

Tempe Fire Department Policies and Procedures
SCBA Donning
405.01D
Rev 3-12-97

Each member of the Department with emergency response duties shall be able to demonstrate a high level of proficiency with self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) under conditions comparable to those encountered in the performance of emergency work. Donning of the SCBA within a 35 second time limit is required of all members. The following guidelines will be used when demonstrating compliance with Department donning policy:

- A. The member will be wearing full protective clothing including helmet and Nomex hood. (The donning of gloves is not a part of the procedure that will be timed.)
- B. Cylinder valve must be turned off prior to starting.
- C. The SCBA will be donned from the ground. Timing will begin when the low pressure warning bell rings as the cylinder valve is opened

NOTE: Members have the option of donning their facepiece first. This option may be used only if the wearer's SCBA is stored with the regulator attached to the storage bracket on the waist belt. If this option is used, time will start at #10 below in the donning sequence.

- D. Any air loss during the donning procedure will constitute a failure. Each member will be given three tries to successfully don their SCBA in 35 seconds or less.
- E. The donning sequence is as follows:
 - 1. Place SCBA on the ground, cylinder down, harness up, with cylinder valve away from body.
 - 2. Open cylinder valve completely.
 - 3. Grasp cylinder or harness at the center with both hands.
 - 4. Lift SCBA above head - make sure straps are not tangled.
 - 5. Bend forward at 45° angle.
 - 6. Lay SCBA on back, with arms inside shoulder straps.
 - 7. Fasten chest strap.
 - 8. Pull shoulder strap adjusting tabs down as you straighten up.
 - 9. Fasten waistbelt.
 - 10. Fully extend chin strap of helmet and slide helmet off head to the side, with chin strap around neck.
 - 11. Pull Nomex hood back.

12. Remove facepiece from cover.

NOTE: If you do not store your regulator attached to the storage bracket, you may leave the regulator attached to your facepiece. The facepiece shall be stored in its protective pouch.

13. Don facepiece, chin first.

14. Adjust harness and the two neck straps.

15. Pull Nomex hood over head. Any skin exposure is an automatic failure.

16. Place helmet on head and tighten chin strap.

17. Quick connect the regulator to the facepiece and inhale sharply.