



## **FEDERATION OF FIRST AID TRAINING PROVIDERS NEWSLETTER 5 (MARCH AND APRIL 2015)**

**Dear Training Provider,**

Welcome to our latest Newsletter covering March to April 2015.

### **Medical Issues**

#### **Cough CPR**

The 'How to survive a Heart Attack Alone' guidance has once again been doing the rounds on the social media forums. We have checked with our Medical Adviser and they advise us that it is basically an Urban Legend. Guidance on this has been produced by the Resuscitation Council, the last time being in 2010 (**see link below**).

<https://www.resus.org.uk/pages/coughCPR.htm>

### **The FAIB/FOFATO National Trainer/Assessor Register and Professional Code of Conduct**

Following our note in the last Newsletter (No 4) regarding the National Register of Trainers/Assessors we have received a lot of positive feedback.

As previously mentioned the register has been welcomed by HSE.

We intend to move forward with this in the next few weeks. In the meantime we will produce a draft document which will include a number of Tables with Trainer and Assessor qualifications. The list is NOT exhaustive and we will be looking to Training Providers and Trainers/Assessors to let us know of additional qualifications that should be added.

### **Qualifications of Trainers/Assessors (October 2015 and beyond)**

The First Aid Industry Body (FAIB) National Register of Trainers links in with a move to improve the standards and consistency of Trainers/Assessors Qualifications because FAIB feel that this is critical in achieving the high standards that we want to see in this Industry.

We are receiving numerous enquiries from Trainers and Training Providers asking whether their Qualifications will be acceptable after October 2015.

We are also aware of the volume of e mails going out from Awarding Bodies some telling Trainers/Assessors to sign up onto courses quickly or risk them being full.

The truth of the matter is that the vast majority of FOFATO and FAIB Training Providers and their Trainers (and indeed a lot of Trainers outside of FAIB) will already have perfectly acceptable Qualifications that either cover both Training and Assessing (for example Cert Ed) or have separate Qualifications in both Teaching and Assessing that again are perfectly acceptable.

What is just as important is that the Trainer/Assessor is fully competent at all times. This is shown by regularly Teaching and Assessing and being annually Inspected by a competent Assessor whilst Teaching/Assessing.

If any Training Provider or Trainer/Assessor has any concerns about their Qualifications then please contact FOFATO however we intend to produce a Comprehensive list as part of the National Register of Trainers/Assessors document very soon.



### **First Aid Train the Trainer/Assessor Course Monitoring under FAIB**

FAIB has been approached by a number of our Training Providers over the last 12 months who run an 'in house' First Aid Train the Trainer/Assessor course. These Training Providers have asked FAIB to have a look at the viability of producing our own First Aid Train the Trainer/Assessor course.

FAIB have therefore decided to look at this issue and concluded that an 'in house' First Aid Train the Trainer/Assessor would be more relevant and more specific to First Aid training. We also feel that it would assist new Trainers because it would include the 4 verifications (2 practical and 2 theoretical) **whilst Teaching First Aid subjects** as required by any New Trainer/Assessor.

FAIB would also set (nationally and consistently) the content of such a course and would set the entry criteria which we feel should include the Trainer already having a Training Qualification and a First Aid at Work certificate or exemption.

We have already discussed this issue with HSE who have made clear that Teaching and Training qualifications is not a matter for them (which is very interesting considering they wrote the GIS 3 document that includes the removal of the Trainer/Assessor qualification from October 2015).

We would like your views on this urgently and would like any Training Provider who has run a Train the Trainer course or the old HSE Lay Trainers Course in the past and would like to do something similar in the future please contact FAIB.

### **Continuous Professional Development**

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is about Trainers/Assessors keeping their skills up to date by a number of means including attending Conferences, Reading journals and First Aid practice.

It is usually considered that around 10 hours of CPD per year is required

CPD can also be achieved by the Trainer/Assessor attending a CPD day conducted by an expert speaker from within the First Aid Industry. FOFATO/FAIB is now considering this option across its registered Training Providers.

Once again we would like to hear your views.

