



Rusty Parka News



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Fall 2020

Division Director's Report



Mike Schons
Division Director

It's fall and folks are getting ready for the season. At least one resort has opened, and skiers are anxious to hit the slopes. As we get ready and are thinking about staying safe ourselves, there are several things to report and information to get out to you.

COVID-19 safety information was distributed to the Patrol Directors through the Region Directors. This information and recommendations were put together by a Central Division Medical Committee headed by our Division Medical Supervisor Dan Goldberger with the Medical Advisors from all the regions. Remember these are only recommendations as each resort partner has the responsibility for guest, employee and patrol safety per their own protocols and procedures.

This said, the Division and regions have cancelled all face-to-face events this season. I know this is disappointing to a number of folks who are working to improve their skill sets and obtain higher certifications. I apologize for this, but we are a safety organization and your safety in this environment is our primary concern.

Youth Protection Training, you have heard me talk about it in previous articles. The requirement is now in the National Policies and Procedures, Chapter 13. This is great training and well worth the one and a half hours necessary to complete. It is a requirement for some; however, I encourage all members to take the training, especially if you have a desire to become active in patrol leadership or become an Instructor. Below, you will find information to begin the training and document your completion. Again, please also review Chapter 13 in the National Policies and Procedures.

Please read the following information carefully. For those required to complete the Certification, please email the Certificate and your contact information to Central Division Director Mike Schons after completion:

Mike Schons – director@nspcd.org

This NSP youth protection policy is designed to minimize the risk of abuse of youths (defined as protected parties) participating in NSP sanctioned courses or events, ensuring compliance with all state and federal laws governing events or activities involving youths. Protected parties are defined as Young Adult Patrollers (YAPs) and other non-NSP members under the age of 18 who may be involved in support roles during NSP courses or events. This excludes on-hill patrolling activities which fall under area operations where policies of the area would apply.

To meet the goal of protecting our youth, the NSP requires that key NSP leaders and other members working with protected parties will complete youth protection training from an NSP-approved training source. In addition, the NSP will provide reporting guidelines if abuse is suspected or witnessed, as well as guidelines for management of any NSP sanctioned event where protected parties are involved, to provide a safe, nurturing and empowering environment. No form of abuse will be tolerated, and reports of abuse or suspected abuse will be investigated and subject to the NSP Code of Conduct. Our organization will fully cooperate with authorities if allegations of abuse are made that require additional reporting or investigation. It is the duty of all NSP members, NSP employees, and other participants to protect our youth from all types of abuse.

Who must complete the required training?

Individuals in the following positions (if applicable) are required to complete training in a recognized youth safety program:

Patrol Representative, Patrol Director, and Unit Representative in any patrol or other unit in which protected parties are members of the patrol/unit

- Assistant Region Directors/Section Chiefs (if applicable)
- Region Directors
- Region Program Administrators or Advisors in any discipline in which protected parties participate in courses or other events held within the region
- Region Legal Advisors
- Assistant Division Directors
- Division Directors
- Division Program Supervisors or Advisors in any discipline in which protected parties participate in courses or other events in the division
- Division Legal Advisors
- National Program Directors and Advisors
- National Board Members
- National Legal Advisors
- National Safety Team

When must individuals with certified training participate in NSP activities?

- When protected parties are participating in an NSP course or other event that does not include overnight outings, at least one (1) NSP instructor who participates in the course or other event must have completed the youth protection training.
- When protected parties are participating in an NSP course or other event that includes overnight outings or lodging, at least two (2) NSP instructors matching protected party demographics participating in the event must have completed the youth protection training. In other words, if the outing includes a male participant, there should be at least one male instructor. If the outing includes a female participant there should be at least one female instructor. Each protected party's parent or guardian may approve of an adult chaperone for the protected party during the NSP course or other event. Any adult participating in the NSP course or other event, who has completed the youth protection training, may be designated an adult chaperone. If a protected party's parent or guardian is participating in the NSP course or other event, then no additional chaperone is required and that parent or guardian is not required to complete the NSP-required training.

Where can I access the training?

ARMATUS SELF ENROLLMENT INSTRUCTIONS

To Enroll:

Please use this link to enroll and create your user name and password:

<http://website.praesidiuminc.com/enroll>

Registration code: skipatrol

To Log in:

Use this link to log in with the username and password you just created:

1. Go to <http://website.praesidiuminc.com/login>

2. Enter your login and password.

3. Click the orange Login button.

4. On the next page, scroll down the page a bit until you see the courses listed.

5. Click the title of the course to open and view it.

Scouting is accepted and SafeSport along with other training opportunities are accepted at the discretion of the Division Direction. I personally completed both and there are differences, however, both are very good.

Now, let's talk Bike Patrolling. At the October 21, 2019 National Board Meeting, your National Board unanimously approved the Bike program. This is great news to the over 2000 bike patrollers within the NSP. We in the Central Division have numerous Bike Patrols and riding styles available to us. Now that we are a program, I will be working with the National Education Committee to develop the curriculum and courses. What does this mean for you? This now provides you with opportunity to use your skills AND learn new skills for year around fun and activity. If you wish to learn more about biking and styles, please go to the National website and read Track III of the new **Introduction to Patrolling Manual**. You can find it under programs, Bike Task Force. If you have questions or need more information, Please contact Jeremy Vebeke at, bike@nspcd.org.

Finally voting is open and your vote does count and absolutely means something. We need folks on the board that have not only have the best interest of the organization in mind, but folks who will represent the needs of the Central Division. My personal opinion and not as your Division Director, there are several really good candidates. Deb Endly is first on my list as she is from the Central Division, has National program and committee experience, but also has our needs within our geography and demographics in mind. If you wish to find out more about the Candidates, you can go to the National website and look at the candidate profiles. You can also contact me and I will be happy to discuss whom I support and why. Mike Schons at director@nspcd.org

Remember, PLEASE exercise your right to VOTE!



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Change!!!



Les Robinson
ADD

A word we all will get familiar with over the next who knows how long. We are changing how we live, act, and behave. We have NO idea; nor does anyone else how long this will be in place or if maybe it stays for the rest of my lifetime or yours.

Many areas have already put in place a plan on how to open and protect you the patroller. We need to be on board with our area's needs and still protect ourselves, if we can be of guidance to them, we should be but remember they are who we work for.

Our OEC refreshers are mostly done as I write this letter; watching the snow fall out my window (see picture above). Note the date of 10-25-20 and its our 2nd snowfall. Hopefully, this is a sign of the upcoming months.

I ask ALL patrollers to look at your local and Region programs and reach out to help with some aspect of a program that intrigues you. What do you want to learn more about? What program could you become an instructor for? How can you improve your own skill set and offer to help others grow their own skills? We may not see any region programs take place this year, I have heard of 2 regions that have cancelled all events. We may not have any division events this year so if that all happens what can we do? I would recommend patrollers looking to work on skills hook up with a current senior or certified instructor online to see what you can do and how to proceed with your specific training needs. We also need to work on and explore idea's of how online learning can work for us both off the hill and for on the hill learning, maybe send a video to an instructor/mentor, online quizzes, lets brainstorm and make our programs better.

Remember: You learn better if you are having fun.

Great things are still happening.... Even during a pandemic



Anne Blaedow
ADD

Fall this year has been strange to say the least. Without the usually refreshers to attend, we all found ourselves with a lot more free time. It was a great chance to do other projects, but it really gets me eager for the snow to fly and the skis to come up from the basement!

There have been several positive things happening this fall that we need to celebrate!

1. We adapted and implemented the first Virtual Fall Meetings and showed that we can still get things done even if we are not face to face.
2. We recognized A LOT of award winners. Let's look to congratulate them all season this year to make up for the lack of an in-person awards event.
3. We launched the Central Division Gear Store featur-

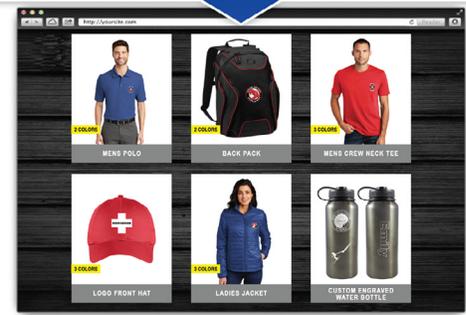


ing the new Central Division Logo that was designed by Ken Rose. Please check out the opportunity to buy Spirit Wear from the Gear store with one of the NSP Official Logos embroidered on it.

4. Use our Promotion Pros supplier to create your own “local patrol gear store” to help you recruit, retain and promote your patrol to the larger community. We want to help patrols have a very easy way to promote themselves and their programs. This online store allows everyone to easily order and pay for their items. They will make any design you send them!! Ship it to one location to minimize the mailing costs.

5. Two virtual Division wide Patrol Director 101 sessions were held in October via ZOOM. These allowed us to support the key leadership role in our organization... The Patrol Director!! Typically this session was held at the Division Fall Meeting by former DD Jim Woodrum, so we decided to make it virtual and support the new PD’s. Along with a set lesson plan of information to share with the PD’s, there will be some discussion time at the end. The questions and issues that come up at the end of these programs will be used to create the Patrol Director 202 agenda to be held in November/December. We want to support mentorship between patrol directors within the Division so we will ask for some of our award winning Patrol Directors to join us for subsequent sessions. Some Regions have mentorship opportunities for Patrol Directors and others do not so, the Division hopes to foster more idea sharing among our leaders.

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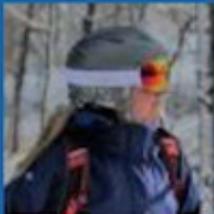
- ▶ Ski Patrol Swag the Easy Way
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Pro pricing offered to NSP members. Contact us at SolAlpine.com



Western Region

Jeff Olsen, Western Region Director



Western Region presented their Annual Awards via Zoom on August 17th. Awards were presented by Section Chiefs and Patrol Representatives from 18 locations. In conjunction with the awards, watch parties occurred at region ski areas. Watch parties adhered to CDC and state guidelines requiring the use of masks and social distancing.

The event was a big success with over 90 awards presented in less than 90 minutes. What was especially great about doing the awards this way was being virtually together as a community during the pandemic and watching many worthy Patrollers' excitement and joy as their contributions to ski patrolling were recognized.

Here is a link to the ceremony: <https://youtu.be/jvbytRMJasU>

Hosting the Region Awards on Zoom and YouTube is part of the Region's on-going use of social media on a regular basis for a variety of reasons. First and most importantly, Zoom Meetings have been used to share best practices for COVID with region patrols so that the patrols are prepared for the upcoming season.

As the new Region Director, my staff and I have used Zoom Meetings with all Region Program Advisors to discuss their programs and see what they need to make their programs strong. Zoom Meetings have also been used to talk with our six section chiefs and twenty-one patrol directors to establish a baseline of information and to determine needs for this season.

Finally, given the cancellation of face-to-face training, we are exploring opportunities to provide Western Region patrols and patrollers with training opportunities through Zoom and interactive on-line training methods. Look for additional information regarding this as the season gets underway.

Stay safe and get out and ski!

