

# The Scout Association's Authorisation Schemes for Activities in Moors, Hills & Mountains (until Sep 2007)

Item Code FS120418 Dec 05 Edition no. 4



0845 300 1818

This factsheet is based on the Adventurous Activity Authorisation Scheme and therefore is only relevant if your County are still running this scheme, and no later than Sep 2007. If your County has already updated to the Adventurous Activity Permit Scheme (launched Dec 2005), please use the new factsheets produced to support this updated scheme.

While this factsheet is aimed primarily at Assistant Area/County/District Commissioners (Activities), Area/County/District Mountain Activity Advisers and Area/County Assessors, others with relevant responsibilities such as Group Scout Leaders, District Commissioners and Area/County Commissioners should also be aware of the content. Those seeking assessment and Authorisation, and those seeking detailed guidance on the appointment and qualifications of Mountain Advisers and Assessors, are referred to the relevant factsheets listed at the end of this factsheet.

## Introduction

The Association's Rules for activities are set out in Chapter 10 of *Policy, Organisation and Rules*. These should be the starting point for anyone wishing to determine what leaders (including other adults working in Scouting) and young people can and cannot do in the mountains. It is important to know and understand these rules. This Factsheet provides further, more detailed, information on the implementation of the rules. The Authorisation Scheme does not apply to those taking part in mountain activities outside Scouting and it is therefore important to define when an activity

which involves adults only is within Scouting. The purpose of the activity or the origin of its planning will usually determine this.

## The Need for an Authorisation Scheme

The Association needs a formal scheme of Authorisation for the following reasons:

1. To give a clear indication to parents and others that the Association takes its duty of care of young people very seriously, and to implement this duty properly.
2. To provide a framework for Commissioners to ensure that those leading or supervising hill walking, scrambling, rock climbing, off piste skiing, cross country skiing, or mountain biking are competent to do so.
3. To provide an indication to the general public that the Association is a responsible youth organisation concerned for the safety of its Members.
4. To encourage leaders to have confidence in their ability and to enhance that ability by further training, experience and qualifications.

## Geographical Areas Not Requiring the Authorisation Scheme

These are set out in *Policy, Organisation and Rules* but are repeated here for convenience.

## Terrain Zero

The Scout Association

Gilwell Park Chingford London E4 7QW Tel + 44 (0)20 8433 7100 Fax + 44 (0)20 8433 7103 email [scout.association@scout.org.uk](mailto:scout.association@scout.org.uk) [www.scouts.org.uk](http://www.scouts.org.uk)

The Association does not require formal Authorisation for Scouting activities on routes which meet **ALL** the following criteria, which are based on the Regulations made under the Activity Centres (Young Persons Safety) Act 1995:

1. Below 500 metres above sea-level
2. Within 30 minutes travelling time of a road which can take an ordinary road-going ambulance or a building which is occupied (such as a farm) or another means of summoning help (such as a telephone box)
3. Has no element of scrambling (no part of the route requires the use of hands in order to proceed)

*“Travelling time” means the time it would take a person to walk by the quickest safe route; and for this purpose a person shall be deemed to walk at 5 kilometres per hour and to take, in addition, one minute for every 10 metres of increase in the height above sea level of any uphill section of that route.*

Although there is no requirement for formal Authorisation the requirements of Rule 37.1 and 37.3 still apply, and the normal **Risk Assessment** (see *factsheet FS120000 Activities Risk Assessment*, for much more detail on this subject) common to any Scouting activity both before and throughout the duration of the activity must be carried out. Such a risk assessment in respect of open country would need to consider the age, experience and fitness of the party leaders and the young people. The time of year, the weather, the numbers in the party, the clothing worn and the terrain are also factors to consider. When Winter conditions prevail it may be that some Areas/Counties will require formal local approval for some part of Terrain Zero.

Examples of routes that do not require Authorisation are:

From Ogwen Corner to circumnavigate Llyn Idwal.  
The path from Capel Curig to Llyn Crafnant.

The walk from Rydal Water to Skelwith Bridge over Loughrigg Fell.

The walk round Devoke Water from the Eskdale/Dunnerdale road.

Any part of the West Highland Way from Inverarnan to the Bridge of Orchy.

Postbridge to Gidleigh going west of Fernworthy Forest.

### **Geographical Areas Which Do Require Authorisation under the revised Scheme**

In simple terms Authorisation is required for anyone leading or supervising parties on ground, routes or paths which do not fall within the criteria given in the above section. However the degree of Authorisation required will vary from that needed for ground which just exceeds the above criteria (e.g. it is at 510 metres) to that required on the major scrambling routes in Scotland. It is important to note that Winter conditions (see Definition of Terms) will require a separate **Authorisation** to that given for Summer conditions.

