

Fullers Bridge Community Fire Unit.

This numbering system is the standard Fire Service procedure for Firefighters and CFU Volunteers.

Operating Procedures, commands and responsibilities.

The minimum requirements for fire fighting duties are two people but this is not an ideal situation. The basic team should consist of three people. They are designated by numbers, not names, and in all cases during firefighting activities they should only be addressed by that number. The leader of the team is assigned Number One. He is responsible for assessing the best location to direct the water. The second member of the team is assigned Number Two. His main responsibility is the handling of hoses. The third member is assigned Number Three. His task is to manage the delivery of water, either from the main or the portable pump. Detailed responsibilities are as follows:-

NUMBER ONE.

He is totally responsible for directing the team. After assessing the best location to attack the fire he will then pick up the branch or nozzle and proceed there where he will await instructions from Number Two and Number Three that all is ready. He will then issue the command "**WATER ON**" to Number Three at the same time giving the hand signal by a downward movement of the arm, repeating until he is sure the command has been received. To terminate he will issue the command "**WATER OFF**" with a side to side movement of the arm, to Number Three, repeating, until the command has been accepted. Once water flow has ceased he will turn off the branch as a safety precaution should the water be inadvertently turned on while no-one is in attendance.

NUMBER TWO.

His duties are to deploy the hose or hoses and thereafter manage the handling of them. He will start at the standpipe with the hoses and bowl one of them in the intended direction, taking one end of that hose he will pick up another hose if needed and head in the direction of Number One to the full extent of the first hose. He will then bowl out the next hose, connect one end to the first hose and then proceed again with the other end of hose 2 to Number One where he will give the instruction "**READY NUMBER ONE**". If more team members are available Number Two will be responsible for assigning some of those people to assist with the hoses. In cases where Number One has no line of sight to Number Three he will then arrange to relay the commands onwards to

Number One using a **loud and clear** voice and the appropriate signals.

NUMBER THREE

His duties are to handle the standpipe and control the delivery of water as instructed by Number One. He will ship the standpipe, following the safety procedures at all times. At this time he will slowly open the valve until **clear** water is visible, then slowly close the valve to prevent water hammer in the mains, thus alleviating the possibility of damage. He will then connect the free end of the first hose to the standpipe. On completion he will stand with arm above his head and give the instruction in a **loud and clear** voice "**READY NUMBER ONE**", ensuring that Number One has received this signal. He will then await further orders from Number One. He will man this post at all times until the completion of the procedures.

Prior to shipping the standpipe he will have opened the hydrant cover ensuring that no obstructions are evident. He will ensure that the rubber sealing washer is in good condition and that the nut is fully in the lowest position on the thread. He will also ensure that the control handle is in the fully anticlockwise position. (NB The operation of this valve is contrary to the normal operation of household taps!)

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.

As other team members arrive the first place to put them is usually as extra number twos. To help lighten the hose and assist, and spell number one. The other place for a second team member is with number three, especially if using a Y piece, etc.

The situation may arise where two lines are required to be run off one standpipe by use of the one into two breaching device. In this case there will be a Number One and Number Two on both lines, but overall control of the water will be just a single Number Three, additional vigilance will be necessary on his part to ensure that commands are fully understood and distinguishable from the appropriate Number One.

Proper clothing and equipment as issued will be used in **ALL** cases should a fire arise. A small wet towel is essential whilst firefighting to help filter out smoke and also to assist in keeping cool.

NOTE WELL. The latest.

When using a stand pipe or rolling hoses you should no longer kneel on the ground. Crouch or squat so you don't kneel on glass, etc.

To be recognised for training you must wear full uniform including boots (or as much as you have)