

Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association
Standard Operating Guideline
4.2 Ride Along Program

Purpose

It is the purpose of this program to encourage prospective members, people interested in EMS, community leaders and anyone else approved by the Chief of Service to ride along with a SVAA crew.

Guideline

It is the responsibility of all association operational officers and members to ensure this program is followed as designed. The following rules and procedures will act as a guide for all ride alongs. The chief of service will have the final discretion as to whether or not to allow someone to ride-along.

IMPORTANT:

Riders must not discuss anything related to any patient that they observe. Maintaining patient confidentiality is critical and any breach of that confidentiality will result in the termination of ride along and observer will not be allowed to ride along again.

The person requesting a ride along shift must understand that this is an emergency service, therefore, schedules are unpredictable. When the rider requests a ride along block of hours on the ambulance, they must take into consideration that a complete ambulance call can take as much as three hours from start to finish and must be planned for when they sign up for a duty shift. This means if they sign up for a duty shift from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and a call comes in at 2:50, they must be prepared to remain on the ambulance until the ambulance returns to Suffield, two to three hours after the call originates.

The ambulance crew may not be at the SVAA facility at the beginning of the ride along's shift and the building will be locked. The person requesting the ride along must be prepared to remain outside the locked building until the return of the crew.

Procedure

The person desiring a ride along at the SVAA will complete a "ride along program hold harmless waiver" form. This form will be turned into either the chief of service, the office manager or a scheduling person for approval at least one business day prior to any ride along. Once the form has been received and filed, the person processing the form will add the rider to the schedule on RescueBooker and notify the requestor of their assigned hours. The signed waiver is retained by the office manager.

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Riders will wear proper attire as defined below. Riders who arrive in clothing other than above will be asked to leave and return in proper attire. Proper attire is:

- Pants or slacks (not jeans)
- Work or other durable shoes (no sneakers)
- Any durable collared shirt, short or long-sleeve
- Over jacket will be provided by association.

Riders must arrive on time and stay until the end of their ride along time.

Ride along time will be limited to 12 hours and be conducted between the hours of 08:00-22:00. Attempts will be made to schedule the rider with a SVAA member of their choice but is not guaranteed.

Riders will observe all department rules and regulations while participating. Riders are to follow the direction of the duty officer and/or crew members to which they are assigned. The duty officer may terminate the ride-along at any time. If the ride along is terminated prior to the scheduled time, a written explanation will be forwarded to the chief of service.

***Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association
Ride Along Program
Hold Harmless Waiver***

In consideration of permission to ride on the vehicles operated by the Suffield Ambulance Association for the purpose of observing emergency medical techniques, which permission I hereby acknowledge as having been granted, do hereby release, acquit, and forever discharge the Suffield Ambulance Association, its officers, directors, agents, servants, successors, and assignees, and all other persons, firms and corporations of and from any and all actions, causes of action, claims, demands, damages, costs, injuries to person or property, loss of service, expenses and compensation which may hereafter arise on behalf of myself, my heirs, executors, assignees and personal representatives, out of any matter related to the riding in a vehicle of the Suffield Ambulance Association for the purposes of observation.

I further declare and represent that no promise or agreement not herein expressed has been made to me, and that this release contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and that the terms of this release are contractual, and not a mere recital.

I further state that I am over eighteen years of age; that I have carefully read the foregoing release and guideline and agree to follow SVAA rules, and know that the contents thereof and that I sign it as my own free act. Failure to follow the rules in this guideline will result in immediate termination of the ride along as documented.

Signature

Date

Printed name

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

List requested times for your ride along plus any other notes:
