

NSP April 2015 Powderfall Event

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Dale Fisher

Avalanche

While at the NSP’s 2015 Powderfall event, I completed the following meetings:

1) Wednesday, 4:30 to 7:15 pm, April 8th, 2015 – Central Division & National Avalanche Program Planning meeting - along with Chris Raudabaugh, we met with Mike Laney, Avalanche National Program Director, and Janet Glaser, National Board member from the Central Division. Active support was agreed upon for the Central Division to have a Western Division sponsored Level-2 course next ski season. It was agreed upon that due to a lack of avalanche terrain, no level-2 courses should be taught in the Central Division.

2) Thursday, 6 to 7 pm, April 9th, 2015 – Central Division’s Sponsored Level-2 Course in the West Planning – I had an evening meeting with Fred Schibi, lead Avalanche Program Patroller and IOR of last year’s Level-2 that I “Audited” at Sunlight Ski Resort, Carbondale, Colorado. I kept in contact with Fred and he has confirmed that Sunlight would agree to host a Central Division Level-2 and be the required local division IOR (as he as last year). He would need a minimum of three Rocky Mountain Division Instructors (two of three being local to his resort & the other being Myron Allen), and the rest could be made up of Central Division’ instructors or instructors in training.

3) Friday, 6:30 to 7 am, April 10 – Central Division’s Sponsored Level-2 Course in the West Planning – I had a coffee meeting with Myron Allen, National MTR Program Director, and lead instructor from last year’s Level-2 that I “Audited” at Sunlight Ski Resort, Carbondale, Colorado. I roomed with Myron during last year’s Level-2 course and during this meeting Myron confirmed that he would be available to be the lead instructor for next year’s Central Division Level-2 course per Fred (as he was last year for Fred). Myron also discussed the possibility of having a Level-2 in the Cameron Pass area of Northern Colorado and southern Wyoming (in the Laramie area).

4) Saturday, 8 am to 5:15 pm, April 11th, 2015 - Avalanche Level-1/Module-1 “Classroom” – completed the all-day course and took notes from the National Avalanche Program Director’s, Mike

Laney, presentation that included 136 PowerPoint slide on the roll-out of the new module material. At the end of this course Mike stated that he would be willing to discuss a potential Central Division Level-2 being held at his local ski resort.

We met on Wednesday night and Thursday all day to begin to look at the current program—ID class, mentoring, CE.

First to look at the delivery methods:

Traditional and Hybrid

TRADITIONAL Course all face to face

The changes made to the book and traditional course in 2013 seem to solve the problems. Mostly the six pack was moved earlier in the class and some of the technical educational moved to appendix. We agree a straight eight hours isn't the best delivery. In Central Division, the instructors were charged by the Board to have the students do their six packs on NSP related activities. We are the only division which requires this. Most do some activity that they know well. This gives them the opportunity to teach what they know.

HYBRID Course online e-learning and face to face

Note that this may be longer than 8 hours: 4-8 on-line and at least 4 hours in a face-to-face classroom. Since the changes were never made to the hybrid class, it still has many broken features. Hybrid works well for students who don't have the eight hours of time to commit to going to a classroom and for anyone who has some experience in teaching. NO ONE IS ABLE TO JUMP OVER THE ID CLASS BECAUSE THEY ARE OR HAVE BEEN A TEACHER, COACH, OR PhD. We were going to drop this hybrid class after the summer, but we believe we can fix it by having it link to the correct book and having it only available when there is a class registered. Central and Eastern seem to be the only Divisions which are using this delivery. A new hybrid class never was put into a platform at National last year, although we worked on it. More information may come out about this. (It is really important that all instructors are familiar with both delivery methods especially if this has to go away.) It is imperative that any instructor using this delivery be sure the students access the 2013 ID Teaching Adult Learners book from "my bookshelf."

MENTORING this is the heart of the "student teaching"

Next we went to mentoring and reviewed the changes from 2013. These seem to work well when they are used. If they are not used, students fall through the cracks because no one knows they need mentoring. Again it is very important that the mentors are chosen not only because of their expertise in the subject, but also in their communications ability. Mentoring is not something that is completed in teaching two times. Two times is the minimum. It is a good idea if both mentors and mentees read the Guide to mentoring. ID instructors should pass it out in the ID class and be sure to explain this process.

