

Table 1 - Group Metrics and Insurance Data

| Team | Number on Roster | Average Number of Call-outs per year (2010-2015) | Number of Call outs this year (January through July 2016) | Does your team pay for any insurance coverage beyond what is provided by the ASRC? | Name of your insurance company? | What does your policy cover? | What is the premium for your insurance policy? (to the nearest \$100) |
|--------|------------------|--|---|--|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Team 1 | 44 | 25 | 17 | Yes | VFIS | vehicle, trailer, general liability, managment liability | \$ 2,200.00 |
| Team 2 | 17 | 15 | 11 | Yes | VFIS | general liability, management liability, portable equipment, and vehicle coverage | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Team 3 | 35 | 15 | 9 | No | | | |
| Team 4 | 164 | 41.6 | 12 | Yes | VFIS | General Liability, Crime, Portable Equipment, Management Liability, Auto | \$ 1,400.00 |
| Team 5 | 56 | 4 | 4 | Yes | VFIS | General liability, management liability, property, personal property, medical incident... | \$ 1,200.00 |
| Team 6 | 1 | 4 | 4 | Yes | VFIS | Equip.,Liability, Accident, Injury, VFIS umbrella | \$ 3,500.00 |
| Team 7 | 34 | 20 | 25 (including standbys) | Yes | VFIS | Liability, personal injury, errors and omissions, equipment | \$ 1,300.00 |

Table 2 - Group Satisfaction and Participation Metrics

| Team | What is your overall level of satisfaction with the ASRC? | How well does information from ASRC reach the membership of your team, those that are not in leadership roles? | Participation Level of Each Officer | | | | | Additional Comments related to your group's overall participation in the ASRC. |
|--------|---|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | | | President/Chair | Vice President/Vice Chair | Training Officer | Operations Officer | Board Representatives | |
| Team 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | |
| Team 2 | 4 | | 5 | | 5 | 3 | 5 | |
| Team 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | With regard to getting the word out to members, it ebbs and flows but it's usually the BRMRG leaderships fault for not getting the word out to the rest of the group when it happens. |
| Team 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | |
| Team 5 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 1 | Very involved- just hosted the AGM, accounted for about half of participants that showed up. Officers are highly involved in various aspects of ASRC leadership. We basically run the ASRC (despite Mike =) |
| Team 6 | 3 | 3 | 5 | | 5 | | 5 | |
| Team 7 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Our group's input on the recent ASRC major policy changes was largely ignored •The ASRC has made a major shift to be focused on individuals and away from the groups. For example, we had Ben McCandless, who resigned from AMRG and is not a member of or representing any ASRC Group who ran a remote planning initiative for the ASRC, and had a personality conflict that resulted in the resignation of the ASRC Vice-Chairman. However, other individuals, including those who are no longer member, have provided great assistance to the ASRC the years. •The ASRC seems to now value individual participation and certification over capable groups that successfully work together and work toward high standards for SAR skills and safety. •The ASRC standards for individual credentialing are now optional for Groups, which we feel greatly degrades the value of being seen as an ASRC Group. •*Overall, I struggle to see the value in staying a member of the ASRC. It is a large expense for our team and I do not see very much in return. The changes with the ASRC moving to a credentialing body and not an operational body have taken away the key value I always saw in the ASRC. I do not need an external credentialing body. There are plenty of free avenues to pursue to get an external credential. Also, credentials from NASAR, DCNR, or MRA will hold far more weight with our local RAs. We have to spend a fair amount of time reaching out to RAs and explaining what AMRG does. The RAs do not seem to care who or what the ASRC is. " |

Table 3 - Group Ratings

| Rated Item | Team | | | | | | | Average |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| | Team 1 | Team 2 | Team 3 | Team 4 | Team 5 | Team 6 | Team 7 | |
| Training Standards | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| Access to missions outside of your typical response area | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Multiagency coordination for large searches | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| SAR Exercises and Simulations | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| Training Opportunities/Information Available from other teams | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| Access to "Experts" | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | | 4 |
| Being part of an organization with high standards | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| Group consensus of governing documents and policies | | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| Credentialing | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Insurance coverage provided by ASRC membership | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Opportunities to participate in research | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| Standardized uniform policy | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| List Serves and Bulletin Boards (Yahoo Groups) | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 |

