

# Patrol Composition and Mountain Ranger Strategy

- All participants in an Adventure Patrol are older than 15 and under the age of 18 on the first day of the Adventure. It is the intention of the Adventure organisers, that an Adventure Patrol is accompanied by a Mountain Ranger.
- An Adventure Patrol is lead by the Patrol Leader who is under the age of 18, older than 16, is recommended by his/her Troop Scouter and holds the First Class Scout badge.
- An Adventure Patrol comprises between 8 and 10 members.
- Over 18 year olds may enter a Patrol where all the participants are over the age of 18.
- The Adventure organisers may recruit and assign an **Assigned Mountain Ranger** who hikes with the Patrol for some/all of the route.
- An Adventure Patrol which does not have an Adventure Patrol Leader is lead by the Assigned Mountain Ranger.
- An Assigned Mountain Ranger is considered to be a staff member and is part of the Adventure Patrol. He/she makes use of Patrol catering. The Adventure Patrol may not exceed 10 members including the Assigned Mountain Ranger(s).
- The Assigned Mountain Ranger pays the Adventure staff full catering rate. In a mixed gender Patrol only, there may be two Assigned Mountain Rangers of opposite gender. The first Assigned Mountain Ranger pays the staff catering rate and the second pays the full hike participant rate.
- An Assigned Mountain Ranger may be of the opposite gender in a single gender Patrol if the Scout parents agree to such an arrangement.
- Adventure Patrol members may nominate an Assigned Mountain Ranger who meets the Adventure criteria but on no account, is an Assigned Mountain Ranger assigned to his/her home Patrol if he/she is under the age of 23.
- **Roving Mountain Rangers** provide a rapid response unit in case of an emergency. An emergency is only deemed so, if it is known that a Scout is injured or the Adventure Organiser declares it as such. An Adventure Patrol that does not arrive at a base on schedule is not considered to be an emergency. It is an incident.
- Roving Mountain Rangers may accompany a Patrol but are not considered to be part of the Patrol, do not usually take part in base activities, and carry their own food.
- **Support Mountain Rangers** provide logistical (transport) support to Roving Mountain Rangers and to the emergency response unit.
- Roving and Support Mountain Rangers are considered to be staff members (as are Assigned Mountain Rovers) and therefore pay staff rates.
- Aspirant Assigned/Roving/Support Mountain Rangers complete the Mountain Ranger application form. This provides a portfolio of previous hikes completed in the last 2 years. Previous Cederberg experience is an advantage. First Aid experience is required. The application form requests the names of two referees who the organisers may contact.
- Assigned/Roving/Support Mountain Rangers are expected to attend an information session, which is lead by one of the Adventure organisers. The Mountain Ranger code of conduct is the basis of the session.