In order to be an instructor the Division Supervisor for the specialty must submit the instructor form to National. It is in the best interest of all involved to be sure the Supervisor is knowledgeable of those in mentoring within his/her Division.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The last part to address is the CE. All disciplines must complete discipline specific CE to recertify. We started to put together some details for the ID part of the Continuing Education either to be taught by an ID instructor or an IT in the specific discipline. If one teaches three specialty disciplines he/she needs to attend discipline specific CE for each discipline taught, but only one of the ID review parts. Continuing education is a part of the instructor renewal—usually renewal is something like this—within the three year cycle teach part of the class, be observed by an IT, attend CE.

Our overall goal is to make the additions for our instructor book, the hybrid class, and complete our CE for the other disciplines to review ID.

Instructor Development

Virginia Rodeman

[ADD Report](#) [Chris Raudabaugh](#)

Activities during Powderfall

Contacts

Attended Division Director meeting. Interfaced with various Division Directors.

Avalanche Meeting with Dale Fisher, Mike Laney, Sheila Summers, and Janet Glaeser

Discussed requirements for Level 1 (3 modules) and Level 2 avalanche courses. Explored possible locations for Level 2 course in Rocky or Intermountain divisions for the 2015/16 season.

Met with Kent Anderson. Discussed benefits and possibilities of moving email blast functionality to nspcentral server.

Met with Peter Wollan. Discussed budget/expense items.

Certified Roundtable - Attendees included DD's, certified staff, current certified candidates, and interested patrollers. Discussion revolved around the National Certified manual development and the current status.

Self Development

1/2 Skiing/Instructor development with Heidi Ettlinger

1/2 Skiing/Instructor development with Rob Sogar

Powderfall Staffing

Event setup and administration support for OET
Provided private ski lesson for a patroller attendee
Provided support for Toboggan Obstacle Course

Best Regards,

Chris Raudabaugh

Assistant Division Director

[OEC Powderfall Review](#) [Karen Hadden](#)

Powderfall-**Outdoor First Care** Friday April 10, 2015

Dr. David Johe

- Vail has put thru 600 people
- Not a substitute for OEC. Information is taken out of the OEC book.
- It is a 3 hr. on line course. Must take lay person rescuer before class. This is for the area employees. Order course from the NSP catalogue. The course is BASIC first aid. Chapter on communication. They will be our link to the patient on the hill by calling the Ski Patrol. Then you do an on hands session. Do this AFTER the on line and Lay Rescuer is complete. Hands on is set up in 10 modules. Then take 20 question quiz. Need 80% to pass. Retake every two years. They must be an affiliate of the NSP to order. This cost \$25.
- OFC is one part of the Mountain Host program. They have to be an affiliate member (\$50). Minimum age is 15.
- We have access to the course on our page.
- Aging patrollers may want to move to the Mountain Host Program.
- Can use this as a requirement tool.
- It is a very good way to assist the Hosts and Ski Patrol develop a working relationship
- To start a Mountain Host program the patrol and management need to work together.
- The ski instructors can take the course right now.
- The course meets OSHA requirements y
- Reviewed the first chapter. Objective and key words are used in each module

Powderfall-**OEC On Line** Friday April 10, 2015

- Rod Kivell and Meghan Wells-presentation was taped.
- Geared to adults and the younger student

- Less time in class room, immediate feedback to the student. Survey of students said they wanted more on line.
- When you use more quizzes the students learn how to answer the questions.
- Stared doing classes in the spring. Great for recruitment and the number of students who stay on the patrol.
- Code from Pearson may take 4-5 business days.
- Rod and Meghan went thru an entire course
- Create class, students purchase access codes, (use Brady)
- Create/copy course is your best friend
- Feel free to copy Meghan' s course
- If you change everything to pdfs no one has problems opening documents e.g. Apple vs Windows
- Videos are saved on your personal PC in case you don't have internet at your hill
- Rachele from Pearson joined on the phone. New platform coming. Enhancements for the on line course. Launch this August. Showed a demo of the new platform. They will transition our current course into the new platform. The Platform is new for this book, but Pearson has used table to set prerequisites. Will be able to set parameters for each students. Performance by chapter. Lots of enhancements to the gradebook. Custom content won't come over automatically however you can bring it over manually. Pearson is open to Meghan talking to the editor so customs would come across. Maybe create a shared library for video
- Could use this for OEC-MSP training. They would have to pay the \$7.80.