#### **Terrain One:**

It is envisaged that the majority of Scout activities will take place in this terrain. If the route meets **ANY ONE** of the following criteria, it lies in Terrain One:

1. Is below 800 metres but more than 500 metres above sea-level.
2. Is more than 30 minutes but less than 3 hours travelling time from a road which can take an ordinary road-going ambulance or a building which is occupied (such as a farm) or another means of summoning help (such as a telephone box).

In addition, although the route may possibly traverse rough or rocky ground, **there must be no scrambling** (i.e. the result of a slip or fall is

unlikely to be more than a grazed knee or cut hand).

*“Travelling time” means the time it would take a person to walk by the quickest safe route; and for this purpose a person shall be deemed to walk at 5 kilometres per hour and to take, in addition, one minute for every 10 metres of increase in the height above sea level of any uphill section of that route.*

The applicant for assessment for Terrain One must either hold a Walking Group Leader Award or demonstrate experience and skills equivalent to the assessment standard of that award.

*Note: From 1st January 2005 anyone applying for Authorisation for Terrain One must have completed at least the training course of the Walking Group Leader Award, or have been formally exempted by a Mountain Training Board.*

Examples of routes that require Authorisation in Terrain One are:

Travelling from Bontddu (near Barmouth) to Llanbedr via Pont Scethin

To Dulyn Reservoir or Melynllyn from Tal y Bont in the Conwy Valley

The Cumbria Way from Borrowdale to Langdale (via Langstrath, Stake Pass and Mickleden)

The through route (corridor route) from Cannich via the youth hostel at Alltbeithe and the bothy at Camban to Morvich. Note the difference between this route and An Riabhachan below despite them both being in the same mountain ‘massif’

Dalwhinnie to Glen Nevis via Loch Erich and Corroul

It is in respect of this terrain that an Assessor will need to give a clear recommendation as to what the candidate can be authorised for. The use of ‘corridor routes’ through wild and dramatic

mountain areas cannot be advocated too strongly provided training and experience is adequate. Scouting parties can travel through such areas and enjoy them without the additional training and experience demanded for the high tops. Such routes have much value in training and developing young people. However once **everyone** in a Scout party is ready for those high tops then they can aim for them.

### **Terrain Two:**

If the route meets **ANY ONE** of the following criteria, it lies in Terrain Two:

1. Is over 800 metres above sea-level.
2. Has an element of scrambling (part of the route requires the use of hands in order to proceed).
3. Is more than 3 hours travelling time from a road which can take an ordinary road-going ambulance or a building which is occupied (such as a farm) or another means of summoning help (such as a telephone box).

*“Travelling time” means the time it would take a person to walk by the quickest safe route; and for this purpose a person shall be deemed to walk at 5 kilometres per hour and to take, in addition, one minute for every 10 metres of increase in the height above sea level of any uphill section of that route.*

The applicant for assessment for Terrain Two must either hold a Mountain Leader Award (Summer) or demonstrate experience and skills equivalent to the assessment standard of that award. For Winter conditions the Mountain Leader Award (Winter) would be the appropriate standard.

*Note: from 1st January 2005 anyone applying for Authorisation for Terrain Two must have completed at least the training course of the Mountain Leader Award (Summer or Winter as*

*applicable) or have been formally exempted by a Mountain Training Board.*

Examples of routes and peaks which require this level of experience and skill would be:

- The summit of Snowdon by any route
- The summit of Helvellyn by any route
- Ben Nevis by any route
- An Riabhachan north of Loch Mullardoch
- An Sgarsoch in the Cairngorms
- A traverse of the Carneddau range
- Scafell Pike by any route

Activities in these areas will always require a leader with an appropriate level of skill and experience in the following areas:

- navigation
- party management
- the hazards of steep ground (including a full knowledge of the use of a confidence or walkers rope)
- accident procedures
- emergency bivouacs
- coping with bad weather

For the remoter routes and peaks the skills of mountain camping will usually have to be demonstrated as well. Many of these routes will only be suitable for some parties of Venture Scouts and older Scouts who have had the necessary training for the intended route. Exceptionally a particularly skilled young person might be authorised at this level, but it is very unlikely that a leader would exercise remote supervision in such areas.

