

Job Description – Deputy Chief Leader

Overview

The Deputy Chief Leader (DCL) role varies on each expedition. The DCL is a senior member of the expedition team and will work closely with the expedition's Chief Leader to take a prominent role in planning and training before & during expedition, and in post expedition reporting.

On larger expeditions, this is a Leader position in its own right whilst in others it may be an additional responsibility allocated to an existing Leader position i.e. you could be both a group ('Fire') Leader or Base Camp Manager as well as the DCL.

In all cases, the Deputy Chief Leader would assume overall responsibility for the expedition should the Chief Leader need to step down for any reason. The Deputy Chief Leader may also assume responsibility for all or part of the expedition either as necessity dictates, or as part of their ongoing personal development, in agreement with their Chief Leader.

Profile

Necessary Skills

- An interest in youth development and experience of working with young people relevant to the expedition client group*
- High levels of integrity and sound judgement
- A strong and flexible team player
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Strong leadership skills and the ability to inspire others
- The ability to deal with conflict and overcome challenges
- Significant personal expedition experience outside the UK
- A proven history of managing group safety in expedition or remote/challenging environments
- Proven experience of managing and leading projects and people
- Experience of managing projects or people remotely (i.e. over the phone or other communications without the ability to intervene immediately)
- An enthusiasm for expeditions and the ability to convey this to our Explorers
- Adventure First Aid Qualification (*weekend training course provided free of charge by British Exploring Society*)

*client groups vary between expeditions and may include young people with special educational needs, low aspirations, emotional and behavioural difficulties or specific developmental or support needs. Please see the relevant expedition pages for more details.

Desirable Attributes

- Relevant professional training or qualifications in leadership development and expedition leadership
- Outdoor leadership qualifications and/or training
- Adventurous/outdoor activity experience or qualifications
- Previous experience of the expedition location and environment

Responsibilities

Pre Expedition

- Attend training residentials in the UK during the 6 months prior to the expedition. UK Training requirements are specific to each expedition and the needs of the client group and may include 3-4 training weekends and/or a training week. All training events are considered mandatory.
- As appropriate, the DCL is likely to be involved in the delivery of training to other Leaders and to Explorers.
- Contribute significantly to planning, risk-benefit assessments, expedition-specific guidelines and similar as appropriate and directed by British Exploring Society and/or the Chief Leader, particularly in your area of expertise

On Expedition

- To inspire our Explorers and engage fully in activities to support the educational aims and purpose of the society and expedition
- All Leaders, must regard it as a priority to ensure the safety of each and every member of the expedition at all times
- Support the Chief Leader and be prepared to take significant responsibilities in the field
- Deliver training to both Explorers and Leaders as per the training syllabus and as pertinent to the expedition, environment, and proposed activity
- Manage and support the expedition leadership team throughout, taking care always to maintain safety and to deliver the aims of the expedition and the wider BES objectives
- Undertake the roles and responsibilities of an expedition Leader as delegated by the Chief Leader
- To lead, direct and support Leaders and Explorers during the expedition, and be prepared to step into the role of Chief Leader if requested by the organisation should injury or incapacitation require

Post Expedition

- To produce an overview report for the activities you have been in charge of
- Contribute to the overall post expedition report (PXR), and expedition feedback as appropriate and directed by British Exploring Society and/or Chief Leader
- Attend the expedition debrief event & presentation. This is usually a single day event held in London or around within three months post expedition.