



Hill & Moorland Leader Award (HML) Assessment.

The Hill & Moorland Leader Award Assessment is the final stage in gaining the Hill and Moorland Leader Award. The assessment takes place over three days and looks at all aspects of the syllabus. This is outlined in more detail below.

All assessments conducted 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 towards ongoing learning.

Our Hill and Moorland Leader assessment courses take place in the Peak District.

In order to attend a Hill and Moorland Leader assessment course you must meet the following requirements (tick boxes when completed):

- 1. **Be registered for the Hill and Moorland Leader scheme with Mountain Training. (See below)**
- 2. Be over the age of 18.
- 3. Have logged a **minimum** of 40 Quality Hill-walking days.
- 4. Have attended a Hill and Moorland Leader training course or successfully applied for 'exemption from training' with Mountain Training directly.
- 5. Be in possession of an up to date and valid First-Aid certificate.

Registration

All Hill and Moorland Leader registrations are administered by Mountain Training. At this, the assessment stage, you should already be registered and have an up to date and fully completed log-book containing details of your registration, training course and logged hill walks. You should have read the syllabus and guidance notes for the Hill and Moorland scheme.

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

Register now via Mountain Training: <http://www.mountain-training.org>

Assessment Objectives

We aim to cover the Hill and Moorland Leader syllabus in full. Detailed guidance notes on the Hill and Moorland Leader syllabus along with the award handbook are available online via:

<http://www.mountain-training.org/walking/skills-and-awards/hill-and-moorland-leader>

You should make yourself familiar with the syllabus and guidance notes as they also offer candidates an insight into the training and assessment process as well as the role of trainers and assessors.

Course Format

This 3-day course focuses on the practical elements of leadership through Hill and Moorland Leader terrain. The course will have a strong emphasis on navigation through both lowland and moorland terrain with a practical session looking at the skills required for basic emergency night navigation. The course will also assess your knowledge in many other syllabus areas including, but not limited to:

- Remit of the award.
- Personal leadership skills and styles.
- Route planning.
- Legal and moral issues of leadership.
- Environmental awareness.
- Emergency procedures.
- Common hill incidents.

At the end of each day candidates will normally have a short review of their day with their assessor, although results are only made on consideration of a complete performance over the 3 days.

Sample Course Outline:

Meet 08:45 at: Unit 2a-3a Hathersage Park, Hathersage, Derbyshire, S32 1DP

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Venue: Dark Peak	Venue: Dark Peak	Venue AM: Valley base PM: White Peak
<p>Intro: us, you & the course.</p> <p>Hill day with emphasis on navigation skills:</p> <p>Map orientation; Contour interpretation; Relationship of map to ground and vice versa; Use of compass; Distance estimation.</p>	<p>Intro to the day.</p> <p>Hill day with emphasis on leadership:</p> <p>Further navigation; Leadership skills; Group Management; General Interest/Knowledge.</p>	<p>Intro to the day.</p> <p>Shorter hill day with emphasis on incident procedures and management</p> <p>Further assessment as required.</p> <p>Individual debriefs and result.</p> <p>5.00pm Finish</p>
Evening Sessions		
Night Navigation	Planning Exercise	

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 which we hope will help you prepare for and focus towards the assessment as well as developing your knowledge in a variety of syllabus related areas. Please complete and bring this with you on the first day of the course.

Venues Used

We will pick venues that are appropriate for the assessment objectives of the day and the prevailing weather conditions. In many cases you will have the opportunity to contribute to these decisions and we will endeavour to discuss any choices with you so that you are aware of our thought processes. Candidates often believe that a degree of 'local knowledge' is advantageous. The Hill and Moorland Leader award caters for leaders who can operate without prior intimate knowledge of an area and our assessments reflect that – so don't worry if the Peak District is not your local area. Many candidates actually perform better in less familiar terrain.

Meeting Point :

Please meet at 08.45am on the first day of the course at the following address:

**Unit 2a-3a Hathersage Park
Hathersage
Derbyshire
S32 1DP**

The Units are opposite Hathersage train Station

What do I need to bring?

As an aspiring Hill & Moorland Leader we expect you to bring all equipment required to lead a day walk. The equipment you carry will be assessed at some point over the three days.

All candidates must bring 1:25000 maps covering both the Dark Peak (OL1) and White Peak (OL24) areas. Please bring other maps or map scales of the area if you have them.

If you do not own a group shelter it is not necessary to buy one just for the assessment, however we would strongly recommend every leader to own one even as an item of personal equipment.

Accommodation/Food

Accommodation/food is not included in the course price. If you do not live locally a central location on the eastern side of the Peak District is ideal for our courses. We suggest staying in or close to Hathersage.

Further details of Peak District accommodation can be found at:

<http://www.peakdistrictonline.com>

Cancellation

Hill and Moorland Leader 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.