to ensure that you are working to current accepted practice.

DO YOU REQUIRE A CUSTOM COURSE? If you have specific training needs or require a course for your staff on a particular date or location we'll be happy to put something together for you. Cost will be much the same as our advertised courses unless such items as instructor travel costs are excessive. Get in touch and we'll be pleased to quote.

DO YOU RUN COURSES OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS? These could be specific courses related to awards eg Alpine 1 Instructor Training, or they could be in a related field such as River Rescue, a rolling clinic or Outdoor First Aid.

In order for your course to be included on the calendar and advertised by NZOIA you must meet the following criteria:

- If the course is instructor training towards an NZOIA award you, or the staff you employ to run the course, must be Level 2 award holders in the relevant discipline and must be full financial members of NZOIA.
- If it's a technical course not certified by NZOIA such as River Rescue or Avalanche Awareness, you need to satisfy us that you hold the relevant qualifications or authority to run the course, and you must also be a current full financial member.
- Some other courses such as Outdoor First Aid we're happy to advertise without the membership requirement, as a service to members.
- The course needs to be scheduled for a specific date rather than 'on demand' (however we will provide a link to your website where you can advertise your full range of services).
- We encourage you to discount courses for fellow members to encourage others to join our association.

Web: www.nzoi.org.nz Email - Administration: ao@nzoi.org.nz Email - Training: training@nzoi.org.nz



NEW ZEALAND OUTDOOR INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION
2008 Assessment Calendar

Activity/Location	Date	Closing Date	Activity/Location	Date	Closing Date
Kayak FW			Cave 2	June 3-5 TBC	April 15
Auckland	October 11-12 2008	Aug 27	Rock 1		
Christchurch	November 1-2 2008	Sept 17	Auckland	May 3-4 2008	Mar 19
Kayak 1			Christchurch	May 17-18 2008	April 2
Murchison	March 28-30 2008	Feb 13	Christchurch	October 18-19 2008	Sept 3
Central NI	April 4-6 2008	Feb 20	Auckland	November 1-2 2008	Sept 17
Central NI	October 17-19 2008	Sept 2	Christchurch	November 8-9 2008	Sept 24
Christchurch	November 7-9 2008	Sept 22	Central North Is.	November 22-23 2008	Oct 8
Kayak 2			Sport Climbing 1	On request	
Multi Sport Kayak			Sport Climbing 2	On request	
Auckland	On request		Abseil 1		
Christchurch	On request		Auckland	November 15-16 2008	Oct 1
SKOANZ Guide & Sea Kayak 1			Rock 2		
Christchurch	May 8-10,11 2008	Mar 25	Christchurch	April 11-13 2008	Feb 26
Auckland	May 22-24,25 2008	Apr 8	Bush 1		
Auckland	October 2-4,5 2008	Aug 19	Central South Is.	October 11-13 2008	Aug 27
Christchurch	October 9-11,12 2008	Aug 26	Central South Is.	November 1-3 2008	Sept 10
Sea Kayak 1			Central North Is.	November 8-10 2008	Sept 17
Christchurch	May 11 2008	Mar 25	Bush 2		
Auckland	May 25 2008	Apr 8	South Island	April 4-6 2008	Feb 20
Auckland	October 5 2008	Aug 19	Central North Is.	May 2-4 2008	Mar 18
Christchurch	October 12 2008	Aug 26	Alpine 1		
Canoe			Central North Island	August 29-31 2008	July 15
South Island	November 28-30 2008	Oct 14	South Island	Sept 19-21 2008	Aug 5
Cave 1			South Island	Sept 26-28 2008	Aug 12
Nelson	June 2008	Apr 15	Alpine 2		
Waitomo	April 7-8 2008	Feb 23	South Island	September 4-7 2008	July 21

Closing Date ** ~ assessment applications, associated documentation and assessment deposit (\$100) must be received by closing date. Assessment applications received after closing date may be declined.

NOTE:

- It is always possible to run assessments on other dates, either by special request or if sufficient candidate are available.
- There are a minimum number of candidates required for each assessment.
- If you are interested please register your interest with our office.
- We will contact you if there are sufficient numbers.

Website: www.nzoi.org.nz

Email Administration Officer: ao@nzoi.org.nz **Assessment Co-ordinator:** assessment@nzoi.org.nz

Postal address: PO Box 11-090, Manners Street, Wellington 6142. Telephone: 04 385 6048, Fax: 04 385 9680.



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IMAGE: JO KIPPAX, SEAN WATERS IN TIBET

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GETTING THE ADVENTURE BACK

Nelson College for Girls



Photos courtesy Symon Claridge

Photo contributions are welcomed for the back page series 'GETTING THE ADVENTURE BACK'.
Please submit as files of no less than 700kb in individual jpg format.

