



Mine Rescue Competitions – A Valuable Evaluation Tool

Alex Gryska, Secretary Treasurer IMRB

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Objectives

- **History of Mine Rescue Competitions**
- **Why compete?**
- **Evolution of the International Mines Rescue Competition.**
- **IMRC Canada 2016.**



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History Of Mine Rescue Competitions

Competitions are a common and valuable assessment tool practiced by many jurisdictions especially those jurisdictions that do not employ full-time mine rescue responders.



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History of Mine Rescue Competitions

**1st National mine-safety demonstration
held Forbes field Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania October 30, 1911.**



**International conference of mining
experts Pittsburgh, Sept. 14 to 21, 1912.**

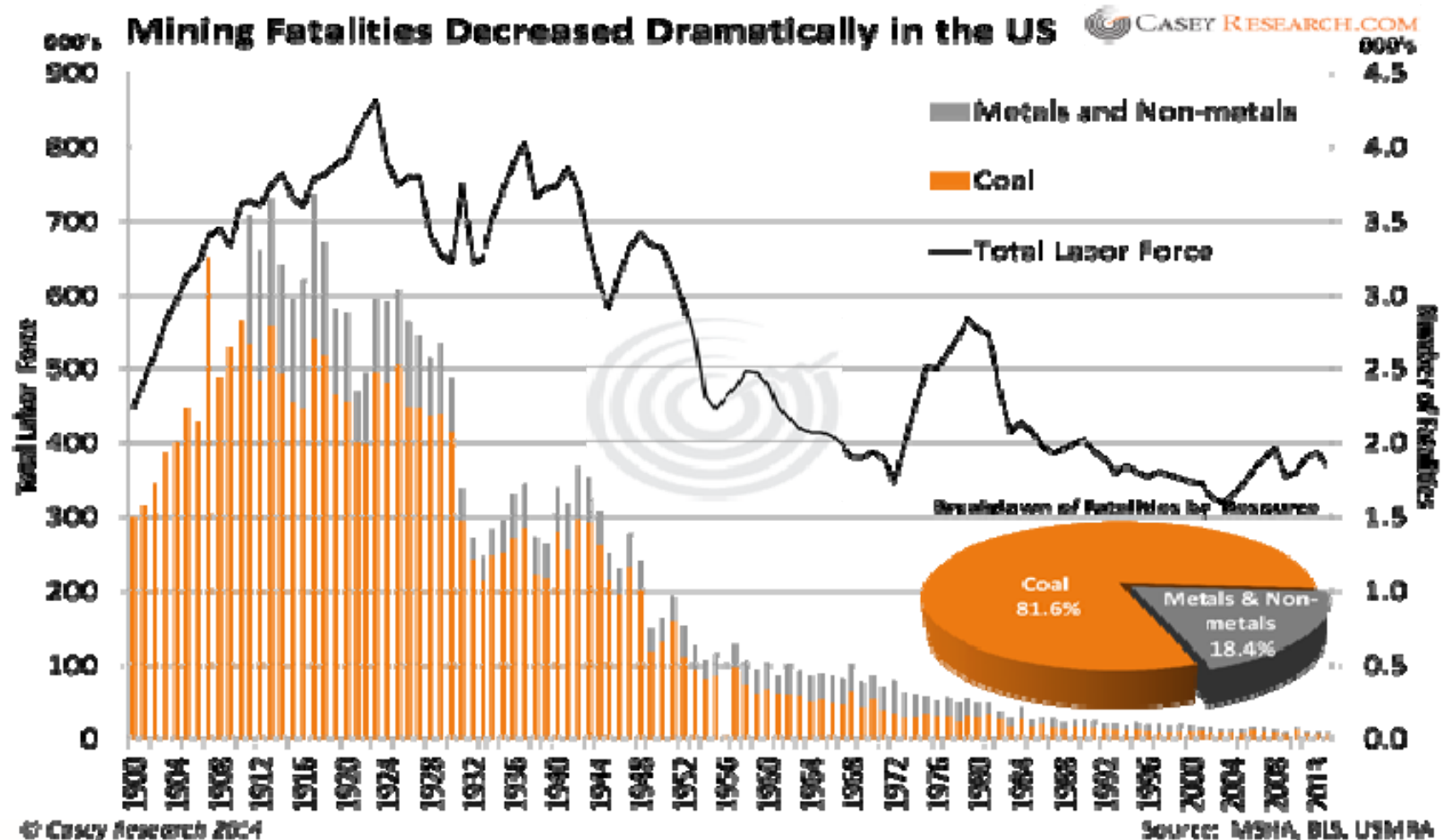
1st Ontario, Canada in Timmins 1950.

