

EXPLORE YOUR LIMITS



ADVENTUROUS MAGAZINE

Contributor Guidelines

Revised February 2005

Adventurous Magazine is a publication that covers topics pertaining to outdoor sports and activities in Western Canada. Geographically, British Columbia and Alberta are covered, with the occasional adventure destination piece — this can be international, however, it must have a BC or Alberta connection (i.e.: the subject of the story is from one of those provinces). The readership of *Adventurous* is young, active and knowledgeable, and the voice of submitted works should reflect this. Fishing and/or hunting will not be covered.

GENERAL INFORMATION

In each issue of *Adventurous*, there will be columns and features that cover sports involving water (i.e.: wakeboarding or scuba diving); snow and ice (i.e.: glacier climbing or skiing); earth (i.e.: rock climbing or mountain biking); and air (i.e.: windsurfing or paragliding). Also, we publish columns/features that outline techniques specific to a sport or exercise — or even a single aspect of a particular sport explored in detail. These should involve a great deal of technical knowledge from the writer and come with photos illustrating the moves/techniques outlined. Furthermore, columns on health, fitness, nutrition, safety and proper preparation for exercise and activity will also be considered.

The focus of *Adventurous* is broad — we are open to many types of story ideas, as long as they promote an active, outdoor life, and/or teach our readers skills they need to explore their limits in Western Canada's natural environment. Fiction and poetry will not be considered. *Adventurous Magazine's* publication schedule is four times per year — spring, summer, fall, winter. Please query features and columns that are relevant to each season.

It should be noted that while we do cover the wild side of sport, this is not an "extreme" magazine per se, that is, hiking, camping, stillwater canoeing and other more accessible activities may also find a place in this magazine.

Adventurous also accepts short news items that will affect or would be of interest to our readers, providing they are relevant to outdoor activity in Alberta and/or BC. A photo should be included. Once per issue we will run a profile on a great or influential athlete based out of our area of coverage. Any profile submission must include a photo of the person doing what they do — a slide, or digital image that are 8.5" by 11" at 300 dpi, are a must for this section. Product reviews and field tests of various items are not required from freelancers. We prefer to receive manuscripts by e-mail or on CD. Please format all written work as a Microsoft Word or Rich Text Format (RTF) document.

WORD COUNTS AND PAYMENTS

Columns should be between 750 and 1,000 words; features should range from 1,200 to 2,200 words; technique pieces should be 1,000 to 1,500 words; news items range from 100 to 400 words; and profiles should run about 450 words.

Columns pay \$200; news items pay between \$50 and \$150 depending on length; profiles pay \$150; and features and technique pieces are determined on an individual basis — approximately \$400 can be expected, depending on length, the package submitted and subject matter/knowledge base. Features lacking in photo support may pay less, more complete and/or specialized features may pay more. Payment for all of the above is within 30 days of publication.

ARTWORK

Slides submitted as stock photography are paid for on a per-use basis at varying rates. Our preference for images is slides, as they offer the highest quality image. We are limited, quality-wise, with prints. However, prints may be accepted, provided they are professionally developed, glossy, and without borders or date-stamps. We do not accept images printed on home-computer inkjet or laser printers.

Digital images are also accepted, however, they must be a very high resolution — 300 dpi at a size of 4" by 6", preferably larger. This requires a 3.2 megapixel camera at the bare minimum — five or six megapixel cameras are preferred, otherwise, consider using slide film. Digital images can be put on CD or Zip-disc and mailed in, or transferred via out FTP website, a process that can be explained if/when needed.

When sending your images, please identify them. Slides or prints should have your name, contact address or phone number printed on it — however, do not write on the back of prints. Affix any pertinent information to the back with a sticker or securely attached post-it note. A description of the photo is helpful as well (i.e.: names of people in photo, place, equipment used, technique demonstrated), or a slide log with suitable captions should be included with submissions. For digital images, an accompanying log with all of the pertinent information for each photo is essential. If you're sending more than one item, please also include a numbered, captioned list of what is being sent and for which story/issue/publication.

Submissions selected for the cover will pay upwards of \$250, as determined by the editor. Cover art is almost exclusively taken from slides. Digital images for the cover must be taken with no less than a high-quality 6.3-megapixel camera, and prints are not considered for covers.

Artwork, maps and illustrations are paid for separately. Again, these must be the contributor's original work. These items usually accompany articles, columns and are assigned by the editor. Please ensure slide, negative, illustration-type contributions are traceable if sending by mail. All slides and prints are returned after use.

PUBLICATION RIGHTS

Contributor rights for photography and written material are first-time North American Rights as well as simultaneous electronic

rights for material presented on our website. Written material must be original work and not reworked material originally sold to another publication.

We will do our utmost to secure submitted material, however, we do not accept responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged photo material. Onus is on the contributor to insure such material and to keep appropriate duplicates of all submissions.

If you're planning to query us, we receive all assigned contributions a minimum of two months ahead. Deadlines and due dates will be arranged after each query is accepted.

Please note, all assigned and proposed contributions are received on spec. The editor has the final say as to whether or not contributed work meets with what was agreed upon with the contributor. Meeting assigned deadlines is essential unless previous deadline arrangements have been made and approved by the editor. Deadline dates are given with acceptance of a query to view a manuscript on spec.

HOW TO QUERY

Please query the publication. We prefer that you do not send unsolicited manuscripts or photos. Make your queries count. A query for written work can be an e-mail, fax or letter with one to six story ideas. Indicate for what time of year the queried article is appropriate for. Indicate what, if any, slides/prints or illustrations are available to accompany the story. Each query should be around 150 words outlining your proposal. Your query should encapsulate the very essence of your story and should show why our readers would be interested in reading/knowing what you are writing about. Please send queries to the attention of: Editor, Adventurous Magazine, 1080 Howe Street, Suite 900, Vancouver, BC V6Z 2T1; fax : 604.687.1925, or e-mail: editor@adventurousmagazine.com.

What constitutes a superior manuscript/photo support package?

- First and foremost, is a clean manuscript. This means keeping to the required word count, using Canadian (CP Style Manual) spelling and delivering what was queried and/or asked for. It also means sidebars and sourcing your information. Information from credible sources who have knowledge on the topic you are submitting. Meeting deadlines is crucial; a missed deadline without prior approval can mean your manuscript will be rejected as publication schedules are tight.
- Photo support that arrives on deadline that is labelled appropriately. With it must be a slide log sheet that gives the editor the who, what, when, where and why of each image. Submit an appropriate cutline for each image. Have your submissions tell the story in a photo sequence. Equipment images should be included with appropriate labelling. If unable to photograph equipment, please submit the item(s) so we may have it photographed in-house — this may affect your package offer.
- A map of relevant locations or routes (photocopied or roughly sketched) that we can have illustrated can often be very useful.