

# PROBE LEADER CRIB SHEET

**Personnel:-** 12 probers Max on line  
2 for Guidon line  
3 - 6 Digging party (rotate with probing team)  
1 minimum medical (could be part of digging party but not on probing line)

**Equipment:-** Heavy duty probes. (min 6nr spare probes held by digging party)  
Heavy duty shovels  
Red flags  
Guidon Cord at 50cm spacing set for 3 holes per step  
Medical equipment

**Priority search:- areas** On fall line indicated by surface clues (start below lowest clue)  
Where survivors ended up on avalanche  
At the toe of the avalanche (start below avalanche on undisturbed snow)  
At bends in the avalanche path  
Over known depressions or levelling in the ground

**Techniques:-** Probe up hill  
Use Guidon cord to maintain accuracy and speed of advance  
Mark each end of every 2nd row with Red flags. (Flags placed in the outer probe hole for second offset probe)  
50 x 50cm grid with 3H/S  
Limit depth of probe to **1.5m** on first pass,  
**2.5m** depth on second pass offset by 25cm  
Use offset probe for second pass

**Instruct Probers:-** Probes must be inserted behind line  
All probers start left of centre mark on 1st line  
For 2nd line, step up and start on right of centre and move left  
The line should not move until all probes started or complete  
Line holders mark snow ahead of line at 50cm for the next move  
Probers shout **STRIKE** if a find suspected & leave probe in place  
Digging party hands prober a new probe & line moves on

**Extrication:-** Digging party could confirm probe strike. (is there mud on end of probe)  
Prioritise digging where multiple strikes indicated.  
Shallower first over deeper Depth / Feel for probe  
Gauge depth & start digging 1.5 x depth below probe  
Use inverted V shaped pattern for 3, or 2 rows of 3 for 6 diggers  
**Priority** to locate **airway** & confirm if **Air Pocket** present and / or **Ice Mask**  
Identify if **airway** clear  
Clear snow from **Chest** and excavate large hole  
Time Buried <35mins, Extricate quickly; No signs of life - 20mins CPR  
Time Buried >35mins, Hypothermia expected, handle with care  
Follow IKAR Guidelines for buried victims  
Start oxygen, Place on Vac Mat & insulate  
Seek medical advice & evacuate urgently