



Candidate Questions

Name: _____ Date: _____

There is a huge time commitment for new members in the first two years with SARDA, especially if also training a dog.

Members are expected to meet training objectives by specific timelines. Field Techs (those joining without dogs) are expected to obtain their Active Field Tech status within 14 months. Dog Teams (members joining with a dog) are expected to obtain their Active Field Tech status within 18 months of their start date, and are expected to obtain their Dog's certification by approx. 24 months from their start date.

There are a number of courses that you need to attend and complete; you can expect to attend approximately 90 hours of courses in your first six months of training. Dog training will require at least one hour/day. Whether you are training a dog or not, you will be expected to attend a majority of Sunday team trainings.

We've put the below questions together to be thought provoking. We want potential new members to be successful. Think about the current demands on your time - how much time do you realistically have available to successfully train yourself and your dog.

1. Briefly outline your related experience.
(career, volunteer, hobbies, dog training experience, etc.)

2. What practical skills do you already possess that will aid you in achieving this objective?
(e.g. navigation skills, hunter, compass work, Ground SAR, military experience, dog training, etc.)

3. How much time have you planned to commit to training in the next year?
(suggestion: make a monthly schedule – where do you have time?)



4. What do you see as roadblocks to being successful?
(e.g. time commitments, fitness, travel time, financial constraints, shift work, etc.)

5. How flexible is your schedule for time off during the week and weekends?
(e.g. SAR Basics is 60 hours, typically two weekends and a couple of Fridays)

6. What other skills do you bring to the team that can help us manage the administrative functions?
(e.g. communications, computer, finance, Marine Mechanic, fire fighter, nurse, EMT etc.)

7. How do you learn?
(Are you an independent learner or do you need a lot of guidance? What skills do you need help with? What skills do you think you will be able acquire on your own?)

8. If you live out of town what support for training do you have locally?
(e.g. other SAR Groups, hidiers, other people that can help teach some skills)

9. If you have a dog, what training has the dog received already?

10. What happens if your dog is not able to successfully complete the training? Will you stay on as a Field Tech?