**2015 Mountaineers Leadership in Rock Climbing Group Management & Technical Skills Course**

**Kaf Adventures Proposal**

**Program Goals and Outcomes:**

* Train educators in industry standards in group site management and rock/alpine climbing instruction in large group settings
* Learn how to become an effective leader
* Learn about and practice teaching
* Learn how to effectively deliver educational experiences
* Design and implement a teacher training system that works for the Mountaineers
* Nurture a culture of growth and support for instruction and education

**Objectives:**

Create and deliver a training course for the Mountaineers climbing outing leaders that will give industry standard technical knowledge as well as deliver concepts to support effective teaching and mentoring. We will deliver the objectives by teaching toward the current AMGA technical training standards and utilizing our extensive experience in teaching experiential education and facilitating large group management from Outward Bound and NOLS. In order to accomplish these goals we will participate in group discussion around industry standard. We will also develop technical skills through hands on practice. This will continue the education of the leaders and increase their capacity to deliver information in the most effective way possible.

**Proposed Curriculum: 15 hours of Classroom/Climbing Wall Education.**

* **Pedagogy (Teaching) – 2 hours**

 Teaching styles, leadership, learning styles, effective communication, the mountaineers training system, mentorship

* **Gear requirements for students and instructors – 2 hours**

Necessary equipment for rock and alpine instruction, clothing, soft material in climbing, hardware, rescues equipment, first aid and communication

* **Belay skills and ground anchors for both rock and alpine climbing- 2 hours**

Teaching all forms of belay technique, top-belay technique with Gri-gri/ATC guide, and multi-pitch belaying techniques

* **Anchoring - 3 hours**

Anchoring material, use of bolted anchors and artificial anchors, top rope, multi-pitch, and alpine anchoring systems

* **Cleaning anchors and personal anchoring systems- 1 hour**
* **Rappelling- 2 hours**

Managing groups in rappels and personal safety

* **Group management considerations and policy for group travel in technical terrain – 2 hours**

Discussion around industry standards in numbers, and rope management systems used by OB, NOLS and AMGA.

* **Rock Rescue – 3 hours**

Small party for both the leader and the “guide”, improvised rescue, minimum gear requirements

**This can be taught in five 3 hour evening sessions, two 8 hour weekend days, or a combination.**

**Proposed field outings:**

**3 days of Outdoor Education/Outings. Topics Include:**

* **1 day 3rd/4th class terrain management and multi-pitch rock outing (Mt. Erie, Vantage, or Leavenworth)**

Group management in 3rd/4th class terrain, fixed lines, and hand lines. Group management in multi-pitch belay scenarios, lead climbing set ups, and rappelling stations.

* **1 day of rock rescue and group management at hanging belays outing (Mt. Erie, Vantage, or Leavenworth)**

Practical experience with rock rescue systems. Group Management and best practices while working over a cliff.

* **1 day of practical teaching topics related to rock and alpine climbing. Practice with any of the above systems.**

Spend the day teaching to peers as well as receiving feedback. Fill the rest of the day with any technical system mentioned in the previous field outings.

**Resources:**

All classes will be taught by Mick Pearson owner of a local outdoor education and adventure travel company, [Kaf Adventures](http://www.kafadventures.com). 2 co-instructors will be selected. One will come from Kaf Adventures (Kevin Dombrock) and the other will be Loni from the Mountaineers. Mick Pearson has professional experience of 21 years working in the Outdoor Education Industry. Both individuals are currently working as full-time professional mountain educators and are dedicated to empowering beginners and professionals in technical terrain, specializing in guide training. Each individual has worked with Outward Bound, NOLS, in wilderness therapy, and the AMGA as staff/guide trainers for the last 8 years. All technical curriculum will be reviewed by independent instructor pool certified guides and referenced from both the NOLS and OB training manuals.

**Cost Proposal: $7900.00**

For 10-12 participants, permits will only allow 10 students in the field yet we are willing to open up the classroom sessions to more people as necessary. Or depending upon demand, have multiple field options.

**Pre-Requisites:**

* Must be a regular Mountaineers trip leader
* 1 year of experience in the Mountaineers leader pool
* Ability to lead 5.8 traditional gear lines

**Date Range:**

Start between October of 2016 and January of 2017 for the evening sessions. Most weekend sessions would happen early spring or as weather allows.