

	STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE				
	EQUIPMENT				
	SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS WINTER/SUMMER MAINTENANCE				
	Effective: 01/Jan/98	Revised: 01/Nov/2020	S.O.G. #: E-211	Page: 1 of 2	

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this guideline is to establish procedures for the proper cleaning and care of the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA).

2.0 Responsibility

- 2.1 It is the responsibility of all Department personnel to understand the procedures documented in this Standard Operating Guideline.

3.0 Winter Care and Maintenance of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus


- 3.1 During the extreme cold weather conditions in our area during the winter months, the following procedures will be followed to provide for the proper operation of the SCBA. The term *Extreme Cold* is used to define temperatures of *32 degrees Fahrenheit or below*.

3.2 Response Scene

- 3.2.1 Don the face piece at the last possible moment before entering the IDLH atmosphere.
- 3.2.2 Protect the second stage regulator from moisture during cold weather conditions to avoid ice build-up on its exterior surfaces. Ice can interfere with the emergency bypass or the AIR KLIC buttons.
- 3.2.3 Inspect the external surfaces of the regulator for ice prior to use.
- 3.2.4 Melt the ice by placing the regulator under clothing near the body.
- 3.2.5 Inspect the regulator again for ice, then check the *RED* bypass knob and the AIR KLIC buttons for proper function.
- 3.2.6 If ice forms on the regulator while it is engaged in the face piece, the regulator will continue to function properly. When it becomes necessary to remove the regulator, rotate it to break the ice and remove the regulator from the face piece.
- 3.2.6.1 Make sure you're in a non-IDLH atmosphere before performing this task.
- 3.2.7 If the AIR KLIC buttons are frozen and the regulator cannot be removed, do not force the buttons. Move to a safe area, press the gray regulator shutoff button, and remove the face piece and regulator as a unit.
- 3.2.8 If the gray shutoff button does not function, turn off the air supply at the cylinder valve and remove the face piece and regulator as a unit.
- 3.2.9 Warm the face piece and regulator under clothing until the ice melts and the AIR KLIC buttons and/or the gray shutoff button function normally.
- 3.2.10 If ice forms on the regulator while it is in the regulator receiver, rotate the regulator to break the ice and remove it from the regulator receiver.
- 3.2.11 If the AIR KLIC buttons are frozen and the regulator cannot be removed from the receiver, do not force the buttons. Unbuckle the waist belt and warm the belt, regulator receiver, and regulator under clothing until the AIR KLIC buttons function normally.

3.3 Overhaul

- 3.3.1 Upon exiting the IDLH atmosphere, the SCBA should be placed on a salvage cover next to the Squad. In extreme cold weather, the face pieces should be placed in the cabs of the apparatus to keep them warm.

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3.4 Clean-Up

- 3.4.1 Face piece: Dunk the entire face piece into a bath of lukewarm or cold water and soap. *Never use scalding hot water to clean the face piece.*
- 3.4.2 After dunking in the bath, rinse the face piece under cold water and dry it with a clean dry cloth. *Do not dry the face piece with paper towels as this can scratch the lens.*
- 3.4.3 The regulator, harness, and bell assembly can be wiped off with a damp cloth. Mud and plaster can be scrubbed off with apparatus soap and water using a wheel brush on the *harness assembly only*. When the second stage is heavily encrusted with debris, place a *RED* protective cleaning cap on the second stage before water is applied.
- 3.4.4 The air bottle can be washed off with apparatus soap and water using a wheel brush if necessary.
- 3.4.6 It is recommended that individual face pieces be cleaned after *every use*.

4.0 Summer Care and Maintenance of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus

- 4.1 During the summer months, the cleaning and care of the SCBA will be the same as the winter program.

5.0 Repair

- 5.1 If at any time a part of the SCBA, no matter how minor, is lost, broken, or suffers a malfunction, the entire SCBA should be taken out of service. The unit should have a work order attached to it explaining the problem and then forwarded to Shift Battalion Chief for repair.

6.0 Reference

- 6.1 Highland Park Fire Department
- 6.2 Scott Operating Manual

Approved:  Fire Chief