



## SAREA ASSISTANT GUIDE PERSONAL SKILLS ASSESSMENT

Candidate's name: ..... Date: .... / .... / .....

Address: .....

Contact Number: ..... Email: .....

Instructor/s name/s:.....

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### Please note:

The SAREA Assistant Guide Award is not a VET award. It is recognition of competence, according to the SAREA guidelines that the candidate demonstrated skills, experience and knowledge required to assist a qualified SAREA Guide or Instructor.

- It does not endorse the candidate to undertake rock climbing guiding without the supervision of a qualified guide or instructor.
- Guides and Instructors remain responsible for the safety of the group.
- SAREA ratios are 1:6, for SAREA Guides/Instructors, and 1:4 for SAREA Assistant Guides, with a maximum of 2 Assistants per Guide/Instructor. Therefore, a SAREA Guide/Instructor may have up to 14 clients, whilst utilising two Assistants.

### Assessment Process:

1. Assessment form to be completed and signed by a SAREA Top Rope or Multi Pitch Instructor (not Guide) and returned to candidate.
2. A Senior First Aid / Workplace Level 2 certificate is highly recommended but not essential.
3. Candidate sends completed assessment form and logbook (500m of climbing at a recognised outdoor venue) to SAREA via email at: [info@sarea.org.au](mailto:info@sarea.org.au)
4. Direct deposit for the sum of \$50 to be paid to SAREA  
**Direct Deposit details: SA Rockclimbing Education Assoc Inc**  
**BSB: 105-900 ACC NO: 960450640**
5. Application is checked by SAREA Assessor & Adviser Panel and SAREA Board is notified;
6. Candidate is notified and receives a certificate of competency.

### Award Scope:

The Assistant Guide assessment verifies that the candidate is deemed competent to carry out the following duties under the supervision of a qualified SAREA Instructor or Guide.

1. Provide advice for and assist with top rope climbing;
2. Provide safety information;
3. Tie participants in appropriately;
4. Assist with belay supervision;
5. Assist with group management;
6. Comply with basic OHS&W guidelines;
7. Assist with and provide advice regarding care of equipment.

Candidates may also be able to assist with higher level duties such as abseiling, according to their individual background and skill development.



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### 1. Pre-assessment Checks

- 1.1. Appropriate climbing equipment
- 1.2. Appropriate clothing and footwear for a cliff environment

Comments:

### 2. Climbing Knowledge

- 2.1. Candidate is able to describe a broad range of climbing techniques.  
Suggested techniques include, but are not limited to the following:  
Three points of contact; using extended arms for rests; edging; smearing; range of finger grips; jamming – including fist, hand, arm and foot; mantel; counterforce; under-cling; stemming; bridging; layback; face climbing; chimney technique; traversing and over-hangs
- 2.2. Helmets and harnesses
- 2.3. Ropes – static and dynamic
- 2.4. Prusiks, tapes and slings
- 2.5. Carabiners
- 2.6. Belay devices
- 2.7. Working knowledge of strengths and limitations of equipment
- 2.8. Care and maintenance of nylon equipment, including such aspects as contaminants, stitching and fraying; stepping on ropes, UV damage, storage, coiling ropes, working life of nylon, safety inspection procedures
- 2.9. Care and maintenance of hardware such as dropping from height, moving parts, dirt and other contaminants,

Comments:

### 3. Climbing Skills

- 3.1. Ability to top rope satisfactorily
- 3.2. Ability to abseil satisfactorily
- 3.3. Ability to belay using belay device such as 'ATC', 'Gri-Gri' or other
- 3.4. Communicates effectively using standard climbing calls

Comments:



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### 4. Top Rope Set Up Knowledge

4.1. Working knowledge of knots including:

Figure of 8; figure of 8 on the bight; alpine butterfly; clove hitch; single fisherman's; double fisherman's; bowline with stopper knot; tape knot; prusik; munter hitch

4.2. Understanding of SRENEA (Solid, Redundant, Equalized, No Extension, Angle less than 120 degrees) principles for basic top rope set up

4.3. Working knowledge of anchor system for belayer

4.4. Safety inspection procedures for knots, carabiners, helmets and harness

Comments:

### 5. Supervision of Belaying

5.1. Safety checks prior to climbing

5.2. Ability to provide regular and appropriate feedback

5.3. Effective use of back up belay:

Comments:

### 6. Cliff and Group Safety

6.1. Helmet wearing zones

6.2. Safe distance from cliff edge

6.3. Procedures in the event of rock fall

6.4. Ascending and descending on steep ground

6.5. Basic emergency procedures

6.6. Use of safety line near cliff edge

6.7. Demonstrates ability to conduct aspects of a safety brief, including medical information, emergency response, boundaries, toileting procedures, group size and ratios, learner responsibilities, environmental care and necessary communication

Comments:



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### 7. Abseil Guiding (optional but desirable)

- 7.1. Safety brief
- 7.2. Use of independent safety line
- 7.3. Run an abseil on a load releasing system

Comments:

General comments on assessment:

Instructor's Signature:

Candidate's Signature:

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### SAREA AA Panel Checks

- Check SAREA Instructor Qualification
- Log book of >500m of climbing submitted
- Cheque or deposit of \$50 made to SAREA

Comments:

Approved/Not Approved: ..... Date: .....