

How to follow a compass bearing

1. Two spotters (cadets that take the compass bearings) are needed, each with a compass. The other team members take the sled.
2. Spotter #1 will turn the compass dial to the degrees of the compass bearing so that it aligns with the direction of travel arrow on the base late (see diagram below).
3. Spotter #1 will then hold the compass level in front of himself and slowly turn his body until the red magnetic needle is aligned with the North sign on the dial. The direction of travel arrow will now point in the direction you have to follow.
4. Spotter #1 will then align spotter #2 in the line of travel.
5. To double check that the line of travel is correct, #2 spotter will take the given compass bearing and add or subtract 180 degrees to it. (e.g. - 90 degrees + 180 degrees = 270 degrees) When spotter #2 lines up spotter #1 at 270 degrees, the direction of travel is correct. (An easier way would be for spotter #2 to line up the opposite end of the magnetic needle, usually white or black, with the north sign.)
6. When both spotters are properly lined up, spotter #2 DOES NOT MOVE from his position but turns his body to face the line of travel. Spotter #1 moves in front of spotter #2 as far as possible and still be visible.
7. Spotter #1 will then repeat steps 2 & 3 and spotter #2 will repeat step 5.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. The sled does not have to follow the exact compass bearing. The team lembers that are not spotters take the sled the easiest way around any ' ''Stacles such as bush, rocks, fences etc. Areas have been cleared and v jenings made in fence lines for easier passage of the sleds.
2. Spotters should use fluorescent plaques or vests so that they are more visible in the dense bush.
3. The compass should be kept warm at all times.
4. The compass must be kept away from metal objects such as zippers, belt buckles and rings as these may deflect the compass needle from the correct heading.