North Central Region



James Hughes
NC Region Director

There have been nine documented severe influenza pandemics in the past 300 years. Typically, about 3 every 100 years. There is simply no predicting when we will have a pandemic or how severe it will become. Unfortunately, the COVID 19 pandemic has affected all of our lives and in so many different ways. That is also true for all of us as National Ski Patrol (NSP) members. The Division and the Region passed a vote to suspend all face to face education and certification events for the 2019-2020 season. The NSP Center Division North Central Region (NCR) leadership group has met twice at the time this article was written with plans to meet every three weeks. We will use our website NSPNCR.Org to keep all our NCR members updated to the extent possible during this season.

In past years, our ski resorts have given the NSP a great deal of support allowing training, special events and other important programs. This season and with every member that is patrolling, our focus will turn exclusively to supporting our ski resorts.

To help our resorts be successful we must:

- **follow all hill guidelines to keeping ourselves and people around us safe.**

Let us all join together and rally to assure our hills can stay open, keep people safe and that the quests enjoy the freedom of a sport we all love and cherish.

Southern Region



Mike Vaerewyck
Southern Region
Director

This is usually a time when we have recently wrapped up the past season with the Division Banquet and a new season is in full swing with refreshers and chair evacs. The old season has ended and the new one began, but it feels much different than years past. We charted new territory with a virtual Division Meeting, and I am happy to report that Southern Region had a good time at our small watch party hosted in the Chicago area; thank you to all who participated. I hope that everyone has completed their virtual refresher and feel this was less stressful than the normal in person events. I'm disappointed to report that all of our events will be canceled in the Southern Region due to the concerns around Covid; this includes Ses's, Tes's and our Senior Exams. I hope everyone will be able to safely train at their local area under any guidelines that are set and to see everyone at our Region events next season. I look forward to the snow falling and hope that we are all able to get some turns in soon. Please do all that you can to follow precautions and stay safe and healthy during this time.

Avalanche- PIEPS DSP Sport & PIEPS DPS Pro

Michael Walenta, Avalanche Supervisor

As you may know, there has been substantial traffic on social media and other platforms regarding the potential failure of the Pieps DSP Pro and Pieps DSP Sport transceivers. These reports relate the slider mechanism on these models unintentionally reverting to the off position under certain conditions. These reports cite the potential for this issue to have adverse effects on a rescue.

In response to these reports, Pieps recently issued the following statement via social media:

We know that confidence in your equipment is key. If you have any concerns about your DSP Pro/Sport, please contact us. We will offer you an upgrade to the latest generation of our avalanche transceivers. Contact us at: dsp@pieps.com

- Via @avalanchepieps <https://avalancheassociation.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=88d98f7bfb34ce7aaa451961a&id=8df466aafa&e=5473a17504> on Instagram

That is all the information we have at this time. For additional information, please contact Pieps directly.

We encourage everyone to ensure the working order of all gear in one's personal kit or operational inventory, including safety equipment, clothing, modes of transport, and any items that need to be counted on in the field.

International Snow Science Workshop (ISSW) went virtual in 2020

The Conference has been rescheduled for October 3 – October 8, 2021 in Fernie, British Columbia <http://issw2020.com/>

The ISSW Conference rotates between Europe, Canada and the US.

The Conference for 2023 will be in Bend, Oregon October 8 – 13, 2023

Working to get the calendar back on track after COVID, the ISSW Steering Committee has decided to keep the planned ISSW 2024 conference in 2024. A decision for the host European site has yet to be announced.

A number of online and virtual Snow And Avalanche (SAW) workshops are still available. The current list of SAW workshops is available thanks to our friends at the American Avalanche Association.

<https://www.americanavalancheassociation.org/events>

The long awaited updated for the NSP Avalanche Instructor Manual is nearly completed. With just a few final edits to complete, the manual will then need to be uploaded at NSP.ORG



Division election coordinator



**John Thomas
CD Elections
Coordinator**

For the 2020-2021 season the following Region Director elections will be held in the following Regions:

North Central, Northern Michigan, Southern.

The job description and requirements are documented in the Central Division Policy and Procedure (P&P) document. This document can be found on the Central Division WEB site, under The “Who are we” tab, or a direct link is the following <https://www.nspcentral.org/who-are-we/policy-and-procedures/>. If you are interested in the position please refer to the P&P for all the information you need to be nominated and requirements for the Region Director position.

The following section chiefs elections will need to be held for all Regions. Section chiefs for Sections 1 and 4. The job description and requirements are documented in the Central Division Policy and Procedure (P&P) document. This document can be found on the Central Division WEB site, under The “Who are we” tab, or a direct link is the following <https://www.nspcentral.org/who-are-we/policy-and-procedures/>.

If you are interested in the position please refer to the P&P for all the information you need to be nominated and requirements for a Section Chief position.

If you have any questions about the positions, you can contact any of the following people: Your current or past Region Director, Section Chief, or you can contact me- your Division Election coordinator, John (JT) Thomas.

Applications for Dan Somalski Memorial Fund

The application window for the 2020 – 2021 season Daniel Somalski Memorial Fund is open until December 1st, 2020. The fund is an educational grant for any Central Division patroller with membership in good standing. Activities for potential fund reimbursement include:

- Any National Ski Patrol Education
- PSIA/AASI Certification

Applications can be located on the Central Division Website via the following link <http://www.nspcentral.org/docs/somalski/SomalskiApplication.pdf>. Once complete, please email to Tom Anderson at tpanderson@charter.net. For more information, please visit <http://www.nspcentral.org/somalski.php>.