Table 4a - Group Short Answer

| Team | When you think of the ASRC, what comes to mind? | What do you think the ASRC is doing well today? | What do you think the ASRC has done well historically? | How do you think the ASRC has evolved over time? | What do you think are the biggest challenges facing the ASRC today? | What do you think are the biggest challenges facing your team today? |
|--------|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| Team 1 | likely to flounder | Aware that it needs to redefine itself | Training standards, search management | Slow to respond to change in the organization. | Offering value-added services to member groups | Getting more callouts |
| Team 2 | high standards | running searches | create high standards and being in the forefront of SAR. | We think that the ASRC has kept their high standards but do feel that at times there is more talk and not enough action taking place which could potentially hinder being in the forefront of SAR now and/or in the future. | People haven't heard of the ASRC. Standardizing the current standards so that everyone is doing the same thing with their checkoffs. Getting new teams to join. | lack of state standards. Continued networking with law enforcement and fire agencies of our abilities. Expanding our team but doing so with quality people. (Quality over quantity) |
| Team 3 | An umbrella organization of professional SAR volunteers that is nice to be a part of but represents the single largest financial burden for us. An organization that used to be important in SAR but has been losing relevance, at least in VA. Also, the ability to work seamlessly with each of the other groups and have the ability to easily cross state boundaries for missions. | Give the teams the abilities to go to missions in other states. ASRC is great with very large searches. (The ASRC is doing research?) | Provided SAR resources for several Eastern states (State governments taking over that role). Made Virginia the premier state for the organization of SAR. Creating robust SAR standards. Coming together to aid the lost person. | The ASRC has become humbler, which is a good thing. Also, at least in VA, VDEM has more functional impact on our day-to-day workings. I guess the ASRC still feels like a good source of info/training standards/etc... | With the States taking over the running of searches and training volunteers the main challenge is: "Relevancy and direction". What is the "use" of the ASRC? The direction seems to have been lost and now it's scrambling to find itself before it loses more teams. | Member recruitment, drop in the number of searches (a good thing but it is hard to keep members...). In regard to ASRC standards one issue is trying to get our members up to ASRC FTL. And now with the credentialing. We already have to do this with VDEM and now have to do it with the ASRC. We're hoping it won't be an issue scaring off membership. |
| Team 4 | A governing body that is rarely seen Dd different group representative ves Founders of Mid-Atlantic SAR Since the ASRC is now non operational, recommend SMRG withdraw from the ASRC. No longer relevant Irrelevance | Laying low Setting standards Not a whole lot I see no advantage for SMRG to remain in the ASRC. Trying to stay active in the SAR community | Documenting and credentials Coordinate searches& training standards Training and operations Play an operational role. In the past I believe ASRC was probably a good resource for training, standards, and coordinated response effort | It put out this survey Less operational involvement probably due to VDEM As AHJ's have evolved, ASRC has become less relevant. Poorly as more teams leave the ASRC I believe ASRC has not evolved with our SAR environment here in Virginia | Getting call outs Support of groups Figuring out what they should be. Since it has gone non-operational, their biggest challenge will be convincing its current member teams to remain in the ASRC. ASRC training and involvement. | Communication between members Nnnnn Ensuring good turn out at searches. Convincing SMRG to leave the ASRC. Professionalism, standards, lack of commitment |
| Team 5 | Family & community, excellence, thought leadership, regional coverage | Developing remote support, producing high quality research, thought leadership, enabling team interoperability and designing fantastic surveys | Pioneered SAR standards in the region, produced high quality research, well-executed large searches | It has gone through peaks and valleys, and it seems like it is in a valley at the moment, with difficulties filling out officer slate, stagnant with an identity crisis and difficulties finding the way forward | Holding the conference together, and gaining teams while not losing any. Getting people involved, who take pride in the conference and want to see it succeed | Raising the volume of callouts |
| Team 6 | Unity | training standards, search management | search management, training standards | not sure | training standards to cover the needs of too many different states | lack of willing volunteers |
| Team 7 | •The ASRC used to be an organization that wore the same uniform, trained to the same standards, and when we got together on an operation, we worked as a single organization, rather than separate teams. Now we have no minimum standard for teams (Just 1 FTL and a bunch of CQs), don't wear the same uniform, the teams don't get along very well, we don't have a mutual aid system for alerting each other. •A conference that really enjoys SAR procedures and creating their own approach to everything. | •Asking the teams for their feedback is a great thing, being open to making improvements and addressing issues. | •Created a system of mutual aid and coordination between teams that made it easy to request other qualified teams •Training search managers •Maintained high standards for individual team members and created a community that encouraged high-performance among teams. •Managing large, complex searches | •The ASRC has evolved away from being focused on mutual aid operations and groups working together to just certifying individuals. •It has not maintained a pipeline of bringing up new search managers or conference dispatch officers •Has become more involved in canine SAR. •From a training and group standards perspective, ASRC no longer leads the way with high standards, instead it seems it is chasing state standard equivalency and aiming for doing just the minimum to be recognized. •Has failed to maintain the high standards it set. First by not holding teams accountable for actually performing, instead letting them wither away until they just don't pay dues anymore. Second, by changing the team standards to not required anyone to meet the training standards other than the GTO. | •Lack of a clear mission/purpose •Vacancies or soon to be vacancies in the top 3 leadership positions •Lack of cooperation between teams in dealing with serious safety and behavioral issues •No mutual aid callout process, compounded by the lack of new search managers and conference dispatch officers •Everyone involved in and leading major ASRC initiatives should be a member a Group, even if they are working for the good of the whole ASRC. | •RA outreach/PR •Fundraising •Lack of cooperation between ASRC teams in dealing with serious safety and behavioral issues •Being requested by RAs. Sustained engagement by members. I think AMRG is doing well at both but these are consistent issues we are always facing. Generation of reoccurring revenue (donations, selling items/services, grants, etc)" |

