

Leadership Requirements
AMC Worcester Chapter Leadership Committee
REV 5.0 January 3, 2005

Introduction:

The purpose of this document is to define the requirements for all leaders and co-leaders for the Worcester Chapter. All members who wish to lead or co-lead trips must meet the requirements defined in this document. All current Worcester Chapter leaders will be grand fathered provided they remain an active leader, the exception is WFA requirements for Hike and Backpack Leaders. All leaders must maintain current WFA certification.

The following types of activities require a qualified leader; local walks, all hiking activities including snowshoe hikes, bicycling, paddling (whitewater, flat water, sea-kayaking), skiing (cross-country and downhill), and any activity longer than one day in duration.

Reference Documents:

OLDC Leadership Requirements – Effective October 1, 2004
Guidelines for Multi-day Trips

Definitions:

Active Leader: A leader who has led at least one activity for the Chapter in the last 12 months. A waiver of this requirement can be made at the joint discretion of the Activity Chair and the Leadership Chair.

Local Walk: A hike of less than 9 miles and or 1000' elevation gain. Single Day Trip.

Day Hike: A hike that does not meet the criteria for a local hike and is completed in one day or less.

Multi-day Trip: Multi-day trips must be less than 4 days in duration and within 500 miles of Worcester. Trips of longer duration/distance must be approved by either the Interchapter or Major Excursions Committees depending on type of trip.

Backpack: A multi-day hike that consists of one or more nights at a backcountry tentsite, cabin or hut.

Basic Leadership Training: 2-3 hr leadership class meant to cover the basic of trip planning and group dynamics

Outdoor Leadership Training: One day class based on AMC Outdoor leadership training handbook which covers basic leadership training at a more detailed level.

General Requirements (All Activity Leaders)

- All Leaders and Co-leaders must be members of the AMC

- All Leaders and Co-leaders must be at least 18 y.o.
- Co-Leader requirements:
 - Experience in the activity they would like to lead.
 - All prospective co-leaders must participate in at least 2 activities with the Chapter prior to becoming a co-leader.
 - Complete and return the Leader Questionnaire to the Committee Chair prior to becoming a co-leader.
- Leader Requirements:
 - Demonstrated proficiency in the activity they would like to lead
 - Leadership Training (Chapter or Club Level)
 - At least 2 co-leads in the type of activity which they would like to lead.
 - Completion of requirements and approval of Committee Chair and Leadership Chair.
 - Qualifying to lead one activity does not automatically qualify a leader to lead other activities. The leader must qualify in each area that they want to lead (i.e. cycling, padding, hiking).
- Activity Chair Requirements
 - Communicate requirements to prospective leaders
 - Provide Leader Questionnaire to prospective leaders
 - Review returned questionnaires and verify experience
 - Completion of leadership requirements review feedback from Leaders' and determine if status should be changed from co-leader to leader.
 - Maintain list of leaders and status, provide updated status and completed questionnaires to leadership chair.
- Leadership Chair Requirements
 - Maintain Leadership Requirements, review and revise as required.
 - Maintain master list of all leaders and central file of leadership questionnaires.
 - Develop and Coordinate Leadership Training (Chapter level)
 - Review monthly activities listing and verify status of all leaders listed.

Activity Specific Requirements:

Bicycling:

- Participate in at least 2 AMC bike rides. Demonstrate knowledge of basic cycling safety and road rules.
- Knowledge of basic bike maintenance (i.e. changing a flat tire, putting a chain back on)
- Minimum of 2 co-leads
- Basic Leadership Training (Chapter level)
 - Covers basic trip planning, group dynamics etc)

Hiking:

Hiking includes; local walks, day hikes, backpacks, hut-trips, snowshoeing and multi-day trips which include hiking as an activity.

Local Hike leaders may only lead local hikes

Day Hike leaders are qualified to lead local hikes and day hikes (3 Season)

Backpack leaders are qualified to lead local, day and backpacks (3 Season)

Local Hikes/Walks (includes local snowshoe walks):

- Participate in at least 2 AMC local walks.
- Minimum of 2 co-leads
- Basic Leadership Training (Chapter Level)

Day Hikes (3 Season):

- Recent hiking experience, demonstrated knowledge of hiking skills (i.e., map-reading)
- Participate in at least 2 AMC hikes
- Minimum of 2 co-leads
- Outdoor Leadership Training (Chapter or Club Level)
- Wilderness First Aid Certification

Backpacks/Hut-to-Hut Trips (3 Season)

- Recent backpacking experience
- Participate in at least 2 AMC backpacks
- Minimum of 2 co-leads
- Outdoor Leadership Training (Chapter or Club Level)
- Wilderness First Aid Certification

Winter Hiking:

Winter is defined to be from Dec 1 – Mar 31

The requirements below are for day hikes, backpacks and hut trips

- Recent Winter Hiking experience.
- Basic Winter Mountaineers Skills (Crampon/Ice Axe Use, Glissading etc)
 - Recommending participation in a Chapter or Club sponsored winter skills class.
- Participate in at least 2 AMC winter hikes.
- Minimum of 2 co-leads
- Outdoor Leadership Training (Chapter or Club Level)
- Wilderness First Aid Certification

Paddling:

- Participate in at least 2 AMC paddling activities of the same type the participant want so lead (i.e. whitewater, flat water, sea)
- Demonstrated paddling skills, basic water safety and rescue knowledge.
- Must be able to swim.

- Minimum of 2 co-leads.
- Basic Leadership Training

Rock Climbing:

- Participate in at least 2 club led climbing activities of the same type the participant wants to lead (i.e. top roping, multi-pitch lead climbing)
- Demonstrate basic climbing skills of belaying, anchor building and safety
- In addition to the above requirements, multi-pitch climbing trip leaders must also demonstrate appropriate lead climbing skills
- Minimum of 2 co-leads.
- Basic Leadership Training

Skiing:

Applies to ski trips at touring or downhill centers or x-country trips that are not at a center but meet the following requirements; less than 6 miles and/or less than <500 ft elevation gain. Non-center based trips that are outside of this requirement are considered back-country ski trips.

- Participate in at least 2 AMC ski-trips
- Minimum of 2 co-leads.
- Basic Leadership Training

Backcountry skiing:

- Participate in at least 2 AMC backcountry ski trips.
- Minimum of 2 co-leads on a backcountry trip
- Outdoor Leadership Training
- Wilderness First Aid Certification

Multi-day Trips:

- Must be a qualified leader for the type of trip that is being led (i.e. biking, hiking, skiing)
- Participate in at least 1 multi-day trip.
- Must co-lead at least 1 multi-day trip.

Exceptions:

- At the discretion of the Committee Chair a leader who loses active status may be returned to active status upon verification that they are still qualified (i.e. if the leader did not lead due to pregnancy, injury or travel)
- At the discretion of the Committee Chair a leader, leaders who are qualified to lead trips for other Club Chapters do not have to re-qualify to lead trips for the Chapter.