**1st International Mine Rescue
Competition 1999 Louisville Kentucky.**



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Safety Improvements Fewer Rescue Responses



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Why Compete?

Properly designed competitions will:

- Hone skills of mine rescue teams.
- Compare performance against peers.
- Evaluate competency against jurisdictional standards.
- Raise local and jurisdictional standards.
- Maintain and elevate interest in the mine rescue profession.



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Evolution of IMRC



- Tragic event occurred in Poland on February 24, 1998 at Niwka-Modrzejow coal mine.
- Mine Rescue team performing routine ventilation work tragically resulted in 6 fatalities, 1 critical and 3 minor injuries.
- Investigation by the State Mining Authority resulted in numerous recommendations.
- Mine rescue in Poland was transformed as a result of this tragedy.
- Poles instrumental in establishing 1st international competition hosted in conjunction with the US national competition.



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1st IMRC Louisville Kentucky 1999



5 teams participate in the 1st IMRC (Canada, Poland, Ukraine, United States and Russia) .



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International Mines Rescue Competition Summary

Country	Year of Competition (Number of teams)								
	1999	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014
USA	1	1	1	2	2	1	3		
Ukraine	1	1		2	1	1	1	3	
Russia	1				1		1	2	1
Canada	1	1	1			2		2	2
Poland	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	5	5
Peru		1	1	1	1	1			
Mexico		2				1			
China			1	1	2		2	2	2
Slovakia				1				1	1
Albania				1					
Australia					1	1	4	4	2
India					1	1	2	2	1
Vietnam								1	1
Romania								1	2
Mongolia								1	1
Kazakhstan								1	1
Turkey								1	1
Colombia									1
Total Teams	5	7	5	10	11	10	16	26	21
Number Countries	5	6	5	7	8	8	7	13	13



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IMRC Host Nations

	Nation	City	Winner
1999	USA	Louisville	USA
2000	USA	Las Vegas	Poland
2002	USA	Reno	USA
2004	Poland	Glogow	Poland
2006	China	Pingdingshan	China
2008	USA	Reno	Australia
2010	Australia	Woonona	Australia
2012	Ukraine	Donetsk	Ukraine
2014	Poland	Katowice	Poland
2016	Canada	Sudbury	
2018	Russia	Novokazetsk City	



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IMRC Canada 2016

Key Features:

- Target is to attract 30 teams from 20 countries.
- Realistic environments and simulations.
- Multi-task, multi-site /multi day event.
- Learning-designed scenarios.
- Viewer-Friendly.



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Mine Rescue Competition Design Principles



- **Clearly defined competition “rules” need to reflect standard global mine rescue procedures.**
- **Fair and unbiased judging (neutral, multi-jurisdictional judges).**
- **Scenarios need to be realistic with minimal interpretation by teams.**
- **Minimize language barriers (expand realism and use of universal symbols to help to bridge the understanding gap).**
- **Learning from competitions is as important as winning.**



“IMRC Canada 2016” – What will it be like?



Key Objective

“Engage mine rescue teams in completing challenging tasks that will provide the opportunity to learn from one another while experiencing Canadian friendship and hospitality.”

- Underground environment with live feed.
- Competition rules posted in August 2015.
- Spectator friendly venue enabling observers to learn.