Powderfall-OEC Hybrid vs Traditional Refresher Friday April 10, 2015

- There are no plans to get rid of the Traditional refresher
- Refresher Comm 7 patrollers
- Workbook is an integral part of the on line and hands on
- Outlined in the National PnP
- Writing the next refresher before some are done with the current cycle. Three year cycle.
- With the 5th broke up the topics a little differently
- Get together in Oct and look at objectives
- Skills and case presentation must be signed off
- Instructor Guide to help us understand what is required. Only on line will not be mailed. Only posters that a required will have to be printed.
- Difficult to develop because it is global
- 2015 Workbook has more activities and more interaction with OEC5e. 2015 Hybrid adding more features. Go live July 1 is the latest target date.
- Traditional Refresher: Pros, Allows instructor to validate the patroller understands the material. Pick up on learning disabilities. Allows two way communication. Some learners need the face time with the teacher. Some students are distracted with electronic learning. Cons: Technology, Teaching and Learning styles.

- Hybrid Refresher Pros: Standard to meet just the objective, everyone sees the same thing. Delivery option. Module assessment the same. Cons: Technology currently growing, Delivery method is limited, Learners
- Which refresher is right for your resort? Responsibility of the IOR, the patroller needs to contact the IOR, ITs and instructors had more time to do skills, QA for the on line piece is the certificate.

Powderfall-Instructor Development Hybrid E-Learning Course Friday April 10, 2015-Ginny Roderman

- Right now the certificate of completion does not mean the course is done. You need to do the other section (face to face). This is the time they do the 6 pack.

Powderfall April 11, 2015_Bill DeVarney: **How to Use and teach the OEC 5e Text**-Ed McNamara and Bill DeVarney-will be online to review presentation-can use for continuing education for instructors

- History-4th outdated- did not meet Federal Standard-it was a redrafted EMT manual-not applicable to all seasons (many ski areas have all season activities)-separate test and workbook. difficult to read due to multiple authors-the survey showed people didn't want the workbook and text separate. The 5th includes both National Board Decision-meet Emergency Medical Responder level (EMR). This applies to all states. Combined test/workbook. Written in one voice. Assists in avoidance of EMS regulation. Updated to current EMS standards. Additional
- information for seasoned patroller. Allows patrollers to serve on Federal MCI response teams. MAY NOT equal Federal EMT curriculum.
- What makes OEC 5e Unique? Written by volunteer contributing experts. One voice. Based on Evidence Based Medicine. Combined Text and Workbook. **Chapter 36 cannot be taught, must be approved by area management and taught by ALS certified person.**
- Each chapter has objective and authors of that chapter. Key terms with chapters. It is in the margins because it is important. Look for the red crosses. You will want to look for them. Stop think and understand. Helps the candidate be aware of what they need to know. Case presentations. Don't avoid but use them to expand the candidate's knowledge. OEC skills and skill guide.
- Chapter Review relates to the Stop, Think and Understand. Photos designed to be more ski patrol specific. MyNSPkit.
- Skill Guides. Need to be mastered before the final evaluation. It doesn't say you will be tested on them. Challenge course must also be signed off on all the skills.
- Appendix C-Survival The rule of Threes, Appendix C-Equipment and meds, Glossary, Answer key and Index. Must check the errata sheet to make you have the most recent updates. If you have the second printing book many of the changes will be there but not all. Brady said this was one of the best text books they have worked with.
- Other resources: myNSPkit has 1. Lesson Guides 2. Activities 3. Test Bank 4. Scenario bank 5. 6. Skill Guides 7. Section Reviews 8. Updates and errata sheet. Successful candidates use the test bank question for practice. 1200 questions in the test bank. Every question has the answer and candidates can read them all. This is not unusual, many courses do this. The test bank was written by volunteers however it was reviewed by Brady which is a professional test writer. The scenario bank lists the first number on the sheet which is the chapter it came from. The difficulty level is also listed. Skill guides list the CPIs (they are critical).
- **OEC SKILLS IN APPENDIX B MUST BE SIGNED!!!!**

Powderfall April 11, 2015-Dr. Johe-**Medical Directors Update**

- All the medical directors are patrollers and OEC instructors
- They are advisors to the OEC program to give us evidence based decision
- The 6th edition will probably use Brady
- The OEC textbook is accepted by the EMS community however medical oversight is the BIG question.
- We will try to give some medical oversight at the patrol level so sentinel events, etc. Then can be reviewed for learning
- The states are saying we need some type of medical oversight
- Medical Director at the patrol level and Medical Advisor above the patrol
- If don't have a doc that wants to be the medical director the highest level of medical person who would be willing to be the link to the hospital.
- In the refresher this year we will see some advances in back boarding and references to CHI. The new text will be changed.
- We will probably see mandate to wearing helmets.
- Your mountain may require EMT certification however they accept the OEC card and work on your EMT. The NSP has not had pressure to go to EMT.

Powderfall April 11, 2015-**ID Mentoring**-Teresa Stewart

- New NSP Instructor Application form and new NSP Instructor Mentoring Completion Form Rev 5-2014

Powderfall April 11, 2015-**New OEC Instructor Mentoring**-Bill DeVarney

- Too you know everything you need to know to be a good mentor? If you can't get thru to you mentee you need to change mentors.
- Make sure you know the Instructor Development process (6 components)
- 11 Steps of Mentoring: 1. Mentor assignment with application package, 2. Copy of Guide to Mentoring new instructors, 3. Mentor meets with instructor trainee 4. Experienced instructor observation, 5. Instructor Trainee pre observation conference, 6. Mentor observation of Instructor Trainee (min 2), 7. Instructor post observation conference (min 2), 8. Discipline specific IT observation (min 1), 9 Discipline IT approval for Instructor apt, 10 Instructor Appt approved, 11. Application completed and submitted for posting in profile.
- Bill will send his presentation

OEC Supervisor Meeting 2015 Meeting Powderfall-Park City Utah

April 8, 2015

- Introductions
- Melanie Hood Welcome Comments; 500 people, 40 staff, 460 +/- patrollers, Pro Deals (talk to her), 30 companies coming (includes some medical suppliers); use some of the money to improve IT infrastructure, etc.

Session with Medical Advisors- OEC PowerPoint: "NSP Outdoor Emergency Care", showed it to DDs yesterday, BOD tomorrow; not ready to be released broadly

- Review of OEC History. Meet EMR level. Combined text and workbook. Written in one voice. Legal aspects had to be considered. We work for the area not the NSP. Continue to work with the NSAA to reduce legal risks for area and patroller. 3rd edition 890 pages with appendix and workbook. 4th edition 1328 pages with appendix and workbook. Candidate Training. They only need to learn the chapter objectives to pass the course. Many areas had over 90% pass rate. **Challenges:** all instructors teach to objectives and not local protocols. Must give sample tests. OEC ITs must supervise the OEC Instructors. Enhance ID courses. Today we will write the basic tests for this year. (Broke into groups and completed the basic written for this year).
- Projects. Video how to teach.
- Medical Control: Standard of training vs Standard of Care. Area Management in consultation with their Medical Directors may make the decision not to use all the skills in the manual. Must be signed off by management. OEC 5 is a teaching tool.
- Collaboration with Member Mountains. Improve ski safety, lift evacuation, supply premier outdoor first aid and skier safety, work with EMS systems to avoid being regulated, and provide assistance to member patrols when needed.
- Appreciate industry input. NSP needs to meet the needs of the ski area operators. We are here to listen to patrollers, member ski areas and industry partners to continually improve NSP performance and relevancy established over 75 years.
- The MDs will be meeting at this conference to work on updates from the medical community for OEC. We have a push to go back to just first aid. We are the most informed first responders and it may be a good idea to stay that way. We may be able to 'skinny it down' but we need to stay on top of the recent medical evidence. Getting ready to start OEC 6 (if we call it that), it will be about 2 years. Big changes coming with spinal precautions. Maybe just be a rewrite of OEC 5? Right now as an OEC Tech we don't clear backboards. EMS has ability to clear boards in some states.
- The OEC Supervisors voted to keep the OEC content the same but to look for opportunities to improve the course delivery and testing. All in attendance were in support.
- PPT presentation. Won't release the PPT until they show it to the NSA in SF in May.
- Other comments (Johe):
 - -"We are probably the most educated first responders in the world."
 - -"Only medical providers in the world that are not licensed."
 - "Only non-licensed medical group recognized by "MRC" ("medical reserve corps") this is why we have non ski related information in the text"
 - Must avoid getting absorbed by state EMS, related to remaining First Responders. They are meeting today (medical directors) – discuss new stuff in EMS, trying to put updates into the refresher and ski patrol magazine (esp. spine and head injuries)

Division Reports

- **Alaska Report.** Has kept a grid of questions missed on the basic test. Hosted Powderblast for skiing and tobogganing. 74 attended. Use rescue dogs (4). Putting on an OEC-MSP for his pro

patrollers. High performance CPR. Poor year for snow. Getting snow now. Deb comments on changing CPR protocols, more expected soon (esp. American Heart); anticipate that new education should be a major asset. Emphasize patrollers be ever-aware that they are serving as patrollers, irrespective of their level of training. Details of local requirements are dictated by States, and States are not consistent in their rules.

- **Central Report.** Introduced Sue Hayes as the new Central Division OEC Supervisor. Karen reported 58 OEC courses, 399 candidates with 363 passed. 73 Refreshers mostly hybrids. 24 OEC-MSP clinics. 8 OEC-MSP evaluations with 63% pass rate. ROA webinars a big success. 1276 OEC Instructors and 176 OEC ITs. Trying to improve communication and timely paperwork.
- **Eastern Report:** 350 ITs. Trying to improve instructional delivery. More ways to teach than didactic. Want to improve the paperwork chain. Reluctance to use the Hybrid refresher. Was able to understand the concerns. Need to be sure the course completion record for the Hybrid is correct. Want to do a Division Educational event every two years. Hosting overnight and bring in speakers. 3 Regions work together to teach core elements the same. YAP program working well. The kids learn life skills as well as NSP skills. Deb Foss runs the OEC part of the YAP program. This is done at a Senior Level.
- **Europe Report:** Has moved from military to the general public. They do the OEC portion and the hill portion at the hills they are assigned to. US military closed some bases, numbers have decreased. Growth is with non-Americans, non-us-military. Idea of inexpensive training, volunteer opportunities is novel and popular. Bigger focus on senior program is possible now. Differences between European Division and other Divisions. He believes training is very good and graduates are well-prepared to patrol anywhere.
- **Far West Report:** OEC courses are down. 3 consecutive poor snow years. The OFC program has been put on twice and received good feedback. 7 people in the OEC-MSP program. OEC Instructors down. Northern and Southern California recert their instructions differently. Will be addressed.
- **Intermountain Report:** Some OEC and Challenge courses. 3 OEC courses. Some do on line and classroom classes. Doing more hands on less lecture. Hybrid took off slow and not received well. Not sure why it was not received. OEC-MSP event in center of Wyoming. Had a full day for the candidates and evaluators. All but one passed. Very nice.
- **Rocky Mountain Report.** Continuing Ed (echo Far West), keeping documents up to date, some real successes with integrating Pros and Volunteers, Hybrid thing is selecting for a different population of patrollers – issues in areas trying to draw large patrols from areas of low population, Hybrid refresher was popular with everybody who did it. . Would like to look at the requirements for experience for being a senior.
- **Northern Report:** Embraced Hybrid refresher. Hybrid OEC classes. Biannual OEC-MSP had 14 candidates and 12 passed. Nice!
- **PNW Report:** 20 patrols were not able to open. Of course a decline in OEC courses. Doing the Hybrid courses and people like it. Refreshers did the Hybrid and they liked it. The lack of snow has also hurt the OEC-MSP. 21 will have it completed by end of season so far 11 have passed. Nut and Bolts clinic in June on the Glacier. An excellent event for Alpine. Did and OFC course. Did a great job.

- **Pro Report:** TJ thanked all for their help. 196 candidates 90% pass rate. Vail resorts did a big OFC push. Almost 400 people. Got great feedback. Still problems with getting instructors recerts. Talking about using OEC-MSP for 3-4 year patrollers.
- **Southern Report:** 2 OEC and 2 Challenge courses. People like the on line course. They reworked the syllabus. A lot of work the first year to develop but good after that. Hybrid refresher is taking off. Tried on line instructor recert. Only 2 did the any meeting on line portion. OEC-MSP changed to some spring training. Syllabus for training and passing OEC-MSP. They want to have everyone take the OEC-MSP at the 5 year time frame.

Instructor Recert Clinics

- Clinics must be registered. The clinics were being done but not registered. The computer system could not update the OEC Instructor records without a recert clinic. Continuing Education Box must be checked on the CCR for the instructor to get credit.
- If we develop standards we have to be consistent across the board. Do we need to change the information in the PnP? What do we want, what are the minimums?