This trust was set up to honor a very special friend, patroller and mentor, the late Dan Somalski. Dan, as many of us know, dedicated much of his 25 year patrol career to helping others attain their goals both on and off of the mountain. As a long time Certified (#426) and PSIA level 3 he was legendary both inside and outside of the traces. It is in memory of Dan’s example that the trust was created to ease the burden of a patroller’s credentialing costs while encouraging advancement.

We adapt



Kim Zambale
OEC Supervisor

We are ski patrollers, and we have become quite skilled at adapting. As the weather changes, we change the number of layers we wear. As the light changes, we change the lenses on our goggles. Sometimes we even change equipment for the mountain conditions. It is a skill that we have come to master.

And then, a global pandemic happens.

The OEC Instructors worked tirelessly to make sure the candidates would complete courses within changing timeframes. Then, instructors worked over the summer and fall to meet the OEC6 rollout requirements to be sure they understood the new online platform and the skill changes of the latest edition.

The OEC Instructors of the Central Division are quite remarkable. While I think that everyone already knew that, let me share with you how they have adapted.

Lessons moved from patrol rooms and lodge spaces to online classrooms. Training equipment was dispersed to instructors with candidates in their families for teaching. In-person training sessions happened in larger spaces with considerable distance between people. Instructors developed and enforced new procedures to help mitigate the spread of the virus. These included temperature checks, handwashing/sanitizing breaks before, during, and after class, and self-report surveys for each session. There are so many other examples of how instructors adapted to the changing environment. They are master adapters!!

A final example of how we adapt: The National Board agreed that to meet the 2020 Cycle A Refresher requirement, patrollers would only need to complete the online refresher modules and the online workbook modules. If you have not completed the Online refresher and workbook modules, please prioritize this so that you complete this by your patrol deadline.

And now our season is starting, and there is a lot more to consider for us to create a 'safe scene.' It will mean that our partners and we work together to create an environment that allows for our sport's enjoyment. It means that we will all need to demonstrate how we can adapt to change.

And we will!



Jim's Sportswear is a Screenprinting and Embroidery company owned by Nub's Nob Ski Patroller Jim Arlen.
Our email is; jimssportswear@gmail.com.

We offer our services to all patrols across the country.

Check out their website at:
<https://jimssportswear.com/>

Instructor Development



Marie Traska
Instructor Development

Looking out the window as the first snow covered the ground was a wonderful site. It was gone by noon, but it brought thoughts of the upcoming ski season.

This year's season will be a different and a continued challenge for the ski resorts and for the people who patrol for them. But still the NSP needs to continue to develop new instructors for all the various programs. So, some adaptations to the Instructor Development (ID) course work needs to be done. The ID course online is on the NSP website. There are several ways to complete the online course portion with a face to face session via Zoom or Google meets. Remember to keep the number small when doing the Zoom or Google meets. This an excellent way to reinforce the various forms that need to be completed.

The ID Committee for NSP has been working on a revised course for Instructor Skills Review (ISR). This online course must be completed every three years along with your Instructor Recertification (CE) which you must do every three years. The online course will be an excellent easy to keep a record of your ISR.

Please encourage your patrollers to become an Instructor for one of the various programs. The ID course can be used as one of the electives for the Senior Program.

See you on the slopes!

Treasurer Report



Marty Jarvi
Treasurer

Treasurer's reports for all the Central Divisions regions have been consolidated for a November 15th filing to the IRS. I want to thank all region and patrol treasurers for their efforts. Without your timely work we couldn't make the IRS deadlines. Continued reviews of patrol financial transactions shows that most patrols follow IRS and NSP guidelines for how to spend their funds. There will always be work to be done to make sure we operate correctly as an educational organization. But the organization can be assured that we are working toward that goal at all times. I want to remind all that expenses must be submitted timely and include a voucher and original receipts. Scanned versions are the best way to do this. At this time almost all expenses are being filed electronically making the process move efficient. Finally the Central Division continues to have a strong financial position meaning all programs planned for the upcoming year should operate without issue.

Senior Program



Jeff Jurcak
Senior Program

As you may have already heard all Central Division in person events will be canceled and moved out one year. This means that you will have to put off your plans to test during the 2020/2021 season. This small setback of putting your skills to the test may actually create a better opportunity for you. You may have planned to test for "Patroller", "Alpine Patroller" or "Nordic Senior Patroller". The opportunity at hand may be to take on both the OEC-MSP and your on-hill exams.

There are so many opportunities for growth within the NSP. The Senior Program is but one. Along with preparing for next year's exam you can look into the opportunities that await you upon your successful completion of the program. Instructorship in any discipline, Patrol leadership or region leadership positions.

To those Senior trainers and examiners I would like to mention that the Senior Manual has been revised and reduced in size and should be available by the end of December. Thank you for your patience.

I hope to see you all on the slopes very soon.

Nordic News



Jeff Schmidt
Nordic
Supervisor

Greeting, I hope this finds you all healthy.

Unfortunately, there is not too much to report on the Nordic news front. All of our face to face training has been postponed for the season. We will come back stronger and ready to get some great training in next season. Keep your skills sharp and practice on your own this season.

I will be having a virtual Nordic training session online in December, stay tuned.

In the meantime, get out on those trails and socially distance yourselves. There is no better place to be in my mind than out in the woods alone on the trails doing what we love to do.

Stay safe and I hope to see you all soon!

Skills Development Program



Jackie Bottomley
Skills Development

The ASDW Team has been working on bringing our Division the ASDW events for the December. Unfortunately, the Division leadership board has canceled all Division and Region face-to-face education and credentialing events for the 2020/21 season. The good news is that instructors, Senior Evaluators, and IT's will get a buy this season and will have to recertify during the 2021/22 season. This was a very hard decision for the board to make, but feel it is for the best for our membership to prevent exposure to infectious diseases.