#### **Winter Conditions (see Definition of Terms)**

Leaders seeking Authorisation for Winter activities in areas where it is formally required will need to

demonstrate very clearly not only their own level of knowledge and expertise but also their realisation of the considerable additional level of stress and fatigue that such conditions force onto young people. It is not the intention, in any way, to ban Winter activities. However, only those young people with considerable experience of Summer conditions should undertake such expeditions. It should be the norm that Winter expeditions take place at lower altitude, for shorter distances, and for a lesser duration. In addition, the level of clothing and equipment must be adequate for Winter conditions. Only a very small proportion of older Scouts and some Venture Scouts are likely to have the necessary depth of experience for more than quite modest expeditions. In Winter conditions the Crib Goch ridge, the Cairngorm plateau, the summit of Ben Nevis and similar places are only for those who possess the necessary skills and judgement and for whom mountaineering is their major leisure activity.

#### **Authorisations for Activities Overseas**

Hill walking and climbing activities outside the UK are still subject to the Authorisation Scheme. With the exception of greater altitude and glaciated areas (which introduce a new type of terrain not found in the UK) there may well be little difference from the UK. Indeed, in some areas these activities might be deemed safer because the weather is more consistent and reliable. It is important to separate the differences of language, culture, food etc. from the differences (if any) of the terrain, weather and other things which affect authorisations. If, after due consideration, the Area/County Mountain Activities Adviser feels that the overall conditions for the hill walking or climbing expedition are sufficiently close to those in the UK, he can advise the Area/County Commissioner to treat the expedition as a special event under the terms of POR 40. 1 (b).

For Kandersteg and Switzerland generally, an equivalence of that country's terms of *Wanderweg* and *Bergweg* in relation to UK authorisations is available from Gilwell Park. For glaciated areas,

or where the Area/County Commissioner feels unable to take a decision as above, a suitably experienced person should be consulted. As a last resort advice as to how to proceed should be sought from the Activities Department at Gilwell Park.

### **Up to a Benchmark or Down to a Level?**

The Association views both the Mountain Leader Award (MLA) and the Walking Group Leader Award (WGL) as nationally accepted standards of mountain walking leadership and every encouragement should be given to leaders to achieve them. It is likely that only a small proportion of leaders will obtain the MLA although a much larger number could obtain the WGL, which is cheaper in both time and money.

It is important to note two major differences between these awards and Scouting needs. Firstly both awards assess up to benchmarks of skills for differing types of terrain. Scouting is concerned with the development of young people and uses activities such as hill walking in this process. In the main these activities will be at a modest or novice level and for this the lower hills and easier routes are far more suitable. For this reason many leaders do not need the range of skills and experience required by the MLA although those of the WGL are very applicable.

Secondly the mountain leader training boards have only recently (i.e. by the recent introduction of remote supervision to the syllabus) acknowledged parties led by young people and candidates cannot be assessed until they are at least 20 years old. Scouting has always emphasised the value of the young person led party be it a patrol or some other grouping. Therefore the MLA and WGL schemes do not fully meet Scout requirements, hence the need for our own Authorisation. Under the appropriate supervision and after adequate training and with suitable equipment the Association believes that such parties can move safely in the hills on certain routes and areas.

Candidates can state on their application forms the level of Authorisation they hope to achieve. The ambitious may obtain what they seek and the vast majority of applicants will be authorised for some level of mountain activity albeit very modest in some cases. It is vital that assessors determine if the candidate has the skills sufficient for the level of Authorisation sought. Should a candidate prove less capable, then a lower level of Authorisation may be recommended but the Assessor should also attempt to identify what further experience and training is required to enable the candidate to meet their original aspirations. Areas/Counties and the assessors must guard against setting up an assessment programme where 'one size fits all'. Assessors must not expect candidates to have the same level of skills that they have acquired through their own training and experience.

### **Leading and Supervising**

A candidate for assessment can request to be assessed for leading only or for leading and supervising.

#### **Leading**

To be given an Authorisation to **lead a party** means that the authorised person must be with, or in close proximity to, the party at all times - so that although young people should be given the chance to "lead", the party leader can take direct responsibility at any moment. The party leader must be in a position to make all the safety related decisions first hand.

Scouting is dedicated to the training and development of young people. Every opportunity should therefore be given to the young people in the party to navigate, determine the pace, and take other decisions. However, with the leader physically there, they can guide and offer advice, and, should the need arise, take total charge in the full leadership sense to overcome a difficulty, avert a danger, or recover a situation.

