

Central Division Certified Program Hill Standard Proposal



Initial Release - September 8, 2012
Update – September 9, 2015



Background

- At the Certified annual meeting held in Lutsen, MN, in March of 2011, membership passed a motion to form a committee made up of one certified staff member from each region to develop a rubric that the Central Division Certified Program could use to determine which ski areas in our Division would be most suitable to hold the annual certified evaluation.

Committee members are:	Certified #
Tom Anderson	407
Jim Andrews	380
Rick Barber – Chairman	165
Guy Day	381
Hal Froot	378
Patrick Perlman	492
Jay Stubblefield	574
Tim Weinand	361
Carl Woodcock	744



Background

- First Central Division Certified event was held at Nubs Nob (1982) with Certified patrollers from Eastern Division overseeing the evaluation.
- George Wesson (father of the Certified Program) attended the first two Certified evaluations at Nubs Nob and was directly involved.
- The Eastern Division Certified patrollers selected Scarface at Nubs Nob (which had bumps at that time) as the run that met their minimum standard (for steepness and length) to hold a Certified evaluation.
- The Committee reviewed ski runs used at other Divisions for Certified evaluations and received input from other Division Certified Supervisors as to what is their minimum expectations for a ski slope used in their evaluations.



Certified Mission Statement

“Certified is a national educational and [skill verification](#) program that provides a readily identifiable resource of highly motivated, skilled, and knowledgeable patrollers to better serve NSP, ski area management and the outdoor recreation community.”



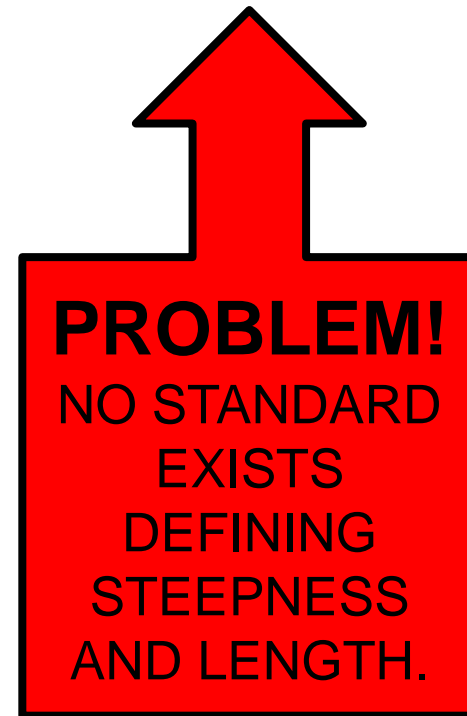
Hill Standards for NSP Programs

Senior Program

*“Every effort must be made to meet the national criteria of terrain requirements of a slope average of **40 % grade (22 degrees) and 800 feet.** If the slope does not meet the 800 ft. minimum, then a sufficient number of runs must be made so all the skills criteria can be demonstrated. Terrain should be both smooth and moguled. On occasion moguls may be unavailable due to grooming but every effort must be made to incorporate them into the evaluation.”*

Certified Program

*“**No hill standard exists** for the Central Division Certified Program.”*



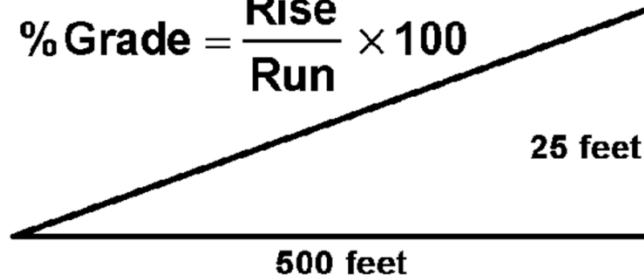


How are Steepness and Length Defined?

Percent Grade Calculation

$$\text{Grade} = \frac{\text{Rise}}{\text{Run}}$$

$$\% \text{ Grade} = \frac{\text{Rise}}{\text{Run}} \times 100$$



Length: The testing length of the slope, not the whole run.

Steepness: Rise over run = % grade. Consistent with NSAA and CUSAA.

