

# NATIONAL SKI PATROL CENTRAL DIVISION

## 2018 STAFF CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET

**Name:** James P. Hughes

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I ☒ accept / ☐ reject the nomination for Region Director - North Central Region

**Signed:** James P. Hughes **Date:** 1/2/2018

**I am currently registered with** C014 (Big Powderhorn Mountain in NCR).

**I have been a member of the NSP since (what year):** 1991

**List NSP offices held (list with commas to separate):** Tuesday Night Crew Chief Cascade Mountain 1993- 2007, NCR Senior Training Coordinator 2014-2018

**List NSP Awards Received (list with commas to separate):** Purple Merit Star

**NSP Achievements (list with commas to separate)** Senior Alpine Patroller, National Appointment, OEC Instructor, Toboggan Instructor

**List your priorities for action (issues you will address) if elected:**

1. work with current NCR leadership and key members of the NCR region NSP to assure people are in place for a smooth transition. 2. Identify all NSP meetings and events and assure NCR is well represented. 3. Continue to strengthen relationships with the NCR ski area owners and management by making time to meet with them and identifying how we can improve as a volunteer organization in the NCR. 4. Continue to strengthen relationships with PR within the NCR again identifying how we can improve our partnership. 5. Meet with key leadership volunteers that go above patrolling at their single hills and develop strategies to preserve our sport by being the best stewards we can. 6. Continuing strong support for improving skills of our NSP membership (basic, senior certified, Instructors and Instructor IT's.

**What specific or special qualifications do you have for the office?**

My formal education holding a BS in Civil and Environmental Engineer and a Master's degree in Business Finance (MBA). I've been a member of the NSP for the past 27 consecutive years completing several of the educational courses to help me become a better patroller.

I have taken formal education in fundamentals of instruction and graduate level course work in organizational behavior. I have become a "gold seal" flight instructor for the FAA (which is the highest honor given to a FAA Certified Flight Instructor). I have trained people from private, commercial to airline transport pilots, I have trained instrument ratings, multi-engine and sea plane pilots. Over the past 30 years I have taught more than 700 people in aviation ground schools. I also hold the advanced

instrument ground school instructor certificate. Today, I am considered one of the most accomplished pilots in the United States. This has come by hard work, dedication, keen eye for detail, superior organizations skills but most importantly, the ability to work with other people.

In the NSP I have already built many positive relationships with members of the NCR NSP folks. In fact, those relationships are much stronger than I realized until recently. It's really what gives me the desire to consider this honor. I have not met a better group of people anywhere than the current members of the NCR NSP.

**How do you propose to obtain the opinions, views and feelings from the patrollers to guide your activities?**

I have always been a good listener and I try very hard to put myself in the other persons shoes. In my initial thoughts I find that I am often incorrect therefore, I have developed a mindset to listen first and be willing to try new things. This management style invites more people to express opinions and view points which in return often creates a higher rate of return.

**List any other pertinent information to your candidacy**

Currently I serve as the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation Chief Highway Maintenance Engineer. I manage a \$185 Million dollar routine highway maintenance budget contracting all winter maintenance and certain summer activities with our 72 counties. Wisconsin is the only state in the country that has this model. I have been working several years now working with our counties to reduce winter maintenance costs for the tax payers of Wisconsin while at the same time not reducing the level of service. Under my leadership and with the partnerships I have developed within our counties, University Tops Lab and key transportation folks in each region around the state, our winter maintenance is going through a complete transformation. We have implemented Route Optimization using algorithms, tow plows, increased anti-icing and now we are testing liquid only routes. We also continue to support the use of MDSS (management system) along with AVL-GPS.

To come so far in so short of time took hard work and the **ability to work so well with so many people.**

My work here at the State is coming to a close in 2019 with my retirement planned. I'll have one year to continue my work at the State while juggling the duties of the NCR Director. I have already let key people know that this first year would be a significant challenge and I would need significant help, one to learn all I need to learn and second more people to step up assuring we perform these NSP programs and duties to a very high standard. Talking with several NSP members, I am confident this can be achieved if I am selected for this honor.

**I agree to follow the "Guidelines of Conduct for Candidates".** Yes

**Signed:** James P. Hughes      **Date:** 1/2/2018