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Learning/Information Sharing Through Competition



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IMRC Canada 2016



The banner features the IMRC logo on the left, which includes a red circle with a white stylized figure and the text 'IMRC CANADA 2016'. In the center, the text reads 'Welcome to IMRC2016.ca Website of the 2016 International Mines Rescue Competition'. Below this, it states 'Workplace Safety North and Ontario Mine Rescue are proud to host the competition and welcome participants and guests to Sudbury, Canada, in August 2016. Competition details coming soon.' and 'Bookmark this page info@imrc2016.ca'. On the right, there are logos for 'ONTARIO MINE RESCUE' and 'Workplace Safety North'. The main image shows a road lined with many international flags, with a large semi-transparent IMRC logo overlaid in the center. A building and a water tower are visible in the background. A small credit 'Greg Taylor photo' is in the bottom right corner of the image.



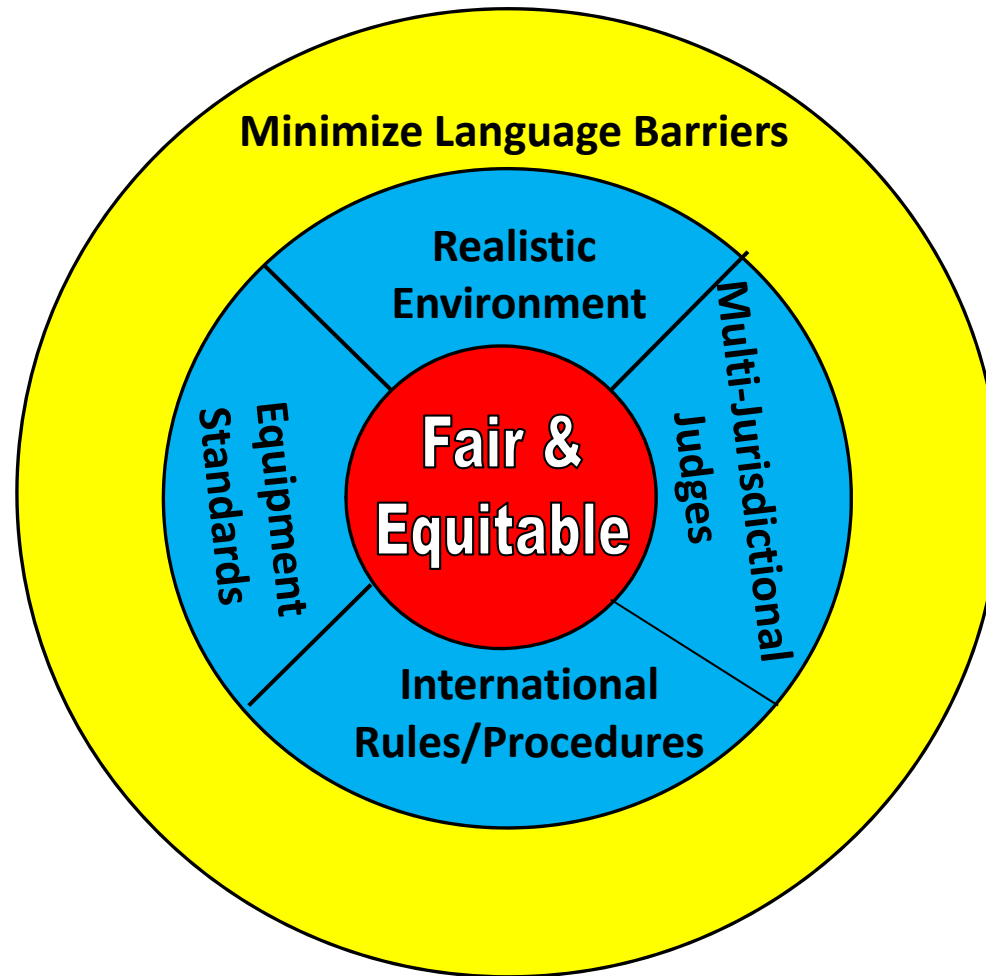
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Realism is Vital to Learning



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IMRC Canada 2016 Principles



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Additional Information

info@imrc.ca

IMIRC



CANADA 2016



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Thank You!
Glück Auf!



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