

UGA Challenge Course Facilitator Job Description

JOB CONTENT : A Facilitator for the *UGA* Challenge Course will be responsible for setting up, devising and safely guiding multiple participants through a series of programmed elements to achieve their desired outcomes by way of experiential learning in a professional manner. The facilitator will use the *UGA* course to provide an opportunity for groups to recognize and safely reach their potential. This will include promoting self-confidence, positive group dynamics, and the expansion of their problem solving abilities.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS :

- **SAFETY** The facilitator will be responsible for insuring the safety of each client participating in the course. Work will include properly setting up the course, inspecting the course and equipment and properly instructing the use of the same to the clients.
- **LEADERSHIP :** Be a positive role model. Directs activities. Empowers clients utilizing "Challenge by Choice". Aids in developing the full potential of the facility. Deals calmly and efficiently with stressful situations and people.
- **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES :** Understands emergency procedures and is comfortable responding to situations in a professional AND calm demeanor.
- **PHYSICAL :** Able to tie specific knots, belay (rope technique) clients, move from element to element and climb structures as needed.
- **SUPERVISION :** The facilitator will be responsible to supervise all activities connected with the course elements. Work will include directing activities and debriefing participants. Able to work independently.
- **COMMUNICATION :** Excellent communication skills are required. Facilitators should be adept at effectively communicating to a broad range of individuals from varied backgrounds and encouraging communication between others.
- **JUDGMENT :** Uses good judgment while making independent decisions regarding all facets of the safe and effective use of the course.
- **TEAMWORK :** Works as a valuable team member with others in scheduling, facilitating and operating the course.
- **DEPENDABILITY** Available on a regular basis to lead programs. Arrives on site on time. Maintains a commitment to the success of the course. Follows procedures.

JOB TASKS :

- **ORGANIZING & PLANNING :** Takes the lead to develop the appropriate combination of elements to achieve the groups goals. Tailors the experience to the goals and capabilities of the clients.
- **SETUP :** Prepares the course for use and takes down and properly stores equipment at end of each session.
- **INSTRUCTION :** Directs and instructs groups sequence and goals of the individual activities and elements.

- **TEACHING** : Cultivates learning among the individuals and the groups, including the technical skills as well as the experiential aspects of the course.
- **DEBRIEFING** : Promotes constructive discussion processing the participants experiences in order to integrate what has been learned.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS :

Basic (Solo*) Facilitator Requirements:

Requires a minimum of 20 hours training in Challenge Course facilitation. Outside training must be approved by the Outdoor Recreation Coordinator.

- Successful completion of CPR and Standard First Aid training.
- Ability to quickly and confidently tie all necessary knots.
- Capability to set up and take down each and every low and high course element.
- Ability to safely belay participants.
- Successfully demonstrate a high course rescue.
- Ability to understand and present each field game, initiative, and element, including all safety issues and features.
- Ability to understand and use group dynamic facilitation skills as they apply to a Challenge Course.
- Ability to prepare (front-loading) and follow-up (debriefing) for the group.
- Knowledge of the use of the experiential learning cycle.
- Working knowledge of all equipment, policies and protocols of a Challenge Course program

* A solo facilitator is one who, with the agreement of both the facilitator and the outdoor recreation coordinator, is able to conduct a low and high course program without direct supervision by another more qualified solo facilitator or lead facilitator.

Lead Facilitator Requirements:

- Obtain Basic (Solo) Facilitator status.
- Minimum 40 hours working as a full solo facilitator.
- Receive Outdoor Recreation Coordinator's approval by successful completion of a written evaluation, demonstration of skills, and face-to-face interview.
- Ability to conduct a pre-course orientation with participants.
- Ability to appropriately review and interpret medical forms.
- Superior working knowledge of all safety gear used on a Ropes Course.
- Ability to develop a schedule that will address the group's issues and goals.

Maintaining Lead Facilitator Status:

- Work with at least two different facilitators per semester.
- Facilitate a minimum of one group per month (This guideline may be influenced by the experience level of the facilitator).

Regaining Lead Facilitator Status:

To regain lead facilitator status, a person must work with a current lead facilitator for a minimum of three days and receive his/her approval. In addition, s/he must have a face-to-face interview with Outdoor Recreation Coordinator

EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

None.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS :

- Must possess a valid driver's license.
- Must be able to lift and carry a minimum of 35 pounds.
- Daily exposure to dust, dirt, weather and temperature changes. Position works outdoors.
- Strong desire to help participants and colleagues seek and learn from a variety of challenges.