### Leading and Supervising

To be given an Authorisation to **lead and supervise (up to 3) parties** means that the Authorised person firstly meets the criteria to lead a party. Secondly, their skills are such that the responsibility for leading a party can safely be delegated under appropriate conditions to a designated leader but the Authorised Person must be in the locality of the activity i.e.: they must supervise the party from a distance (Ideally no more than 3 kilometres if on foot or 10 kilometres in a vehicle). Designated Party Leaders do not need their own Authorisations.

The *leading* element remains as above but a leader who is authorised *to supervise* must clearly demonstrate, at assessment, knowledge of the skills of remote supervision. These are such things as shadowing, selecting and establishing checkpoints, campsites, etc. A leader (see POR 40. 1 (f) for when there may be a minimum of two) in a supervising role will **always** be in the area. The leader needs to be in a position to respond quickly should the need arise. They will have delegated, in accordance with POR, to each individual designated party leader.

Unaccompanied parties offer the greatest training value to young people or other less experienced leaders but the leader supervising must appreciate that their responsibilities are much increased. They must have a clear plan in their own mind as to how they will retrieve any situation which might arise.

If a leader/supervisor is also leading a party, an extra dimension is added to their planning. No one should supervise more than three parties including their own if appropriate. In the situation where Authorisation is being delegated, there is a limit to the number of parties that can be on the same route with a clear time and distance separation between them, such that the authorised leader can safely supervise the other parties from a distance. No authorised leader should seek to lead/supervise more than three parties; separate leaders should be sought.

### **A Typical Assessment**

The earlier stages of a candidate's application (*Factsheet 120406*) and the role of the GSL and DC (*Factsheet FS120002 Authorisations – A District Commissioner's and Group Scout Leader's Guide*) are dealt with elsewhere as indicated. This section of this factsheet deals with the actual assessment and the role of the Assessor.

On receipt of the completed application form and any associated documents the Assessor should read them through carefully to get a mental picture of the candidate, their recent experience and their requested level of assessment. The validity of the First Response Course (i.e. attended within the last three years) or other first aid qualification should already have been checked by the District Commissioner it needs to be 'in-date' on the day of the assessment or re-assessment. Should it subsequently go 'out-of-date' this does not invalidate the Authorisation which has a validity date (not exceeding five years) of its own.

The candidate may have applied for a programmed Area/County assessment course in which case the Assessor will meet them on the course but if the assessment is on an *ad hoc* basis then it is for the Assessor to make contact with the candidate to discuss possible dates and locations. It is possible that a formal practical assessment would not serve any useful purpose. If the Assessor knows the candidate well because they have walked or climbed together frequently in the past year or two, it is likely that the Assessor can come to a recommendation based on past knowledge. This will be more in depth than a practical assessment lasting, at most, two days and, acceptably, only one. If a candidate holds a National Governing Body qualification, even if obtained sometime previously, and is still clearly active, no purpose is served by requiring a practical assessment. It is not the role of the Scout Association to question such a qualification.

There is no requirement for a candidate to sit written examination papers. Mountaineering is essentially a practical activity and there is nothing

that can be determined from a paper exercise, which cannot be discovered by discussion, be it on the mountain or in a valley base. Some who are competent mountain leaders lack the facility to express themselves adequately on paper (e.g. those who suffer from some forms of dyslexia) and they should not be placed at a disadvantage. It is not sufficient to claim that no one will be failed on the written answers. If they cannot fail what is the purpose of the written papers? If the candidate feels he has done badly he will start at a disadvantage when he comes to the practical assessment.

The basis of the assessment is that of people having an enjoyable day out in the hills with one of them watching, in a friendly manner, how the others perform. Ideally the candidate would be assessed leading a party of young people but this is not always possible. As far as possible the performance should be related to the skills required leading a party of young people. The atmosphere should not be that of an examination conducted by a coldly distant examiner. The Assessor should not expect a candidate to know every possible technique to resolve a situation - one is sufficient but the Assessor should freely offer alternatives as a means of broadening the candidates' knowledge. The judgement should be 'was the action taken safe and sensible?' and ultimately 'would I be happy for this person to lead a party containing one of my children?' rather than 'was it the best decision or action?'

It is important that the assessment is carried out, as far as practically possible, in the type of country requested by the candidate. A leader who only wishes to lead on modest rolling hills should not be assessed on a technically difficult route involving knife-edge ridges. An applicant who only wishes to be assessed for day walks should not be required to mountain camp although he would be expected to demonstrate knowledge of emergency bivouacing. Those seeking Authorisation for mountain camping would obviously have to do so overnight in an appropriate location.