Our theme this year is: **Training Tomorrow's Leaders.** Since the ASDW event has been canceled, the ASDW team is putting together some virtual training videos over the early part of the season. We will keep you informed as to when they are available for training. We are creating a FaceBook page and group that you can read about in Marty Blazskowski's article in this RPN.

Have a great winter season and feel free to reach out to me with questions or more information. Our goal is to hear from you and to help bring skill development programs and training to you virtually this season.



Tips for PSIA Certification Preparation and Success

Amy Arnold - PSIA / AASI Liaison

PSIA-C has released their COVID-19 operating procedures for the 2020-2021 season (<https://www.psia-c.org/covid-19-operating-procedures/>) As expected events and exams will look different this winter. Some of the changes include direct to snow events, hybrid exams, and more online learning opportunities. With direct to snow events, plan on booting up at your car, packing a lunch, and participating in pre-clinic discussions via webinar and/or email. All level 1 exams will be hybrid, consisting of both an online component and an on snow portion. If you are due for education credits this season and wish to avoid face to face events there are many e-learning opportunities available. (<https://www.psia-c.org/calendar/lms-guide/>)

The biggest change for this season is that the Alpine level 2 exam will be in a virtual format. Technical knowledge and movement analysis will be an online module. Teaching and Skiing portions will be evaluated by candidates submitting videos to a certification team. If you are considering testing this season please keep an eye on the website (www.psia-c.org) as more details will be coming out shortly.

New National Certification Standards will be implemented for the 2021-2022 season. Alpine and Snowboard will be the first two disciplines to roll out the new standards. The goal of the new certification standards is for a more consistent pathway with common language across all disciplines and divisions. People skills, in addition to teaching skills and technical skills will be the focus of certification. There is a great article in the current issue of 32 Degrees with details on the new standards. Also, there is a First Chair Podcast done by PSIA/AASI National Team Head Coach, Jeb Boyd and PSIA/AASI Director of Education, Dave Schuling giving an update on the new standards. Here is the link.

07.14.20: Certification Standards Update with Jeb Boyd and Dave Schuling

Since face to face Division and Region events have been cancelled this season this is a great time to expand on your technical knowledge. Take time to read the Technical Manual and Teaching Snowsports Manual. There are some very informative Youtube videos. A few of my favorites are

“Moving through the Five Fundamentals”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kT3aKmGMvRo>

“The Ankle - A deep dive into its effect on skiing”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCAq16vfb9s>

“AASI Six Snowboarding Fundamentals”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4k1BCpmeaY>

Please reach out with any questions regarding the new exam format, available resources or joining PSIA.



Social Media



Darcy Hanley
Social Media

Let's move to put 2020 in the rear-view mirror and instead focus on all of the positive things that are happening in our industry. Our Facebook page can be a great source of information, showcase accomplishments of our fellow patrollers, and industry information. www.Facebook/skinsp

I for one am headed out for some early season skiing in Colorado! Yep so I will post on FB how the reservation system works, social distancing, eating in my car and riding with only people I know on the lifts. While the way we get to ski is different this year, the snow hopefully will be glorious and lots of fun!

If anyone would like to sell gear using the FB page, I encourage you to do so. Please send pictures of the item, description, price (don't forget to include shipping). I will be glad to post on the page. If there is interest in your item, I will contact you directly. That keeps everyone safe....

Stay safe and stay well.....

Mountain Travel and Rescue



Jon O'Dell
Mountain Travel & Rescue

I hope everyone is staying safe with this Covid-19 still hanging around, who know when it's going to be gone.

I don't have much to say at this time but it's cooling off the leaves are turning. It's getting closer to ski season.

But in the mean time you still can get out take a hike in the woods but take your compass with you as you walk about refresh on your compass skills, take some bearings on any thing you see. The more you use it the more familiar you will be come with it. If you have a GPS take that along with you they are fun to play with.

Now on them rainy days where you can't get outdoors pick up a piece of rope and practice your knots. It's a great way to pass time besides watching TV.

If you get the urge to read pickup a copy of Freedom of the Hills vol.9 it is a good read. There is a lot of good info in that manual.

If after all that you may want to take a MTR class, you can start by contacting your Region MTR Advisor. He or she can and will set you in the right direction for a up coming class of Mountain Travel and Rescue.

Toboggan Supervisor Update



Tracy Buchanan
Toboggan
Supervisor

After months of planning, thinking outside of the box and suggesting ideas for the 2020 Division ASDW that coincide with COVID-19 protocol and regulations, we unfortunately had to make the tough decision to cancel all face-to-face events for the 2020-21 season.

Our team did not give up there though. We have decided to use this opportunity to focus on creating a virtual platform, providing Senior level videos for our membership to use now and into the future. We will be compiling a video library to show the standards for Senior Alpine and Toboggan in all disciplines, according to the updated Senior scorecard. Exciting things are happening!

Although there are few things better than on snow clinics, we will be utilizing this new found time as an additional opportunity to update the OET page of the Division website. Be on the lookout for the new look this coming winter!

On a last note, we will be formulating a Continuing Education course for OET instructors this season. This is still in the planning stages and we will keep you up to date once the program is ready to roll out.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions to our OET program, please reach out to me!

Awards Report



Dick Jacques
Awards Supervisor

Two months of planning, technology testing and scripting culminated in the first ever Central Division Virtual Award Banquet Saturday, September 12th. Since most Region Banquets and Awards Presentations were canceled, Division Director Mike Schons, the Division Board and staff decided to extend the Division presentations to include all unrepresented awards.

