

Recommendations and Procedures for New and Active SaddleBrooke Hiking Club Guides:

Becoming a SaddleBrooke Hiking Club Guide

We always need to identify new hiking guides to lead hikes for our club members. Those who volunteer to become active guides are essential to fulfilling the purpose of the club.

Steps to becoming a SBHC Hiking Guide:

1. A club member who desires to become a hiking guide should contact the Chief Guide and/or the Associate Chief Guide and discuss becoming a guide. They should have completed 10 club hikes in a variety of locations.
2. The new guide in training should understand the Instructions for Hiking Guides. [\(insert link\)](#)
3. Each new guide should complete three mentored hikes led by active SBHC guides where they participate in guiding the hike. The new guide in training should identify himself or herself to the active guide, who will serve as a mentor, and involve the new guide in aspects of guiding and leadership. After the three mentored hikes are completed, the new guide in training should lead two hikes of their own, with an active guide coming along to observe and assist the new guide. The active guides can provide feedback to the guide in training, and to the Chief and Associate Chief Guides regarding the readiness of the new guide to become an active guide.
4. The new guide is also expected to obtain first aid instruction in a timely fashion. Options include the SBHC Emergency Preparedness Courses, or another first aid course, such as the Golder Ranch Fire Department First Aid Course (Heartsaver® First Aid CPR AED at <http://grfdaz.gov/cpr-certifications/heartsaver-first-aid-cpr-aed/>)

Continuing to serve as a SaddleBrooke Hiking Club Guide

Our hiking guides are a critical resource for the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club. Having guides to lead our members on weekly hikes into the beautiful Sonoran desert, or on SBHC hiking club trips, fulfills the purpose of our club, and is our primary measure of success.

The following guidelines are important for continuing to serve as an active guide for our club:

1. Active guides are expected to lead a minimum of four hikes per year, either as part of our regular hike calendar, or as guides for hikes on sponsored club trips. Consideration is made for extenuating circumstances, illness or injury, but having our guides lead hikes is essential to the success of our club.

2. All current active guides are expected to periodically refresh their first aid training and skills, either through the SBHC Emergency Preparedness Courses or other First Aid courses offered in the community.
3. Guides who have been active guides for five years or more, but no longer are regularly leading four hikes per year will move to emeritus status. We would hope that they would occasionally guide hikes for the club, but are not considered active guides.
4. The final decision concerning active guide status is at the discretion of the Chief Guide and Associate Chief Guide.

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