### **Paediatric First Aid**

As mentioned in our last Newsletter regarding Paediatric First Aid and following the feedback from our mini consultation on Paediatric First Aid and a discussion with our experts within the FAIB advisory panel we intend to move forward very soon.

FAIB is now putting together the options that FAIB Training Providers will have available in offering a Paediatric First Aid blended learning course as well as still having the option of offering the full classroom course.

### **Social Media Forums**

There is more and more emphasis being placed on social media forums to circulate information about businesses and Industries.

First Aid is no different and there is now lots of information being circulated particularly on Linked In and Facebook some of which is not always factually correct.



On Linked In, there are pages for Ian Kershaw, FOFATO and FAIB. We have also created a new group called First Aid Industry Body (which is being Administered by Amber Jones who is one of our Advisory Panel). We would like our Training Providers and Trainers to register with this group. We can then pass on information through this forum that is not only correct but relevant to FOFATO/FAIB.

We have also created Facebook pages for FOFATO and FAIB and have now started to put more information onto these pages. We ask our Training Providers to contribute with correct and relevant information. Please help us to get our views across the First Aid Industry. We are getting more and more likes on our Facebook page but would still like to see many more!!!

### **Links to FOFATO website**

Following our reminder in our last Newsletter we have had very little response !!!

It is YOUR opportunity to get FREE PUBLICITY for your Organisation and a FREE link to your website. In return all we ask that you put a link to our website.

If any other Training Providers wish us to add links please let us know giving us details of your website.

### **28 Day Extension Rule**

We are still receiving lots of enquiries regarding the '28 day rule'.

Most of you will be aware that under HSE there was a period of 28 days beyond the expiry of the First Aid at Work (FAW) certificate where Students were still allowed to attend a 2 day FAW requalification course.

There are all sorts of rumours going round the Industry however FOFATO/FAIB always try to bring in common sense. FOFATO/FAIB has continued the '28 day rule' but has also given you some **discretion** on this so that the Training Providers can make the final decision themselves.

Probably more important than the '28 day rule' is the fact that Training Providers should be encouraging Students to attend the Requalification Course in the final 3 months of the 3 year certification period. If they do attend during this period then the New FAW certificate will be dated From the Expiry date of the Old certificate and NOT the date they are attending the Requalification course.

### **The Skills Funding Agency**

Following our article in the last Newsletter we have had a number of enquiries regarding funding issues.

If any of our Training Providers has evidence that they have been discriminated against on funding issues then please let us know giving us the full facts of the case.

In our meeting with the Skills Funding Agency (as mentioned in our previous newsletter) FOFATO/FAIB intend to seek a meeting with the Minister involved once the election is over because they are unable to answer our concerns about the way funding is routed.

### **Conferences 2015**

FOFATO/FAIB intend to hold another Conference in Stockport in October 2015. Depending on the interest we may hold further Conferences In Scotland and in the London area.

We would now be very interested to hear what you feel should be included in this years Conference(s).

We would also like to have your expressions of interest particularly for an event in Scotland or around the London area as soon as possible.



We will be providing dates with the next couple of weeks.

### **The FOFATO shop**

Just a quick reminder to let you that the FOFATO shop will be back on line by the end of May 2015. As before we will be selling a range of First Aid supplies, First Aid Training Supplies, Mannikins and Defibrillators and all at discounted prices.

### **First Aid Insurance**

Please remember FOFATO has set up a deal to provide you with good quality reasonable cost First Aid insurance. Contact Daryl Smith on 0800 458 3301 or follow the link on the FOFATO website.

### **Do you provide Health and Safety Training?**

If you provide Health and Safety training including Manual Handling, Fire Safety, Food Hygiene, General Health and Safety or any other Health and Safety related training anywhere in the United Kingdom and you would like us to advertise for you (FREE OF CHARGE) then contact us and we tell you how we can help.

### **Any Other Issues**

As always if there are any other issues of concern that FAIB has not covered then please let do not be afraid to contact us so that we can get involved.

**Ian Kershaw MBE**

**The Federation of First Aid Training Providers**