The 2020 Meeting Planning Committee and Chestnut Resort evaluated the state of COVID-19 restrictions in early July and decided that we would not be possible to hold a traditional meeting in September. The plan quickly evolved to use Zoom and one of the streaming services to conduct a virtual meeting and awards presentation. Patrols and Regions were encouraged to conduct small group “watch parties” to support and help award recipients celebrate.

Through July and August various technology options were evaluated and a final plan assembled to use Zoom Meeting for origination of the entire day’s activities with a link to YouTube so that anyone not directly involved in the meetings and presentations could “tune-in” and observe the proceedings.

The day came off relatively smoothly with hardly a glitch. 85 member sites joined the Zoom Meeting for the awards presentation and many more watched on YouTube. I have had feedback from colleagues in Eastern and Pacific Northwest Divisions that watched our program.

In total over 140 members were honored with awards ranging from Patroller Crosses to induction into the National Ski Patrol Hall of Fame. Southern Region honored everyone with “a clap” while members of Eastern

Michigan Region waved signs of congratulations, and other cheers typical of an awards banquet. In short, I think a good time was had by all and Mike's virtual Prime Rib Dinner was very airy, but delicious.

Central Division did very well in the Outstanding Awards Competition again this year. Regions submitted nominations for 44 members in 12 of the 15 National Ski Patrol Outstanding Award categories. These applications are judged in a "blind" evaluation process where all identifiable information is removed from the applications before they are sent to the Judges. Each Region appoints two members to a three-year term as a Division Judge. These members review the applications from up to 4 categories based on a National Scoring Matrix. The top two applications in each category are awarded Winner and First Runner-up in each category. The winners are submitted for National competition where they are judged in a similar fashion against applications from the other nine NSP Divisions.

This year Central Division outstanding award nominees won both Large and Small Outstanding Patrol Awards, Outstanding Instructor First Runner-up, Outstanding OEC Instructor, and Outstanding Patrol Director awards.

In other awards Central Division Members earned:

24-Patroller's Crosses

1-National Certificate of Appreciation

15-Purple Merit Stars

24-Blue Merit Stars

22-Yellow Merit Stars

16-Distinguished Service Awards

16-Meritorious Service Awards

3-Central Division Lifetime Achievement Awards

2-Leadership Commendation Appointments

12-National Appointments

4-Members were inducted into the National Ski Patrol Hall of Fame

Central Division 2020 Awards

Merit Stars

Gold Merit Star

Outstanding Instructor - OEC - Toni Thornton, Cascade Mountain, South Central Region

Outstanding PD/PR 2020 - Michael Moreen, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region

Gold Unit Citation

Outstanding Large Patrol 2020 - Schuss Mountain Ski Patrol, Northern Michigan Region

Outstanding Small Patrol 2020 - Seven Oaks Patrol, Southern Region

Silver Merit Star - National First Runner-up

Outstanding Instructor - Non OEC

Terry Spohn, Three Rivers, Western Region

Unit Citation CD Outstanding Nordic, Patrol

Blue Mound Nordic Ski Patrol, South Central Region

Purple Merit Star

Brad Carlson, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region

Christopher Budziak, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region

Christopher Ebbert, Welch Village, Western Region
Daniel Wellman, Ausblick, South Central Region
David Castle, Mt Holly, Eastern Michigan Region
David Wagner, Pine Mountain, North Central Region
Dennis Gustafson, Clinton River Area Mountain Bike Association, Eastern Michigan Region
Howard Bates, Nubs Nob, Northern Michigan Region
Mark Rikkonen, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region
Mary Burd, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Matt Stordahl, Welch Village, Western Region
Michelle Karpinski, Crystal Mountain, Western Michigan Region
Sean Krabach, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region
Sydnie Van Zeeland, Pine Mountain, North Central Region
Wyatt Feldman, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region

Blue Merit Star

Allyn Thornberry, Pine Mountain, North Central Region
Charlie Simon, Spirit Mountain, Western Region
Claire Baskerville, Spirit Mountain, Western Region
Dave Germond, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Dennis Sano, Mt Holly, Eastern Michigan Region
Ellen P. Nickel, Tyrol Basin Ski Patrol, South Central Region
Jeb Burns, Nubs Nob, Northern Michigan Region
Jeremy Chesnutt, Mt Holly, Eastern Michigan Region
Jim Ambrose, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Jon Regenold, Spirit Mountain, Western Region
Jordan Coffey, Welch Village, Western Region
Karen Brietzke, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region
Mark Durance, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Marty Moore, Nubs Nob, Northern Michigan Region
Matthew Shea, Little Switzerland, South Central Region
Mike Malanga, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Mike Moreen, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Peter Burtis, Timber Ridge, Western Michigan Region
Peter Nelson, Spirit Mountain, Western Region
Ralph Hicks, Pine Mountain, North Central Region
Seth Heikkala, Spirit Mountain, Western Region
Tim Wilcken, Welch Village, Western Region
Todd Roswold, Giants Ridge, Western Region
Zac Manor, Welch Village, Western Region

Yellow Merit Star

Andrzej Leszczynski, Mt Holly, Eastern Michigan Region
Anne Blaedow, Central Admin Patrol, South Central Region
Bradley Carlson, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region
Candy Jacques, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Chris Canu, Mt Holly, Eastern Michigan Region
Dick Jacques, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Ed Usewick, II Mt Holly, Eastern Michigan Region
James Hill, Spirit Mountain, Western Region
Jim Melander, Spirit Mountain, Western Region
Jim Ries, Welch Village, Western Region
John Sievert, Welch Village, Western Region
John Thomas, Central Admin Patrol

