

Expedition Badge

Introduction: This Badge aims at training Brigaders' expedition skills, encouraging them to explore and discover their surroundings.

Course Outline

1. Stage 1 Badge

i. Theory

- Briefly introduce the aim, outline and requirement for this Badge
- Understanding functions of a team
- Choosing suitable gear for a one-day journey (Including: clothes, shoes and socks)
- Understanding how to use a map (Including : Classification of maps, ways to fold a map and maintenance)
- Basic knowledge for using a map (Including: Direction, scale, measuring distance on a map, map reference and numbers, information provided at the margin of a map and grid reference)
- Understanding each part of a compass, maintenance for a compass, measuring grid direction on a map(Forward bearing), measuring magnetic direction (Forward bearing) and walk along a path according to the direction signal
- Placing the map correctly, identifying the characteristics of the actual topography from a map, identifying the landforms shown in a map in the field and the geographical direction, direction for walking ahead and the route
- Equipment for first aid, wound cleaning for abrasions and lacerations, simple ways for wrapping and staunching bleeding
- Safety guidelines for expedition
- Understanding different weather conditions
- Ways to distress
- Abide the Countryside Code, avoid making noise or disturb others, littering, prevention for hill fire and cleaning litters left by others
- Plan for a journey and recording methods

ii. Practical training

One one-day expedition

iii. Assessment

One-day 10 km expedition

2. Stage 2 Badge

i. Theory

- Briefly introduce the aim, outline and requirement for this Badge

- Understanding team spirit
 - Equipment for individual and group
 - Packing a backpack and ways to shed the water
 - Understanding contour lines and relief
 - Guiding skills (Including: making use of the information on a map to describe the pathway from one place to another place, back bearing and increasing the intensity of measuring the direction)
 - Walking along the planned route
 - Construction and demolition of a tent
 - Arrangements for boiling water,cooking,handling hygienic issues and garbages
 - Choosing suitable food and design a menu, choosing some food for spare and emergency, packing and carrying food, using simple stoves and procedures for handling fuel and safety measures
 - Cooking some simple dishes
 - Protection and cleaning for the campsite
 - Life in youth hostels
 - Simple Knots(Figure Eight, Sheet Bend, Round Turn & Two Half Hitches, Bowline on the Bight)
 - Emergency response management (Including: blisters, puncture, slight burns and scalds, treatment for foreign body in the eyes, ears and nose, bitten by animals or insects)
 - Aim for a journey, drafting a proposal, observation and record, how to write a diary
 - Raising participants' awareness of protecting the environment
- ii. Practical training
Two one-day expeditions and one two days and one night camp
- iii. Assessment
A two-day 20-km camp

3. Stage 3 Badge

- i. Theory
- Detailed introduction of the aim, outline and requirement for this Badge
 - Role and qualities for a leader
 - Choosing and using suitable and practical expedition training equipment
 - Keeping lightweight equipment (to reduce the weight of the backpack)
 - Further study in contour lines and relief
 - Understanding magnetic declination

- Guiding skills (Including: enhancing the accuracy, proficiency of measuring the direction, using a map and positioning by a compass, ways to ensure oneself position and guiding a route in a limited vision)
 - Choosing suitable camping sites and understanding different kinds of tents
 - Procedures for using different kinds of stove and safety measures
 - First-aid methods (Including: understanding and treatment for sprain and cramp, heat stroke, heat exhaustion, hypothermia)
 - Different kinds of possible danger in the countryside and their causes
 - Mastering emergency response management
 - Increasing the depth for the aim of a journey
 - Designing routes and spare routes for unstable weather condition
 - Distribution and their related information for different campsites and youth hostels
 - Guiding the participants to agree with environmental protection
- ii Practical training
 One one-day expedition, one two-day camp and one three-day camp
- iii Assessment
 One three-day 40-km camp

Assessment Criteria

1. Brigaders should attend at least 80% in the theoretical lessons and 100% in the practical training so as to participate in the assessment.
2. There are two parts for the assessment, including an assessment camp ,a proposal and report. Brigaders have to get a pass result for both items in order to get the Badge.
 - i. Assessment journey : Brigaders have to achieve a 100% attendance in the assessment journey and able to follow the planned journey and aim; and pass the expedition knowledge tests including using a compass, using a map, first aid, bushcraft, cooking etc.
 - ii. Plan and report: Brigaders have to submit the plan and report before the deadline and after the assessment
3. Assessment in the headquarters must be conducted in the form of camping. Brigaders have to complete the journey in a group without any assistance.
4. Those who attends Stage 2, 3 Badge have to participate in the central assessment.

Notes

1. The coach who is in charge of this badge must be appointed expedition trainer under The Boys' Brigade.

2. Coach should avoid carry out practical trainings or assessments outdoors in summer.
3. A coach should first consolidate Brigaders' knowledge at the junior stage of this badge before giving detailed and difficult training.
4. If a company holds the Camping Badge and Expedition Badge at the same time, the theoretical lessons, practical trainings and assessments for two Badges have to be held separately.
5. Each group should consist of 4 to 7 people in outdoor assessment. If boys and girls are in the same group, at least two people who are at the same sex should be in the group.
6. An examiner has the right to cancel the assessment according to the weather condition.
7. Companies joining the assessment in the headquarter have the responsibility to send their officers to assist and company their Brigaders (It is suggested that the officer leading the assessment should be appointed expedition coach, possess the certificate of mountaineering leader issued by the Boys' Brigade, Mountain Craft Level Two issued by China Hong Kong Mountaineering and Climbing Union, Stage 2 Expedition Badge in Company Section, Bronze Medallion or above for Expeditions on foot issued by The Hong Kong Award For Young People).
8. If a Brigader use Expedition Badge in exchange with Expeditions Section in The Hong Kong Award For Young People, the coach must have finished the registration process in The Hong Kong Award For Young People.