



## Mountain Leader Award Assessment

The Mountain Leader Award assessment is the final part of the mountain leader scheme. The assessment takes place over 5 days and looks at all aspect of the syllabus. This is outlined in more detail below.

All assessments carried out by Peak Mountain Training are designed to give you the maximum opportunity to display your skills in an environment that allows you to perform at your best. Assessment is often a stressful process however it should also be an ideal opportunity for you to learn and refine your skills. Regardless of any result, all Peak Mountain Training assessments have a strong emphasis on ongoing learning.

Our ML assessment course takes place in the Peak District and either North Wales or The Lake District.

In order to attend an ML assessment course you must meet the following requirements (tick boxes when completed):

- 1. **Be registered for the ML with one of the Mountain Leader Training Boards. (see below)**
- 2. Be over the age of 18.
- 3. Have a minimum of 40 quality days mountain walking.
- 4. Have attended a ML training course (your logbook should have the appropriately signed training course report form and training sticker attached) or attained "exemption from training" from the relevant training board.
- 5. Be in possession of an up to date and valid First Aid certificate.
- 6. Have the personal profile (found in your log book) completed and signed.

## Registration

All ML registrations are administered by the training boards of the 4 home nations: Mountain Leader Training England (MLTE); Scotland (MLTS); Wales (MLTW) & Northern Ireland (MLTNI). It's up to you which training board you register with and, after registration, you will be given a log-book, which contains details of your registration, syllabus and guidance notes along with pages for logging all you experience.

**Please note: If you are attending part of the ML scheme you must be registered specifically for this award and have the appropriate ML paperwork - even if you have already registered for one, or more, of the other awards e.g. CWA, SPA or WGL.**

If you have any questions regarding registration please do not hesitate to get in touch with us, or contact one of the home nation training boards. You can also register online via, for example, the MLTE website, <http://www.mlte.org>

### **Assessment Objectives**

We aim to cover the WGL syllabus in full. Detailed guidance notes on the WGL syllabus should have been provided in the booklet with your logbook. The award Handbooks can also be viewed online via:

[www.mlte.org/content.php?nID=7&catID=43](http://www.mlte.org/content.php?nID=7&catID=43)

### **Mountain Leader Award Assessment: Course Format**

The assessment is almost entirely practical. There are two more theoretical exercises - one evening session will be spent reviewing the “home paper” & one spent doing a route planning exercise.

The assessment will have a strong emphasis on navigation and leadership through both moorland and mountainous terrain. The course will also assess your knowledge in many other syllabus areas including, but not limited to:

- Remit of the Award;
- Leadership skills and styles;
- Route planning;
- Environmental awareness;
- Camping and expedition skills;
- Emergency procedures including ropework;
- Common hill incidents and emergency procedures.

The assessment process takes a holistic view of your performance over the week. It is rare that a single error causes someone to be deferred, and a pass is the result based on your performance taking into account errors you made along the way. The assessor’s job is to create as many opportunities for you to show your skills in as realistic environment. Your job is simple - to show the assessor how good you are!

## Sample Course Outline:

Day 1	Day2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
<b>Intro&amp; Hill Day</b>  Us, You, The course.  Navigation; general leadership  Evening session: Planning Exercise	<b>Hill Day:</b>  Leaders rucksack  Risk Assessment/ Management/ Avoidance  Evening session: Home Paper Review	<b>Expedition:</b>  <b>Navigation;</b> Leadership;  Camping skills.  Night Navigation	<b>Expedition:</b>  Navigation; Leadership; Steep/difficult terrain.  Night Navigation	<b>Expedition:</b>  Continuation of exped & return to base.  Debrief & results

Note: course programme may change to suit prevailing conditions.

## Pre Course Preparation

Prior to the assessment course you will receive a home theory paper. This is a research paper allowing you to show your knowledge in a variety of syllabus related areas. Please bring this with you on the first day of the course or email it to [info@peakmountaintraining.co.uk](mailto:info@peakmountaintraining.co.uk)

## Venues Used.

***The first part of the week will be based in the Peak District. The expedition phase will be in either the Lake District or the Peak District. The assessment will take place whatever the weather, so make sure you're well prepared!***

## Meeting Point

**Please meet at 0845 at Edale Mountain Rescue Team HQ on the starting date of your course.** Parking is limited so please car share if at all possible.

Directions – Edale MRT is based at the Lafarge Cement Works (yes, the huge chimney visible from anywhere in the Hope valley!). From the A6187 in Hope take Pindale Road (opposite the Spar shop). The cement works entrance is approximately 1km on the left. There is a car park on the left as you enter the

site and the MRT base is in the unit opposite. Please observe parking instructions.

### **What do I need to bring?**

As an aspiring Mountain Leader we expect you to bring all equipment required to operate as a mountain leader on both day walks and the expedition. Your choice of equipment will be assessed during the week.

### **Accommodation/Food**

Please note that the course price does not include accommodation/food. Given the lengthy nature of the days, we suggest staying close to Hope. **Local accommodation will be required on Monday and Tuesday evenings.**

We recommend the Woodbine Café and B&B in particular, but please note that Judith will only accept bookings of two nights at the weekend as do many B&B's in the valley. Tel: 07778 113882 or <http://www.woodbine-hope.co.uk/>  
This is close to Edale MRT HQ.

Further details of Peak District accommodation can be found at <http://www.jamesthacker.co.uk/accommodationpeak.htm> and <http://www.peakdistrictonline.com>

### **Cancellation**

ML assessment courses must have a minimum of 4 candidates. In the event of course cancellation due to lack of participants, contact will be made no later than 14 days prior to the course start date. If this situation does occur then an alternative date will be given or a full refund made.

### **What happens now?**

We will look forward to meeting you on the first day of your course. However, in the mean time if you have any queries or require further advice please feel free to contact us.