

Club Training Officer Course

I, as training officer for my local club attended this course, run by Mountaineering Ireland on the 2nd & 3rd of November '13.

Twelve clubs were represented and whilst I had a couple of things on my agenda, I was surprised at the variety of club cultures, training methods and approaches to problems displayed over the weekend.

Our club, and I as training officer, have developed a certain approach to training mountain skills which works....in some modules better than others. The CTO course has broadened my approach to most aspects of club training. For example, in the past I tended to deliver informal training by myself. On this course I saw effective methods of Co-training (two trainers on the same topic), and Peer training (when a trainee "gets it", teaching other trainees).

Overall, the weekend was full of Tips & tricks, alternative methods and differing views of how clubs and training in clubs can be done. I arrived as my clubs current training officer, my predecessor the only other one I ever knew. After the course I knew I was part of a network of training officers facing the same kind of challenges in delivering training to their clubs.

This Mountaineering Ireland course was run by Dave Gaughran, Jane Carney and Helen Lawless. It was good to see these trainers while delivering training to the training officers were keeping themselves trained by asking for feedback all weekend. It's what keeps them the excellent teachers they are.

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