

SAIS Avalanche Hazard Evaluation days

Course Overview

A one day course aimed at experienced winter walkers, climbers, winter qualified mountaineers and instructors who wish to develop their understanding of Avalanche Hazard Evaluation.

We will look at the components required to build up an understanding of avalanche hazard evaluation by considering;

snow-stability.

snow pack history.

weather effects, past and present.

the value of field tests.

the significance of field observations during travel.

Using, as a template the procedure of determining Avalanche Hazard as carried out by SAIS observers, the participant will develop the first steps toward a personal understanding of this process.

Ratio 1:6

Duration and Cost

A one day course starting at 8:45am at Glenmore Lodge.

Cost £80 (packed lunch and accommodation not included) Full board available on request.

Dates

28/01/2012, 25/02/2012, 24/03/2012.

Pre-requirements

All participants must be experienced winter mountaineers and should have attended a MLT UK winter training course as a recommended minimum level and /or must be very competent in winter terrain. You should bring your own appropriate winter clothing and equipment, which is suitable for 'full winter conditions', including, crampons and ice axe. If you have your own Shovel, probe and avalanche transceiver please bring them with you.

Course Notes

Arr Glenmore Lodge

8:45 - Welcome and Intro

9:00 - Overview of factors required to develop a Hazard evaluation

- historical snowpack information
- recent weather factors
- intro to snowpack processes re stability and instability
- deciding on relevant field locations for field snow and avalanche observations.

10:30 - Coffee + Biscuits (provided)

10:45 - Depart for hill using GL transport

- Identifying relevant field observations during approach
- Snowprofile relevance to hazard evaluation
- Visual observation of terrain and slope shape and relevance to avalanche release.
- Field tests relevance and use

16:00 - Return to Glenmore Lodge

Tea and cakes (provided)

- Determining the current and forecast Avalanche Hazard
- Summary

17:00 - 17:30 - Finish

Attendance certificate available on request