Since the average mountain day does not involve emergency incidents, a degree of simulation will be required to assess the candidates' reaction to typical mountain emergencies. The briefing for such simulations must be very clear and simple and an Assessor must guard against loading one simulation with every possible calamity. The Assessor needs to note carefully the ability of the candidates to make risk assessments throughout the day(s) and their reaction when faced with a simulated emergency which may well require a rapid risk reassessment. If a candidate reacts well to a couple of simulated emergencies it is not the role of the Assessor to persist in posing more and more in the hope of finally 'tripping up' the candidate. However, with less capable candidates, Assessors may need to simulate additional incidents to satisfy themselves as to competence. Throughout the assessment the Assessor must ensure that a situation that could endanger the candidate, the party, or the Assessor is never allowed to develop. The assessment is a Scouting activity and must comply with the Activity Rules with the Assessor being the overall authorised leader. The Assessor needs to remember that, however informal the assessment, most candidates will suffer from some degree of examination nerves. If a candidate makes an error and they recover the situation adequately they should not be penalised.

The Association's scheme of Authorisation is concerned only with matters of safety. A candidate's weakness in such subjects as conservation, access and knowledge of the environment should not therefore affect the ultimate recommendation, although the Assessor might offer friendly suggestions about overcoming such weaknesses.

At the end of the assessment the candidates should feel that they have had a fair assessment. The Assessor should discuss with the candidates their strengths and weaknesses and should suggest positive ways forward to eliminate the weaknesses. Sometimes a candidate may have to wait for a further assessment until they have improved their skills as suggested by the

Assessor but it would be more usual to make a recommendation below that requested by the candidate. Sometimes the recommendation can fully meet the hopes of the candidate. Whatever the outcome, it is for the Assessor to declare it to the candidate. It is the Assessor who has made the judgement and they should not hide behind some bureaucratic system which informs the candidate 'at a later date'.

### **Responsibility and the Assessor**

Accepting appointment as an Assessor means accepting responsibility. Kipling has rightly said that 'Power without responsibility is the prerogative of the harlot'. An Assessor cannot seek to shift the responsibility of making a recommendation for Authorisation to another person or to a body such as a County or Area. They cannot expect to be able to assess by means of a series of ticks in boxes on a checklist provided by the Association. In any assessment there is a degree of 'gut feeling' in addition to checking clearly defined technical skills.

In difficult or borderline cases, an Assessor is recommended to discuss the matter with another Assessor or to request that the candidate is assessed by a second Assessor. In an ideal world every assessment party would have two assessors with it. Ultimately, however, the Assessor must make a judgement based on the documentary evidence provided and on their observation of the candidate. If the assessors' final decision is fairly based on all the evidence available then they can make a recommendation with a clear conscience and in good faith. They should not worry that at some time in the future the candidate might be involved in an accident and that somehow the fault will be traced back to the Assessor. Similarly the Assessor should not feel that ever after they are in some way responsible for the actions and decisions of any candidate they have ever assessed.

### **What is Assessment ?**

Assessment is not a black art. It could be defined as the application of commonsense and the

shrewd observation of an individual in practical situations in a mountain environment. Assessors should never exaggerate the dangers of the hills but equally they should not be underplayed. Safe leadership in the mountains is a combination of technical skills and confidence. A well-conducted assessment will enhance the confidence of the leader.

Assessors must never use an assessment to 'show off' their cleverness and expertise. It is the candidates' day not the assessors'. Candidates must not be expected to demonstrate the same depth of knowledge as the Assessor. As far as possible every assessment must be tailored to the level requested by the candidate. Where assessments are carried out in a programmed course format it is important to sort the candidates into groups with similar aspirations.

Areas/Counties must be as flexible as possible regarding assessment opportunities. They must cater for shift workers and the many people nowadays who work unsocial hours. It is not enough to publish a year's programme of assessment dates (all Saturdays and Sundays) from which no variation is allowed.

Assessors must remember that there is no requirement, except for the most modest of recommendations, for the candidate to have personal experience of every area they might visit. A candidate who is successfully assessed to a level in North Wales can certainly be authorised to a similar level in the Lake District and *vice versa*.

It is vital that the average candidate can be assessed with a minimum of form filling. The assessment should be an attractive day in the hills with the assessment done almost in passing. Candidates should know the Assessors' recommendations so that they can take satisfaction in having the skills they believed they had confirmed and that they can now enhance their Troop or Unit programme by taking young people on more exciting and adventurous activities. Probably the most valuable further reading on the subject of assessment is *The Mountain Leader Award* and the *Walking Group Leader Award* published by the UK Mountain

Training Board but available from any of the four national boards.