Lonne Petroskey, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Mark Haring, Tyrol Basin Ski Patrol, South Central Region
Mary Burd, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Meili Engebretson, Welch Village, Western Region
Michael Buczek, Nubs Nob, Northern Michigan Region
Mick Dowd, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region
Mike Schons, Central Admin Patrol
Mike Voelker, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region
NeTessa Regenold, Spirit Mountain, Western Region

Yellow Merit Star - CD Outstanding Admin Patroller 2020
Brad Carlson Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region

Yellow Merit Star - CD Outstanding Alpine Patroller 2020
Matthew Haberman Wild Mountain, Western Region

Yellow Merit Star - CD Outstanding Alumni Patroller 2020
Cleo Hagerty Powder Ridge Ski Patrol, Western Region

Yellow Merit Star - CD Outstanding Paid Patroller 2020
Genisis Peters Nubs Nob, Northern Michigan Region

Yellow Merit Star - CD Outstanding Patroller 2020
Bill Specht, , , Ohio

Yellow Merit Star - PD Also Awarded National Outstanding Large Patrol
Michael Moreen Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region

Yellow Merit Star - PD Also Awarded National Outstanding Small Patrol
Mindy Royster Seven Oaks, Southern Region

Yellow Merit Star- CD Outstanding Young Adult Patroller
Wyatt Feldman Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region

Central Division Individual Awards

Central Division Critical Care Award

Joseph Druga, Powder Ridge Ski Patrol, Western Region
Matthew Hebert, Powder Ridge Ski Patrol, Western Region
Richard Sirna, Alpine Valley East Ski Patrol, Eastern Michigan Region
Scott Danculovich, Powder Ridge Ski Patrol, Western Region
Tom Danculovich, Powder Ridge Ski Patrol, Western Region

Central Division Lifetime Achievement Award

Michael Peters, Three Rivers, Western Region
Ronald G. Palmer, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region
Ronald L. Lidell, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region

Division Directors Award

Jay Van Zeeland, Pine Mountain, North Central Region

Program Awards

Awards Program - Jeannine Mogan, Western Region
Proficiency Program - Eric Gesteland, Cascade Mountain, South Central Region
Women's Program - Kerstin Hammarburg, Buck Hill, Western Region

National Individual Awards

50 Year Lifetime Membership

Beverly St. Peter, Pine Knob, Eastern Michigan Region
Bob Zelm, Chestnut Mountain, Southern Region
Charles Martschinke, Wilmot Mountain, Southern Region
Cheryl Nicol, Mad River Mountain, Ohio Region
Darrell Higley, Alpine Valley West, South Central Region
Dave Germond, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Dave Palmer, Sundown, Southern Region
Dee Berghauer, Big Snow Ski Patrol, North Central Region
Edward Roney, Otsego Club Ski Patol, Northern Michigan Region
Erik Bayer, Grand Geneva, Southern Region
Gary Smith, Afton Alps, Western Region
Jeffrey Olsen, Wild Mountain, Western Region
John Stransky, Big Snow Ski Patrol, North Central Region
Matthew Marshall, Crystal Mountain, Western Michigan Region
Paul Kuyper, Big Snow Ski Patrol, North Central Region
Peter Kay, Coffee Mill, Western Region
Richard Maier, Granite Peak, North Central Region
Steven Beil, Big Snow Ski Patrol, North Central Region
Thomas Clausen, Big Snow Ski Patrol, North Central Region
Thomas Danculovich, Powder Ridge Ski Patrol, Western Region
Thomas Slavik, Afton Alps, Western Region
Thomas Wright, Blue Mound Nordic, South Central Region
Tom Lytle, Sundown, Southern Region

Patroller's Cross

Anthony Susnik, Little Switzerland, South Central Region
Antone Atkins, Paoli Peaks, Ohio Region
Bonnie Gruber, Devils Head, South Central Region
Boris Terebuh, Mad River Mountain, Ohio Region
Craig Banham, Buck Hill, Western Region
Danielle McPherson, Cascade Mountain, South Central Region
Dick Jacques, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region - 2
Gerald Klein, Granite Peak, North Central Region
Howard Bailey, Little Switzerland, South Central Region
Janet Rich, Coffee Mill, Western Region
Julie Davis, Welch Village, Western Region
Lacy Johnson, Cascade Mountain, South Central Region
Len Loukota, Ski Gull, Western Region
Leonard Kearney, Paoli Peaks, Ohio Region
Lyn McMurray, Blackhawk Ski Club, South Central Region
Michael Shea, Cascade Mountain, South Central Region
Nancy Thorne, Cahill Tyrol Basin Ski Patrol, South Central Region
Nathan Robson, Cascade Mountain, South Central Region
Pam Malow-Isham, Mt Holly, Eastern Michigan Region
Rob Tousignant, Welch Village, Western Region
Rodney Messner, Granite Peak, North Central Region

Samuel MacDonald, Welch Village, Western Region
Steven Konkol, Granite Peak, North Central Region

National Certificate of Appreciation

Cipher Tarrant, Tyrol Basin Ski Patrol, South Central Region

Distinguished Service Award

Bill Byberg, Devils Head, South Central Region
Cliff Carlson, Little Switzerland, South Central Region
Crystal Mountain Resort, Western Michigan Region
Engstrom David, Giants Ridge, Western Region
James L. Riedemann, Cascade Mountain, South Central Region
John Thomas, Central Admin Patrol, Western Region
Johnson Renee, Three Rivers, Western Region
Kevin T. Ketter, Little Switzerland, South Central Region
Lauri Droster, Devils Head, South Central Region
Michael J. Cahill, Tyrol Basin Ski Patrol, South Central Region
Nancy Thorne, Cahill Tyrol Basin Ski Patrol, South Central Region
Richard Hadfield, Devils Head, South Central Region
Robi Goodwin, Schuss Mountain, Shanty Creek Resorts, Northern Michigan Region
Spohn Terry, Three Rivers, Western Region
Terry Spohn, Three Rivers, Western Region
Wesley Van Nurden, Coffee Mill, Western Region