Refresher Update Bill DeVarney Chair of the Refresher Comm and Asst National Program Director

- History of 4 years to develop. Taken to another platform, Digitec. Having to go thru the NSP store was a pain but it uncovered patrollers who were not currently registered.
- Refresher Comm. Bill Smith from Southern, Lisa Garret writing the on line portion, Tim Fair, Central, Risk Manager and Kathy Glynn from Central writing workbook. This year it is all exercises. **The workbook has to be turned in and reviewed at the refresher.** PnP requires the workbook be done.
- First Conf call in August. 3 year cycle by title-changed OEC 5e
- Material selected must cover 1/3 each year
- October meeting-Objective list finalized
- Weekly-biweekly conference calls-workbook finished last week.
- 3 components make up the package, Workbook connects knowledge based objectives with the material to be covered. Instructor Guide. Going to put in sample for Hybrid refresher only. Checklist in the workbook is a requirement. Case presentation is a requirement. Posters are outlined in the Instructor Guide.
- Still using Digitec again this year direct to Web. Going to try to drop in some video link. Don't see anything on YouTube they want to use.
- July 1st latest target date

Linked-In Senior Proposal (Gren Rudd, Camp 10): Deb wanted us aware this has been on Linked-In. **No RFA to date.** His proposed changes relevant to OEC – all seniors must be OEC Instructor, must have 3 years' experience in patrolling to participate. Text of proposal, see attached.

OEC-MSP (Endly/Brewster)

- See attached

- See Brewster's attached document

Continued Discussion of the Senior Program-Karen Hadden Chair-July 1, 2015

- Paula Knight, Kevin Qualseth, Bill DeVarney, Jane San Romani
- Add scenario form the candidates need to write
- Send to this group for review
- Forms OEC and non OEC

Day Two

Instructor Recert Clinics Comm-Susan Swap-Trueblood Chair-June 2015

- Kevin Qualseth, Bill DeVarney, Debra Wright, Sue Hayes

Senior Scenario Comm-Paula Chair-November 2015

- Bob Brewster, Susan Swapp-Trueblood, Debra Wright, Sue Hayes

Senior Aid Room Module Comm- Karen Chair-start after OEC-MSP-December 2015 Supervisor Mtg

- Bob Brewster -will bring to the meeting next fall (2015), Kathy Lee, Deb Foss, Jodie Jeffers, Susan Swapp-Trueblood, Aileen

OEC Enhancement Module-Bob

- See attached documents
- Group to review and send to the Super Group for review and approval. Keep Board updated
- Aileen and Deb Foss will assist

Closing a course: Sue Hayes

- See pdf on How to Register and Close a course

New Mask presentation (see website)

- Facilitates training, especially in cases with long intervals between training sessions
- Advantages
- Easier to use
- Small
- One of them has an oral airway that you can trim it to fit the patient
- Work when they are cold or hot
- Doesn't degrade over time (like balloons)
- One size fits all (really little kids, put it on the outside of the mouth instead of inside the mouth)
- New thing – BVM and New Mask kit, mask is trim-able, little package (cylinder, about 6" in diameter, 3 – 4 inches thick.

Education Update-Dr. Shelia Summers

- New Education Director-Dr. Shelia Summers
- Need for better communication between the Ed Director and the committees
- The RFA for Education Comm is not being addressed at the present time
- Nice to be an outsider because many questions can be asked
- People want to be heard
- Address the updates to manuals and continuing education. What counts as continuing education? Need to look at the Patroller manual. Need to address T/E recerts for the OEC-MSP.
- Information Technology and database is a priority. Need to make small fixes first then move on.
- She needs to know what we are not getting so she can prioritize. Database will be integrated with the web. Delinquent records needs to be addressed.
- OEC 5th edition. Need to address to where we are going. Hard copy? Electronic? Collateral materials.

NSP and minors-can't be under 15 to take OEC. If you are a minor under 15 we need a parental release for them to participate in the event.

OFC-

- See attached course information. Any OEC instructor can teach the course. \$25 for the course. They have to purchase it from the store. Good for 2 years. On the web page.

T/E Clinics and recert

- Will stay the same. At the present time we need to do the course every 3 years.

Test Bank Review Committee: Review questions and objectives to make sure they are correct? Deb and Dr. Johe will send requirements and Paula will divide among the supervisors to distribute to ROAs or IORs with a deadline.

NSP kit links: need someone to verify the links. Bob, Dan and Sue

Instructor Manual on my NSP kit: check to make sure information is correct. Susan Trueblood

Basic Final Practical and Written will be sent to the ROA if the QAing IT is not known.