### Rock Climbing and Snow and Ice Climbing

With the exception of the discussion on hill walking areas and routes virtually all the above can be applied to rock climbing. However there are additional considerations for this branch of mountaineering. In simple terms a candidate may be given a recommendation for:

1. Single pitch climbing and abseiling on one or more purpose built climbing walls.
2. Single pitch climbing and abseiling on climbing walls and on suitable outdoor crags possibly with geographical or other limitations.
3. Multi-pitch rock climbing certainly with a grading limitation and possibly with geographical or other limitations.
4. Snow and Ice climbing certainly with a grading limitation and possibly with a geographical or other limitation.

The last two categories are not normal Scouting activities and should only be led by those who understand the activities and have the necessary skills to deal with them.

The above four categories are progressive so that someone, for example, who has been assessed for multi-pitch rock climbing does not need to be separately assessed for single pitch climbing. For single pitch climbing and abseiling a candidate may be recommended to control only one rope - the equivalent of 'leading' in the hill walking sense. Alternatively he may be recommended to supervise up to three systems, i.e. any three combinations of climbing and/or abseiling (see *factsheet FS120402 Authorisation Scheme for Climbing and Abseiling*).

For multi-pitch climbing there are three possible recommendations:

**1. As a climber.** This is to cover, for example, two young people possibly of similar capability and certainly neither a novice, climbing together within Scouting. There would be no element of instruction.

**2. As a climbing instructor.** This would allow a leader to take up to two others who could well be novices. They would have sufficient experience not only to lead safely and impart all necessary instruction but also to appreciate the need for sympathetic consideration and encouragement to those on their first few climbs. They should also be wholly familiar with the additional risks associated with multi-pitch climbing and be capable of dealing with them.

**3. As a climbing supervisor.** This is for the leader with mature skills not only of a technical nature but also in dealing with people since they would have the Authorisation to delegate to other climbers in accordance with POR 37. 1 (c).

### Definition of Terms

Scrambling. For Scout purposes this is defined as those routes or areas where the average Scout or leader would need to use their hands at least for balance if not for actual progress. This does not stop people from using their hands as an aid to confidence. The leader of any party on a scrambling route would need to be fully conversant with the use of a confidence rope and be able to offer sound help and advice to a nervous participant. Every member of the party should have previous hill walking experience and, if a difficult scrambling route is being attempted, experience of easier routes. Examples of scrambling routes are Tryfan by the North Ridge, Crib Goch, Striding Edge, Sharp Edge on Blencathra, The Aonach Eagach Ridge and An Teallach.

Travelling Time. The Scout Association follows the Health and Safety Executive definition, which reads:

*Travelling time means the time it would take a person to walk by the quickest safe route; and for*

*this purpose a person shall be deemed to walk at 5 kilometres per hour and to take, in addition, one minute for every 10 metres of increase in the height above sea level of any uphill section of that route.*

Winter Conditions. The Scout Association follows the Health and Safety Executive definition, which reads:

*“Winter” means when winter conditions, including snow and ice, prevail or are forecast; this cannot be defined by a portion of the year. Summer means any condition not covered under “winter”.*

Important: leaders should note that snow/ice cover is not the only defining feature - severe cold, high winds and shortened daylight hours will affect a risk assessment in such conditions.

It should further be noted that it is almost impossible to define Winter or Summer conditions in respect of the glaciated areas of the European and similar mountains. At all times of the year an authorised leader must be aware of the risks of a new fall of snow, avalanches, wind effects etc., and be able to assess the risks involved and the need for a possible change of plan.

## **Bibliography**

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*The Walking Group Leader Award* published by the UK Mountain Training Award Jan 2001 at £5.00 No ISBN No

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ISBN 1850602956

*Safety on Mountains* published by the British Mountaineering Council

ISBN. 0903908271

*Single Pitch Climbing and Abseiling* published by The Scout Association

ISBN 085165 2948

*Policy, Organisation and Rules - current edition.*

*Authorisation Scheme for Climbing and Abseiling*

FS 120402

*Risk Assessment*

FS120000

*Authorisations - A District Commissioner's and Group Scout Leader's Guide*

FS120002

*Mountaineering with Scouts - The Vital Culture*

FS120415

*Application for Authorisation for Hill Walking*

FS120416

*Mountain Advisers and Assessors*

FS120417