

## **11. Self Contained Breathing Apparatus**

### **11.1 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)**

11.1.1 All company apparatus are outfitted with SCOTT Air-Pak Fifty 4.5 SCBA's. There will be no deviation from this format unless directed so by the Chief.

11.1.2 All SCBA certified personnel will wear SCBA at all incidents unless otherwise directed by the IC. Exceptions to this standard will be personnel working at brush fires or operating specialized rescue equipment (i.e.: extrication, high angle, water rescue, etc.).

11.1.3 No personnel shall wear SCBA that have beards or facial hair that will interfere with the face piece, not giving it the proper seal.

11.1.4 All used SCBA cylinders will be replaced at the scene unless directed otherwise by the IC. Attempts will be made to fill empty cylinders at the scene. If this is not feasible, cylinders will be filled at the station.

11.1.5 All harness straps shall be left out and untangled. The regulator will be disinfected when necessary. The SCBA shall be returned to the proper harness and position by the user.

11.1.6 SCBA Face masks are assigned to each approved firefighter. Each firefighter shall assure that their masks are cleaned and disinfected after each use. The straps on the mask shall be left out and the mask placed back into the protective bag. Each firefighter will be responsible for the security and cleanliness of his/her mask.

11.1.7 All SCBA's will be inspected by the apparatus officer after each use. Any damage will be noted and brought to the attention of the IC.

11.1.8 All composite wrap SCBA cylinders will be hydrostatically tested every three years.

### **11.2 Requirements for SCBA Approval**

11.2.1 There are certain requirements that each firefighter must fulfill throughout their career to be certified in operation of any SCBA. These requirements must be completed to the fullest extent.

11.2.2 No personnel will wear SCBA unless once a year, in accordance with OSHA Standard 1910.134, a 6 (six) hour refresher training class has been attended and a face piece fit test has been completed by that firefighter. These records will be kept by the Training Officer. If a firefighter has not completed these requirements, he/she will be asked to relinquish his/her SCBA mask to the Chief and will not receive their mask until the aforementioned training requirements have been met. The six hour refresher training class will consist of a three hour lecture and three hour hands on training.

11.2.3 No personnel shall wear SCBA unless they have completed and passed a medical evaluation. The procedure for this process, is the firefighter will complete an evaluation questionnaire, forward the paperwork to the license health care professional which has been approved by the Wall Township Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District #3. Once the health care professional has received the proper paperwork, the firefighter will make an appointment for a physical exam. The health care professional will then make a determination if the firefighter can continue with firefighting duties. This exam and any follow-up exams will be provided by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District #3. Personnel will be required to complete these physical examinations every two years or at the discretion of the Fire Chief and Board of Fire Commissioners, Fire District #3.

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