

NOTIFICATION OF TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

The 2026 National Coal & MNM Mine Rescue, First Aid, Bench, Tech Team, and Preshift Rules Training will be held on February 03 - 05, 2026 at the National Mine Health and Safety Academy, Beaver, West Virginia. Team representatives, state agencies and MSHA are being given an opportunity to receive interpretations directly from the Holmes Mine Rescue Sub-Committee Chairman and MSHA Chief Judges. Also, after the daily rules training, breakout rooms for the problem designers have been set aside for additional discussion and interpretation.

The training sessions will be presented from the Academy Auditorium, Eastern Standard Time.

Agenda for the 2026 National Rules Training

Tuesday, February 03, 2026	9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Auditorium	Mine Rescue Rules - Coal Mills/Bloomer/Benton
	11:30 a.m. - Break for Lunch	
	12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Auditorium	Bench Rules - BG-4, BIOPAK 240R, and BG-ProAir Beauchamp/Moore/Leverknight
	2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Auditorium	Coal Mine Rescue Problem Designers' Session Mills/Bloomer/Benton
	2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Classroom C106	Bench Problem Designers' Session Beauchamp/Moore/Leverknight
Wednesday, February 04, 2026	9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Auditorium	Mine Rescue Rules - MNM Ridgway/Allen
	11:30 a.m. - Break for Lunch	
	12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Auditorium	First Aid Rules Shannon/Tant/Oliver
	2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Auditorium	MNM Mine Rescue Problem Designers' Session Ridgway/Allen
	2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Classroom C106	First Aid Problem Designers' Session Shannon/Tant/Oliver
Thursday, February 05, 2026	9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Auditorium	Team Tech Rules Hampton/Plumley
	10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Auditorium	Pre-Shift Rules Baker/Mann
	12:00 p.m. - Break for Lunch	

	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Classroom C106	Tech Team Problem Designers' Session Hampton/Plumley
	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Classroom C108	Pre-Shift Problem Designers' Session Baker /Mann

The Academy is holding rooms for those of you who would like to attend the training in person. You will need to contact Kimberly Spencer, spencer.kimberly@dol.gov or Natasha Cordle, cordle.natasha@dol.gov, or 304-256-3252 as soon as possible to provide the name of the person that will be attending the training at the academy.

Attendees for the Rules Training are asked to submit any questions they may have to Brian Thompson, thompson.brian@dol.gov or Ray Cartwright, cartwright.ray@dol.gov. We will then forward the question to the Chief Judges so these concerns may be addressed during the respective session.

Please contact all Coal and MNM Mine Rescue, First Aid, Bench, Tech Team, and Preshift participants within your area and inform them of the opportunity to attend the training. A general notification will also be posted on MSHA's Mine Rescue home page.

The 2026 Coal & MNM Mine Rescue, First Aid, Bench, Tech Team, and Preshift Competition Rules will be posted on MSHA's Mine Rescue home page (www.MSHA.gov) as soon as possible and will remain there until after the 2026 Competition Season.

Attendees should bring a copy of the Rules to the training. No copies are being made for handout.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Erica Warren by email at warren.ERICA@dol.gov or at 606-595-6571.