Ski Run	Rise	Run	% Grade
Scarface	294 Feet	770.84 Feet	38%



Developing a Rating System

The Committee needed to develop a rating system that took into account that:

- Some slopes are steep but not quite as long and
- Some slopes are longer but not quite as steep
- Various factors were considered:
 - Slope steepness
 - Slope length
 - Season length
 - Average snow depth
 - Snowmaking capability/coverage
 - Average temperature during evaluation time
 - Ski Area amenities

The Committee determined that a Scoring Rubric would be an appropriate tool to develop a slope rating system.



What is a Rubric and Why use it?

- “A *Rubric* is an explicit set of criteria used for assessing a particular type of work or performance.”
- After considering many different criteria the Committee agreed on two rubric elements:
 - steepness of ski slope and
 - testing length of slope

← Consistent with the Senior Program

Central Division Certified Rubric for establishing a Hill Standard					
	25 Points	20 Points	15 Points	10 Points	5 Points
Testing length of slope (5)	> 1251 feet	1001 to 1250 feet	751 – 1000 feet	501 – 750 feet	< 500 feet
Steepness of slope (5)	> 35%	31 – 35%	26 – 30%	21 - 25%	< 20%



Establishing the Minimum Rubric Score

Rubric scores were established from other Certified programs and compared to Scarface at Nubs Nob.

Other Certified Evaluation Sites					Rubric Scores		
Ski Area	Ski Run	Division	Length	% Grade	Length Score	% Grade Score	Total Score
Sugarbush	Ripcord Upper	Eastern	1726	54.4	125	125	250
Sugarbush	Ripcord Lwr	Eastern	1809	32.6	125	100	225
Jay Peak	Derick	Eastern	1257	41.6	125	125	250
Jay Peak	Haynes	Eastern	1434	49.3	125	125	250
Sugarbush	Organgrinder	Eastern	5330	30.8	125	75	200
Alpine Meadows	2011 Exam	Far West	4138	36.2	125	125	250
Brighton	Reins Run	Far West	2467	42.4	125	125	250
Snowshoe	Widowmaker	Southern	1510	31.2	125	100	225
Snowshoe	Cupps Run	Southern	5393	26.6	125	75	200
Snowshoe	Lower Shay's	Southern	2796	35.4	125	125	250
Average % Grade and testing length of module *			1000	38.1	125	110	235
Scarface slope data			825	38	75	125	200
* Input from other Division Certified Supervisors					Scarface average		85%

Conclusion: Scarface is the minimum hill standard with a rubric score of 200.



Scoring Rubric Results

	Ski Area	Ski Run	Testing Length (ft)	Rise (ft)	Run (ft)	% Grade	Rubric Score
1	Chestnut Mountain	Warpath	889	351	816.77	43	200
2	Lusten	Upper HH & Kookoo	1094.5	339	1041.2	33	200
3	Marquette	Supreme	752	273	700.7	39	200
4	Nubs Nob	Twilight	753	275	700.99	39	200
5	Mt. Ripley	Wipeout	841.7	287	791.58	36	200
6	Boyne Mountain	Hemlock	899	317	841.26	38	200
7	Nubs Nob	Scarface	825	294	770.84	38	200
8	Marquette	Exhibition	794	259	750.57	35	175
9	Indian Head	Winnebago	1410	337	1369.14	25	175
10	Perfect North Slopes	CenterStage	531	195	493.9	39	175
11	Perfect North Slopes	Hollywood	541	198	503.46	39	175
12	Welch Village	Chicken	641	215	603.87	36	175
13	Welch Village	Bakkelyka	757	238	718.61	33	175
* 14	Perfect North Slopes	Showtime	592	195	558.96	35	150
15	Welch Village	Dud's	989	220	964.22	23	150
16	Cascade	North Wall	514	151	491.32	31	150
17	Chestnut Mountain	Eagle	351	131	325.64	40	150
18	Boyne Highlands	Olympic	844.3	224	813.73	28	150
19	Cascade	Mogul Monster	492	143	470.76	30	100