Young Adult Program (EASTERN): They offer a friendly competition of OEC and Alpine. 80-100 young adults show up. Give people a little friendly competition. Set up scenarios. Evaluators get the skills check off ahead of time. Fun things like a ultra-light crash, an avalanche, etc. 54 YAPs in two days. Each one gets signed off one scenario in the two days. Skiing is also graded. They have an overall winner. "I want to be the best YAP in the country" competition. Great recruitment tool. Gets bigger every year. They have a waiting list of ITs who want to evaluate. They have a 60% retention rate.

Great event, certainly had a "Fall Division Meeting meets STW" sorta feel.

3 significant take aways from this event that our Central Division patrollers should know about. I'll label them as Validation, Hopeful and Concerning.

Validation:

I had the opportunity to co-teach a progressive TES with my counter part from the Eastern Division, Bob Bluff. Bob was assigned to be the lead and I worked initially as his support.

Bob started our group with all the customary greetings and disclaimers etc. He was personable and obviously had been teaching his way for a very long time. Bob wanted to jump immediately into toboggan work. On our way up the lift together I pumped the brakes on running toboggans in a mountain environment without knowing our student's abilities or working through some basic ski proficiency drills. I convinced Bob to have the students make a warm up run so that we could assess their ski proficiency. The philosophy in the Central Division being championed with that exchange. Proficient skiing skills are the core foundation to safe and effective toboggan handling.

Long story short...distinctly different teaching philosophies between Eastern Division and Central Division. Bob being an exclusive NSP instructor seemed to be limited with assessing ski skills, using movement analysis or error recognition. After slowing things down and the suggestion to assess skills was accepted, Bob led a side slip lesson. The lesson he taught was in a method I had not seen since my ski patrol candidate days. It goes something like this...

I'm going to show you a side slip. This is how I side slip. Now everyone side slip like me.

I thought we had done away with this teaching philosophy. It reminded me how far we've come in the Central Division as we continue to blend PSIA core concept teaching methods with Ski Patrol core skills development. I gracefully acknowledged Bob's strong demo. I took his hand off on the next hill face. I broke down the side slip lesson from the snow/ski contact all the way up the body using the language of Balance, Rotary, Edging and Pressure.

As the day progressed, the group naturally split into my group and Bob's group. The three youngest came with me and we zipped through some basic ski skills and into working with the Cascade Cruiser Toboggan. We progressed to making runs through the mogul field with the Cruiser to end our day around 3:00pm.

Hopeful:

I had the opportunity to meet Tom Sherry. One of our directors on the National Board. He was quite gregarious and transparent about the progress made in the Board room at the most recent meeting. He

reported that an outside company had been hired, and I quote, "contract signed", to manage the NSP data base that is currently in disarray. He reported that the National Office reserves had built up over the past years to 1.2 million and the new database management would cost approximately \$300,000. He was encouraged to share that I should look for the new changes in 2016.

As the Division Toboggan Supervisor this was encouraging and hopeful news to me. The data base problems since I've assumed this job have gone from bad to worse. Much chatter over the last two years about problem solving, IMIS upgrades and expense without any real solutions. Toms news is the best news I've heard in years in regards to managing our patrollers data.

Concerning:

Daryl Whitcher my counterpart from the Far West Division gave a presentation to the National OET Supervisors. He reported that there is an RFA that was discussed at the recent Board Meeting, apparently in attempt to add "education" under the direction of the board. In essence moving "education" to the political realm of the NSP. The concern is the board currently directs the politics of the NSP, direction, oversight, finance and IT. Making education a potential leverage politically will not serve to elevate the quality of the program's nor the patrollers they serve.

That's my ear on the ground at Powderfall 2015.

Respectfully submitted

David Bramel
NSP CD Toboggan Supervisor

[Dr. Steven Werner](#)

April 11, 2015

Jim Woodrum, NSP Board Member

John Thomas, NSP Central Division Director

Julie Stone, NSP Central Division Asst. Director

Dear Jim, JT, and Julie:

I am writing to bring you up to date on the National Medical Committee activities at Powderfall that may be of interest to you and the Division Board at next week's meeting. Let me say that we had a very productive meeting chaired by Dr. Johe, with most of the divisions represented.

We had a discussion of how we got to OEC 5th, in terms of the curriculum within. In light of efforts of four states in recent years to include patrollers in the state EMS system, with the fees, certifications, etc. that would go with that, it was emphasized that our textbook needs to be at a certain level, so that OEC technicians are at a level above emergency medical responder (EMR), but not quite at the EMT level. Dr. Johe stated that our OEC technicians are the best trained EMRs in the system. What was emphasized to our committee, as well as the OEC supervisors meeting concurrently, is that OEC 5th was written not only for the basic OEC technician, but also for the more seasoned patroller wanting more in depth material. Like many other OEC instructors, I was not tuned in to that fact that the chapter objectives at the front of each chapter clearly list what the basic OEC technician should be taught and tested on, and not everything in the text.

