

Maine EMS Exam Committee Meeting

Tuesday June 25, 2013

De Champlain Conference Room, Augusta

Minutes

Present: Gary Utgard, Chair, Joanne LeBrun, Jeremy Damren, Sally Taylor (via teleconference), Scott Cook, Rick Petrie,

Staff: Drexell White

Guests: Steve Corbin & Scott Michaud (via Polycom from Aroostook EMS)

- **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m. Gary Utgard joined the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

The Committee welcomed Rick Petrie as the new Mid Coast EMS representative to the committee. Kelly Roderick, who was also appointed as an At-Large member, was unable to attend the meeting.

Drexell reviewed the Rules changes that took on May 1, 2013.

Assign Timekeeper – Jeremy Damren

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda – Patrick Underwood’s May 21, 2013 email in re: psychomotor exam process concerns and suggestions will be discussed as part of the “Review Best Practices Document” agenda Item

- **Minutes – April 30, 2013 Meeting Minutes - review for acceptance**

The minutes of the April 30, 2013, meeting, were reviewed.

Motion: To accept the minutes of the April 30, 2013 meeting (LeBrun; second by Damren – carries)

- **Old Business**

- A. Review of EMR & EMT Process Using NREMT**

Members reviewed updated pass/fail statistics for EMR&EMT psychomotor exams conducted since the beginning of CY 2013.

The data collected indicated psychomotor pass rates for the following psychomotor exam attempts, based upon 412 candidates:

- 1A – 27.78%
- 1R1 – 71.65%
- 1R2 – 88.89%
- 2A – 25%
- 2R1 – 45.45%
- 2R2 – 100%

Overall Pass Rate of the Total Tested is 65.53% (270 candidates)

Overall Fail Rate of the Total Tested (n=412) is 6.80% (28 candidates)

Overall Eligible for Re-Test is 27.67% (114 candidates)

The data do not provide information on how many candidates complete a course vs. how many actually participate in licensure testing, nor does it indicate how many candidates drop out of testing after failing the first attempt at the psychomotor exam.

Consensus was to have staff continue to collect data for Committee Review.

B. Review Best Practices Document

Committee members began the discussion by reviewing whether the “Authorization to Test Form” is still necessary now that staff provides scanned copies of completed PSE rosters to Training Centers. The consensus was that the Maine EMS *Application for Testing and for a New License* provided the information needed for the testing process. Drexell indicated that the *Application* would need to be modified to have a section to denote that a candidate is authorized to take the psychomotor exam, but has not yet completed the course in its entirety. He will draft the language for review by Maine EMS staff.

Jeremy Damren then provided an overview of the “Best Practices” document that he had drafted as a resource about the Practical Skills Evaluation (PSE) process.

Members discussed the following items:

- General Topic
- Oxygen Administration
- Medical Assessment
- Trauma Assessment
- Cardiac Arrest
- Spinal Immobilization (Supine)

Changes discussed will be reflected in the *Best Practices* document.

There was also discussion about the definition of “torso” as it applies to the supine spinal immobilization station. There has been confusion that the torso doesn’t include the pelvic girdle and there have been instances when students have been taught to immobilize the torso with a single strap across the chest.

Rick Petrie recommended that information be provided to Training Centers and Instructor Coordinators clarifying that for purposes of spinal immobilization the definition of “torso” is the body, with the exception of the arms, legs and head. Consensus was in agreement with Rick’s recommendation. Drexell will work with Don Sheets, Maine EMS Education and Training Coordinator regarding the recommendation.

4. New Business - None

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 24, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. at Maine EMS in Augusta.

6. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Drexell White