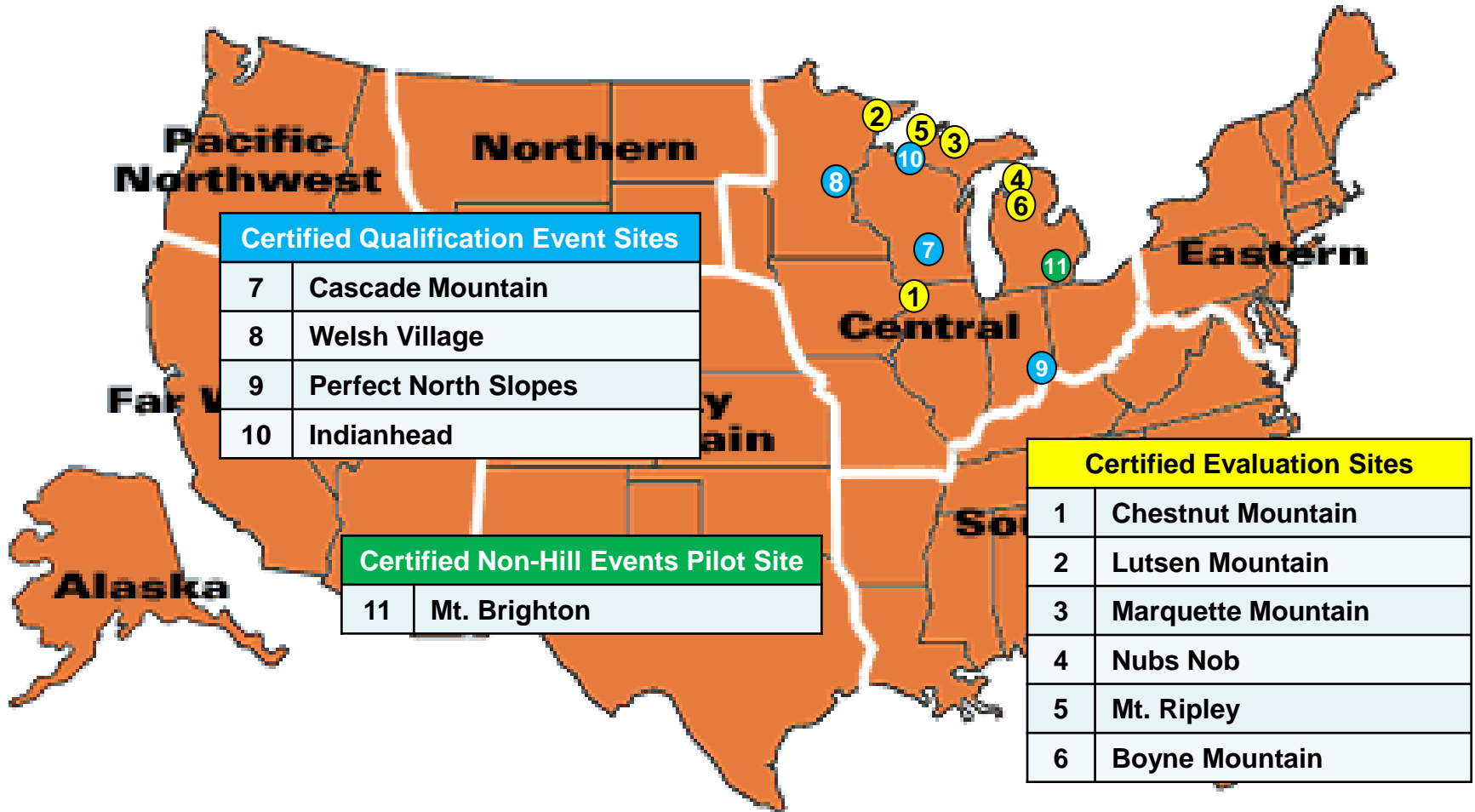
Ski Area/Runs that meet the Certified Hill Standard

Other runs in Central Division for comparison

* Note: Mogul slope @ PNS used for Certified ski & toboggan evaluations.



Central Division Certified Venues





The request

“We the committee request the Central Division Board approve this process where the rubric as shown be adopted as the method by which a ski slope in the Central Division is measured and that the slope must have a score of 200 or greater to be considered approved terrain for the annual Certified patroller evaluation.”

**Thank you for your time
and consideration!**