The groundwork is being laid for a new textbook. At this time, even the title is uncertain. Introduction of a new text is about two years away. Discussion was had concerning the format, whether written or electronic, book or loose leaf style. Much of the membership is not yet ready to abandon the concept of something printed in their hands. Costs will be a big factor in deciding on a format. We had considerable deliberations on topics in the new text, including backboarding and spine precautions, treatment of concussions, pelvic fractures, and femur fractures. We discussed use of epinephrine injectors in view of the new legislation in about 44 states requiring schools to have a percentage of staff members trained to diagnose anaphylaxis and deliver an injection. This requirement likely will be extended to all providers in the pre-hospital environment. Dr. Johe emphasized that treatments in our text are to be evidenced based, not just because we always did it this way or that way.

The committee looked at the national P & P and suggested some changes in the wording relative to division and region medical advisors, and patrol medical directors. Likely there will be a new designation for a licensed MD or DO who may be recruited to help a patrol with some duties including medical oversight when there is no medical personnel on the patrol, which is a common situation in small patrols in more remote locations.

Getting back to medical oversight, there was a great deal of discussion. Dr. Johe, along with Bob Scarlett and other national leaders, have been involved in vigorously defending NSP's position relative to state EMS supervision. The states that have proposed inclusion of patrollers in the EMS licensing system have been entirely satisfied with our OEC text, the curriculum, the hours spent in preparing for the evaluations, and the QA process in delivering the course. The criticism is that there is no oversight of the care that is delivered to the public. Basically, either

we do it or it will be done for us. Groundwork will be laid at the national level involving Dr David Johe, the National Board, the NSP Legal Committee, the NSAA, and the area insurers, such as Wells Fargo. This process may take a while in developing a process that meets the requirements of the EMS systems, is palatable to the area owners and insurers, is non-discoverable, and is of benefit to the patrollers providing care and the public we serve. Our charge, as Division Medical Advisors, is to begin by finding out what medical resources we currently have amongst our patrols. I will request your help in that regard in the near future.

The committee also discussed the use of helmets in the snowsports arena, and strongly recommends their use.

Dr. Johe gave a presentation on Outdoor First Care (OFC). This is a newly introduced first aid course for ski area employees, such as hosts, instructors, lift operators, and such. Certification would require community level CPR/AED training, on line study, 2 or 3 hours of hands on training, a written quiz, and an evaluation scenario. Some type of recertification is necessary every two years. This certification has been done at Dr. Johe's home area for about half of a roster of 104 mountain hosts and was very well received. Many of the perks of NSP membership are included. It was mentioned that this avenue might be attractive to alumni patrollers who no longer want to drive toboggans or do a full-fledged OEC refresher. It occurs to me that this might be a great avenue for patroller spouses or other family members.

At the end of our meeting, we had a discussion with Bob Scarlett, National Legal Advisor. As part of that, we discussed the recently expressed concerns in Central Division with respect to OEC course curriculum and recruiting. The concerns of the MSAA are worthy of discussion. I am of the opinion that the area owners and managers really expect us to function as an EMR, not less. The concern regarding the test is valid, and that will be addressed by the OEC supervisors to deliver a test that is appropriate to the course objectives for the basic OEC technician. Additionally, we have been charged with the task of incorporating a good portion of the test bank in the course as it progresses, so the candidates will be familiar with what will be on the final exam. The content of the course will be focused on the objectives as I stated earlier, not the entire book. We will hammer this in to our instructors. The time factor can be addressed by structuring the syllabus so that there only so much reading necessary each week, and by employing greater use of on-line preparation for class, which can be done to allow candidates to make the best use of their time, and focus class time to hands on activities. In that regard, Meghan Walls and Rod Kivell from Traverse City gave a great tutorial, and will be thrilled to help any instructors doing a course with the on-line possibilities. With respect to our textbook, it is simply NOT any more out of date than any other four year old text. There is simply no other

text more suitable to our needs than OEC 5th and whatever comes next. We don't have to reinvent the wheel, as it were.

Dr. Johe issued a challenge to the Medical Committee member to write something for Ski Patrol Magazine, and I hope to find something to do in this regard.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve

Stephen Werner MD, NSP Central Division Medical Director