



International Rafting Federation

GUIDE TRAINING & EDUCATION SAFETY CRAFT AWARD SCHEME

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Levels: The following levels are recognised:

<i>Safety Craft</i>
I) Safety Craft Trainee
ii) Safety Crafter
iii) Safety Craft Instructor

General:

Raft Guides, Inline Raft Guides, Safety Crafters must:

- be at least 18 years old, trainees must be at least 16 years old;
- be able to swim;
- hold a current (not older than 2 years) Red Cross First Aid Certificate (FAC) or equivalent with cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); Trip Leaders, Instructors and Assessors must hold advanced certification such as Wilderness First Aid (WFA) or Responder (WFR) or Red Cross FAC level 2.
- maintain a log book recording each run, signed by the Trip Leader or Operations Manager of the company, as proof of experience. This is to be presented as proof of experience before an assessment;
- complete a familiarization run and know the evacuation routes and procedures on any new stretch of whitewater they intend to Guide or Trip Lead on. (Note that an exception to this requirement is made in the case of highly experienced guides running exploratory or infrequently run expedition-style trips where a familiarization run may be impractical.)

Companies are responsible for:

- checking river levels before trips and ensuring guides allocated to the trip are appropriately qualified and experienced.

Definitions:

Safety Craft: highly manoeuvrable whitewater craft providing safety and swimmer rescue on commercial whitewater trips, operated by professionals. (inflatable or hardshell canoes and kayaks, oar rafts, catarafts, sledges, river boards, hydrospeed, etc...)

Safety Craft Trainee must complete a **Safety Craft Training Program (SCTP)** that equips them with the necessary skills and knowledge to be competent Safety Crafters on commercial whitewater trips. A SCTP must include the following topics:

- (a) skills – specific whitewater craft techniques, emergency and rescue techniques;
- (b) knowledge - equipment, safety and emergency procedures, rapid theory, signals.

Safety Crafter must have the skills and knowledge to be a competent Safety Crafter on commercial whitewater trips and operate as a member of the guide crew knowing standard whitewater rescue techniques as well as have a current standard first aid certificate.

Safety Craft Instructor (trainer) must have a high level of Safety Crafter skills and knowledge; also must have an advanced first aid certificate. Safety Craft Instructor must have high level of skills and experience in training and assessing safety crafters. He/She must be physically capable of demonstrating all Safety Crafter skills.

Renewal: bi-annual renewal of certification requires proof that the requirements listed in the below chart have been satisfied.

GT&E Committee retains the right to withdraw a persons certification or to refuse renewal if deemed necessary to maintain the standards and integrity of the scheme.

The **category awarded** will be determined by the examining Instructor according to guidelines determined by the GT&E Committee.

A **run** is 2 hours on-river rafting time.

Certification	Classification	Function	Minimum training requirement	Minimum whitewater craft experience	Assessment	Minimum requirement for renewal after two years
IRF Safety Craft Trainee	River (SCT)	Support along w/ SC on trip	SCTP that complies with IRF requirements	None	Demonstrate required competencies during SCTP + theory exam	N/A
IRF Safety Crafter	Class 2 /grade 2/ (SC2)	On rivers up to class 2	SCTP + Standard 1 st Aid Certificate	10 runs or 20 hours	Demonstrate required competencies	Being safety craft at 10 runs on rivers up to class 2 + valid (renewed or refreshed) 1 st Aid Certificate
	Class 3 /grade 3/ (SC3)	On rivers up to class 3	SCTP + Standard 1 st Aid Certificate	30 runs or 60 hours on rivers class 3 or above		Being safety craft at 10 runs on rivers up to class 3 + valid (renewed or refreshed) 1 st Aid Certificate
	Class 4/5 /grade 4/5/ (SC4/5)	On rivers above class 3	SCTP + Standard 1 st Aid Certificate	30 runs or 60 hours on rivers above class 3		Being safety craft at 10 runs on rivers above class 3 + valid (renewed or refreshed) 1 st Aid Certificate
IRF Raft Instructor	Class 3 /grade 3/ (RI3)	a. train candidates to RG3 and iRG3 standard b. assess candidates up to RG3, TL3 and iRG3, iTL3	TL3 + assist on 2 IRF-compliant GTPs and 1 TL scenario assessment + participate in IRF Instructor workshop	100 runs or 200 hours as TL3 or above	Performance on GTPs + demonstrate required competencies	Conducted two GTPs, Participation on an IRF Instructor workshop Be physically capable of demonstrating all Guide skills + valid (renewed or refreshed) 1 st Aid Certificate
	Class 4/5 /grade 4/5/ (RI4/5)	a. train candidates to RG4/5 standard b. assess candidates up to RG4/5 and TL4/5	TL4/5 + assist on 2 IRF-compliant GTPs and 1 TL scenario assessment + participate in IRF Instructor workshop	100 runs or 200 hours as TL4/5 or above		

GTP – Guide Training Program. A GTP may be provided in a structured course and/or on the job training.