

Requirements for Hiking Leaders

These requirements are the minimum standards that must be met by all Hiking leaders. (Failure of any individual to meet these requirements may result in loss of coverage by the OCSJ general liability insurance policy.)

Basic Requirements

- Leaders must be eighteen (18) years of age or older and maintain a current OCSJ membership.
- Leaders must make a reasonable, good faith effort to secure all permits and adhere to all laws and regulations.
- Leaders must remain in good standing. Any leader whose leadership status has been rescinded by the Club for safety and/or quality problems must be reviewed by the board prior to reinstatement as a leader in the unit.

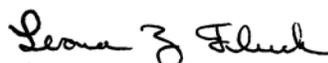
Participants and Activity Management

- Leaders may not exclude persons from an activity on the basis of race, religion, color, national and ethnic origin, gender, sexual preference, marital status, age (except minors), or physical disability that can be reasonably accommodated on the proposed activity. Accommodations for participants with disabilities may be made to the level that they do not increase risk to the group.
- Applicants/participants may be excluded due to inadequate qualifications or experience, insufficient skill, inadequate equipment, capacity limitations, previously demonstrated personal incompatibility, unsafe actions, refusal to share community work, or inappropriate behavior. Minors (under age 18) may be excluded for any of the above reasons and/or unless they are accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Notify all participants that there is an element of risk in the activity through the use of the statement on the mandatory sign-in sheet. (Acknowledgement of Risks, Assumption of Risks, and Release Agreement for OCSJ Volunteer-Led Activities.) Deliver the sign-in sheet to the chairperson. Leaders should not require or encourage anyone to attempt any element of the activity that is beyond his or her ability.
- Make a good faith effort to keep track of and account for all participants.
- If, in the course of any activity, an accident or incident occurs that meets any of the following criteria, the leader must file a report of the incident as soon as possible.
 1. Incident response involves the use of outside agencies (police, hospital, emergency response, search and rescue, etc.)
 2. Participant involved in incident receives professional medical care (to the knowledge of the leader), is recommended professional medical care by the leader, or refuses the offer or recommendation of professional medical care.
 3. In addition, a leader may file an incident report under other circumstances at his or her discretion. A leader must note the emotional and physical welfare of any participants involved in the incident, their attitudes towards the incident, and any potential for future complaints or lawsuits.

Equipment

- Leaders must check to ensure that all participants are equipped with activity-appropriate safety equipment, as designated by the board or specific outings section, and that it is used at all appropriate times.
- Leaders must refuse participation to individuals not equipped with the required safety equipment or any other equipment deemed necessary for the safe participation in the activity by either the leader or the Club.


Kathleen Pearce, President


Leona Fluck, Vice President