Table 4b - Group Short Answer

| Team | What services do you want/expect from the ASRC? | Do you think the ASRC should grow, if so at what rate? | What suggestions do you have for improving our recruiting process for additional groups? | How do you think the ASRC is perceived by your clients (RA/AHJ)? | How do you think the ASRC is perceived by outside teams? | What ways would you offer to improve the ASRC today? |
|--------|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| Team 1 | Networking with other teams, getting called out for other teams missions | No | | Some have bad memories, others are not aware of ASRC | Have heard of some bad opinions, no facts | |
| Team 2 | Continued high standards, network of "experts" to learn from, assistance with trainings, a curriculum that goes with the training standards for new teams coming in so they don't feel they have to create their own (again goes back to standardization). A "textbook" that goes along with the training standards to recommend to new members coming in. | Yes, we would love to see new teams but again I think quality over quantity. | (I'm sensing a theme with our answers). Standardized measures for PTBs, maybe having a booth at state and/or national SAR events, use of social media | They have never heard of the ASRC | Most have not heard of the ASRC | Getting the word out about the ASRC, having members on sub committees |
| Team 3 | Having the ability for teams to cross state boundaries, training standards are good, best practices on how to do things would be great. Optional insurance if insurance is eliminated. Taking care of insurance so teams don't have to... More opportunities to share with teams information/research/remote support skills, workshops and suchlike. | The ASRC should only grow if it can provide member groups with something of value. Currently it appears that the ASRC is too divided to grow. There is too much talk about groups leaving the conference. The ASRC needs to find its way before thinking about growing let alone at what rate. | To recruit more groups, the ASRC needs to provide a service or function of some sort they either can't find elsewhere or can't find as good for as cheap. We need to be able to explain the benefits of being a part of the ASRC. Unfortunately, talking to people on other teams, there does not seem to be many reasons for joining for teams in Virginia. Need to find benefits for Virginia teams. Outside Virginia it would just be outreach. For example North Carolina is in a SAR mess and could use the ASRC expertise. Though, I hear they are making a confederation or conference of their own. | Many probably don't know or don't care. They see VDEM even in the large scale searches. VDEM gets most of the air time even though the ASRC does a lot of the work (Hannah Graham). | With some respect, usually seen as well trained and professional but also the sense that we rest on our laurels with little reason. A sense of separation from everyone else. The newer ASRC members that are going to the GSARs and things seem to be bridging that gap. There is little to set us apart from other teams on a functional level. | Help find a direction for the ASRC so that we don't lose more teams and actually grow. Conferences to both teach and learn. Help with training standards and best practices. |
| Team 4 | Insurance, call outs Standards setting, training Think tank for SAR excellence. None I personally feel our group should disband from ASRC | Yes, as fast as they can Not sur Depends on the direction. No No answer. | I don't know what the current process is Bbb Not sure that is the right direction in the current environment None, ASRC is withering away as teams leave. No answer. | Old, outdated. Not needed anymore Not known mixed opinions Unknown Our groups have left a generally bad impression to our local RA/AHJs due to professionalism and other issues. | Old, outdated. Not needed anymore Not known elitists Unknown I'm not sure. | More callouts, more ASRC facetime at searches Not sure Turn the ASRC into an association for Mid-Atlantic SAR teams like NASAR and MRA. None, recommend SMRG leave the ASRC No answer. |
| Team 5 | Callouts, remote support, unity | Yes! At least about one group per year seems like a reasonable growth rate. Would be fantastic to see it become a national organization | None at the moment | Not recognized as adding any value | Depends on the team, but it seems common to encounter teams that have a very ingrained, negative perception of "the blue shirts" | Where to begin... ? Conference-wide exercises! |
| Team 6 | Remote support, SAR management skills, respected training standards | Yes. Unsure | | They don't know who or what the ASRC is | Not sure | |
| Team 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Having a functional mutual aid/dispatch system, with a roster of AOs, to facilitate ASRC teams helping each other •Ensure that teams meet the expected team performance standards to be included in that mutual aid system •Hold teams and individuals accountable for professional and safe behavior, as well as cooperating with other teams in order to be included in that mutual aid system. •A set of training standards so that multiple organizations have roughly the same standards. •External support and resources for multi-day or large searches. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Growth through adding qualified, highly skilled, professional teams is a great thing. •Growth through lacking or unprofessional teams is not and would destroy the reputation of the ASRC. •ASRC should not grow until it has a clear mission and addresses how it will ensure the skills and professionalism of new teams joining, as well as those that are already members. •Yes. •I don't think the rate is the main concern. I think the requirements for teams to join is. The requirements to join and maintain membership in ASRC should be high. I'm not interested in being part of the ASRC if teams can join with low training standards. That takes away the benefit of having external support. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Develop a clear organizational mission •Develop better standards for group performance and conduct •Add team-based performance testing, as well as a review of their organizational governance documents, to ensure that teams can actually perform as expected. Individuals with ASRC certifications don't mean much if they can't function together as a search and rescue team. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Most of our RA/AHJ have no idea what the ASRC is | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The ASRC and ASRC Groups are seen as having a more comprehensive skill set than the average SAR team, particularly related to rescue, medical, and search management skills. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Get back to focusing on getting qualified SAR teams to missions when an ASRC member group needs help. •Put more focus on the groups, group performance, and group testing. SAR is a team sport and the ASRC is made up of teams – its standards and operations should reflect that. |

