

**Teamwork**

(Adapted from the AIARE Backcountry Decision-Making Guide)

- Introductions
- Emergency Contacts
- Goals
- Risk Tolerance & Skill Level
- Travel Together (Voice Distance)
- Decide Together (Respect Veto)
- Proactive Participant
- First Aid Leader
- Medical Condition

**Current and weather forecast affecting the trip:**

Precipitation	
Wind	
Temperature	
Solar Radiation	
Visibility	

Avalanche Problem	Aspect (clockwise)	Zone A,N,B	Likelihood C,VL,L,P,UL	Size H,VL,L,S	Trend/Timing

**Avalanche Advisory Key Messages and Recent Avalanches**

**Use Map to Discuss**

- Route
- Avalanche Slopes
- Profile
- Route Segments
- Turn Around Time
- Record Observation Points

**Discuss Less Exposed Alternative Route**

**Emergency Equipment**

- Mountaineers 206-521-6030
- PLB/SEND Device
- GPS
- Shelter
- Sled
- First Aid Kit
- Repair Kit

**Discuss Concerns and Why Our Plan May Fail**

**D-BEAST Beacon Check (Display, Battery, Electronics, Avy Gear, Search, Transmit)**

## Observations

<b>Location</b>					
<b>A&amp;O Checks</b>					
<b>Time</b>					
<b>Elevation</b>					
<b>Aspect</b>					
<b>Cloud Cover</b>					
<b>Precipitation</b>					
<b>Temperature</b>					
<b>Wind Speed</b>					
<b>Direction</b>					
<b>Blowing Snow</b>					
<b>Snow Height</b>					
<b>Ski Penetration</b>					
<b>Boot Penetration</b>					

## Teamwork

- Relevance of Observations?
- Unexpected?
- Happy?
- Plan Good?
- Continue?

## Terrain

- Avalanche Problem Terrain?
- Hazardous?

## Travel

- Watcher
- One/Buddy Ski
- Rally Point

## Debrief

- Followed Our Plan?
- Effect of Weather?
- Primary Avalanche Problem?
- Plan Strength/Weakness
- Biggest Risk?
- Do Differently

**Bring the AIARE Avalanche and Observations section of the AIARE Field Book**

# **Avalanche Rescue Checklist** (Adapted from the AIARE Avalanche Rescue Quick Reference)

## **1. Assess Safety**

- a. Another avalanche?
- b. Move to safe location

## **2. Choose Leader**

## **3. Head Count**

## **4. Determine When to Call for Help**

## **5. Beacons to Search Mode**

## **6. Search Strategy**

- a. Last Seen Point

## **7. Search for Signal and Clues**

- a. < 40m Search Strips

## **8. Request Prober When You Get a Signal**

- a. Prober Goes to Signal Distance

## **9. Follow Signal**

- a. Slow Down at 10m
- b. Beacon on the Ground at 5m

## **10. Fine Search with Beacon and Probe**

- a. Probe at 5m
- b. Probe 90 to Surface
- c. Consistent Beacon Orientation During Grid Search
- d. Probe Circular Out at 25cm
- e. Leave Probe In at Strike

## **11. Dig**

- a. 1-2 Steps Downhill
- b. Dig to Depth Then to Probe
- c. Expose Face First

## **12. Patient Care**

- a. A-B-C
- b. Hypothermia
- c. Move to Safe Terrain