

SAR TECH II Practical Exam Tips

Tracking – (see page 215 in Fundamentals of SAR book)

- Equipment needed – tracking pole; tape measure; tracking form and/or blank sheet of paper; pencil
- Be verbal at all times explain what you are doing so the evaluator can hear
- Never touch the track
- Tie the handle strap of your tracking pole with a rubber band so they do not interfere
- Set your tracking pole up with two measurements length of track and length of stride (may use rubber bands, o rings or pole devices; setup heel to toe of track at the handle end of you pole then stride)
- If the first track is not the one you want to measure indicate the one you will
- Tracking form and/or blank sheet of paper - record all the information (Sole Type; Stride length; Full length of track; Heal Length; Ball Width; Heal Width; Instep Width)
- Mark all tracks either left or right with full tracks completely circled and partials with a half circle
- Pivot the pole from heal mark not end of pole (10 and 2 o' clock) for every track even though visible

Orienting the Map to True, Grid, or Magnetic North and Your Position

- Hold the map with North being up
- Place the compass edge along the specified North Arrow (Grid, True or Magnetic)
- Turn the compass and map until the arrow point north (Fred is in the shed)
- Look for features on the map to find your approximate location
- Map to compass subtract declination
- Compass to map add declination

Map Azimuths

- Use a yard stick and/or ruler to connect points on the map
- Point base arrow on the compass in the direction you want to go
- With compass dial pointing to the map north line the red lines on compass so they are parallel with the land net lines on map
- Read degree by placement pin (Remember 0-90, 90-180, 180-270-360 quadrants to check your finding)
- Use UTM grid - tool draw long line between points, center dark lines on reader to nearest UTM intersection, read degree in direction of travel, for locating in the field subtract the declination
- Back azimuths add 180 if less than 180: subtract 180 if greater than 180

Stride to Meters

- Measure out 100 meters & tally your stride (**remember a stride is the distance of 2 steps**)
- Use conversion – **100 meters/stride tally = your conversion #**
- As you navigate the course tally your stride to each point
- Use conversion – **your stride tally X conversion# = meters (do this for uphill, downhill & side hill for more accurate conversion #s)**