Table 5 - Group Final Comments

| Team | Closing comments or thoughts? |
|--------|---|
| Team 1 | The ASRC needs to take a realistic look at itself and training standards. There is an attitude that we must be the very best, which gets in the way of streamlining training standards and procedures. The focus needs to be that of getting the job done, not staying perched on top of a pedestal that others don't even recognize. |
| Team 2 | Our team has shown tremendous growth in our abilities since joining the ASRC and want to continue to improve those skills. However, I think that as more and more states and agencies are requiring certifications and/or standards we as the ASRC need to have standardized measures across the board. With that being said, I don't want to see the ASRC become like NASAR and be just a "business". |
| Team 3 | |
| Team 4 | <p>I don't feel as though the ASRC has a presence at searches I go to. Other groups I ask about ASRC say it is an outdated organization.</p> <p>None</p> <p>This is a horribly constructed survey. But it doesn't surprise me coming from the ASRC I consistently ask at our local meetings when it comes up "what does being in the ASRC do for us as a group." The only answers I ever receive if any talks about what ASRC used to do. No one can ever tell me what the benefits are now. VDEM is our primary call out agency. They provide the classes and the standards acceptable in this state. They also train not only our groups but several of the LE agencies (RA/AHJ) in this state. I know longer feel ASRC is relevant or needed in our group.</p> |
| Team 5 | Call [NAME] to talk about organizing conference-wide exercises. Change the rules to allow for Mike to continue as chair, and serve his full term. Fire the secretary! |
| Team 6 | |
| Team 7 | <p>Where is the ASRC duplicating the work of other organizations? And, are there situations where the ASRC can duplicate things but do better than the other organizations?</p> <p>Team 7 is willing to put time and effort into developing team evaluation and credentialing processes if there is interest.</p> <p>Team 7 is also willing to put time and effort into developing a code of conduct for the ASRC if there is interest.</p> |