

# ILLINOIS WATER RESCUE ASSOCIATION

## *Accreditation Program*

Dive Team in Illinois must meet the following guidelines and be approved by the Board of Directors of the Illinois Water Rescue Association.

1. Divers must be certified to dive by a nationally recognized organization
2. Divers must have successfully taken at least one additional (non recreational) approved course of study in water rescue/recovery techniques and be current in such program, which must include training in surface command and control techniques using ropes for search/life lines as needed.
3. Divers must be currently certified in CPR and 1<sup>st</sup> Aid at a minimum
4. Divers must dive with a minimum of standard scuba gear; an available alternate air source, depth/pressure gauges, exposure suit and have at least two cutting tools available to them while underwater
5. Shore personnel must have taken a approved course of study in shore support techniques for the water rescue/recovery team and also be certified in CPR and 1<sup>st</sup> aid
6. The Dive Team must have a quality approved set of standard operating procedures and reporting system for calls and records
7. The Dive Team must have regular monthly or equal training sessions conducted in the area of actual water rescue and recovery skills, including annual skills refreshers
8. Ensure that at least 80% of your personnel (evenly divided between divers and shore personnel) meet these standards at the time of application.

To qualify simply fill out the approved application form and submit photo's of your team's diving equipment and copies of your teams diver certificates, CPR, 1<sup>st</sup> aid card, shore personnel certificates of training. A copy of your SOP/G's and your in-service training from the previous an current year. \$65 fee is made out to the Illinois Water Rescue Association.

Upon approval your team will receive a framed certificate signed by officials of the IWRA and can be delivered to your team personally by a Board member for a public presentation of your achievement.