Appointments

Leadership Commendation Appointment
Kim Zambole, Grand Geneva, Southern Region
Stephanie Lent, Devils Head, South Central Region
National Appointment
Aaron Hislop, Spirit Mountain, Western Region
Deanna Rafn, Lutsen Mt, Western Region
Douglas P Mesara, Timber Ridge, Western Michigan Region
Lee Anne C. Stoddart, Wilmot Mountain, Southern Region
Matt Stordahl, Welch Village, Western Region
Mike Hare, Nordic Mt, South Central Region
Mike Malanga, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Nancy Trout, Pine Knob, Eastern Michigan Region
Paul R Tufts, Mont Ripley, North Central Region
Thomas Merrit, Little Switzerland, South Central Region
Tim Thayer, Afton Alps, Western Region

Meritorious Service Award

Al McParland, Afton Alps, Western Region
Brenda Robinson, Minocqua Winter Park, North Central Region
Carolyn DeJongh, Ski Brule, North Central Region
Charles B. Knappen, Timber Ridge, Western Michigan Region
Chelsi Low, Welch Village, Western Region
David Engstrom, Giants Ridge, Western Region
Jerry Rodeman, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Jim Hutchinson, Ski Gull, Western Region
Joseph M Matuszak, Ski Brule, North Central Region
Keith W. Robinson, Granite Peak, North Central Region
Mark Holtan, Alumni, Western Region

Mark Rafn, Little Switzerland, Western Region
Michael Walenta, West Michigan Nordic, Western Michigan Region
Mike Olson, Navarino, North Central Region
Sarah Hull, Granite Peak, North Central Region

Central Division Outstanding Awards

Outstanding Large Patrol

Schuss Mountain Ski Patrol, Northern Michigan Region
Also Awarded National Outstanding Large Patrol
First Runner up - Snow Trails Ski Patrol Snow Trails, Ohio Region

Outstanding Small Patrol

Seven Oaks Patrol, Southern Region
Also Awarded National Outstanding Small Patrol
First Runner up - Blackhawk Ski Club, South Central Region

Outstanding Nordic Patrol

Blue Mound Nordic Ski Patrol, South Central Region

Outstanding Patrol Director-Representative

Michael Moreen, Schuss Mountain, Northern Michigan Region
Also Awarded National Outstanding Patrol Director-Representative
First Runner up - David Callaghan, Mont Ripley, North Central Region

Outstanding Administrative Patroller

Brad Carlson, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region
First Runner up - Jacob Meyer, Buck Hill, Western Region

Outstanding Instructor - OEC

Toni Thornton, Cascade Mountain, South Central Region
Also Awarded National Outstanding Instructor - OEC
First Runner up – Tie
Joseph M (Joey) Bickerstaff, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region
Peter Bowers, Nubs Nob, Northern Michigan Region

Outstanding Instructor - Non OEC

Terry Spohn, Three Rivers, Western Region
Also Awarded National Outstanding Instructor First Runner-up – Non OEC
First Runner-up - Jeffrey C. Jurcak, Pine Knob, Eastern Michigan Region

Outstanding Alpine Patroller

Matthew Haberman, Wild Mountain, Western Region
First Runner-up - Robert Mogford, Nubs Nob, Northern Michigan Region

Outstanding Alumni

Cleo Hagerty, Powder Ridge Ski Patrol, Western Region

Outstanding Patroller – formerly Auxiliary

Bill Specht, Boston Mills, Brandywine, Alpine Valley Ski Patrol, Ohio Region
First Runner up - Karen Klos, Granite Peak, North Central Region

Outstanding Patroller-Paid

Genisis Peters, Nubs Nob, Northern Michigan Region

First Runner up - Debra Cook, Marquette Mountain, North Central Region

Outstanding Young Adult Patroller

Wyatt Feldman, Mt Brighton, Eastern Michigan Region

First Runner up - Macy Maier, Little Switzerland, South Central Region

Central Division National Ski Patrol Hall of Fame Class of 2020



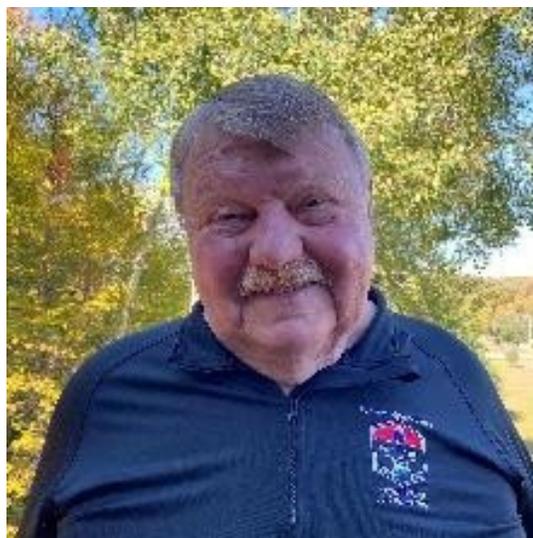
Robert Meyers Marquette Mountain
North Central Region



John (JT) Thomas, Central Admin Patrol
Western Region



Trudy Olsson Mont Ripley
North Central Region



Richard (Dick) Jacques Schuss Mountain
Northern Michigan Region

Bike Patrol

The 2020 Bike Patrol season is winding down and now is the time to look back at lessons learned and how to adapt and move forward for the 2021 season.

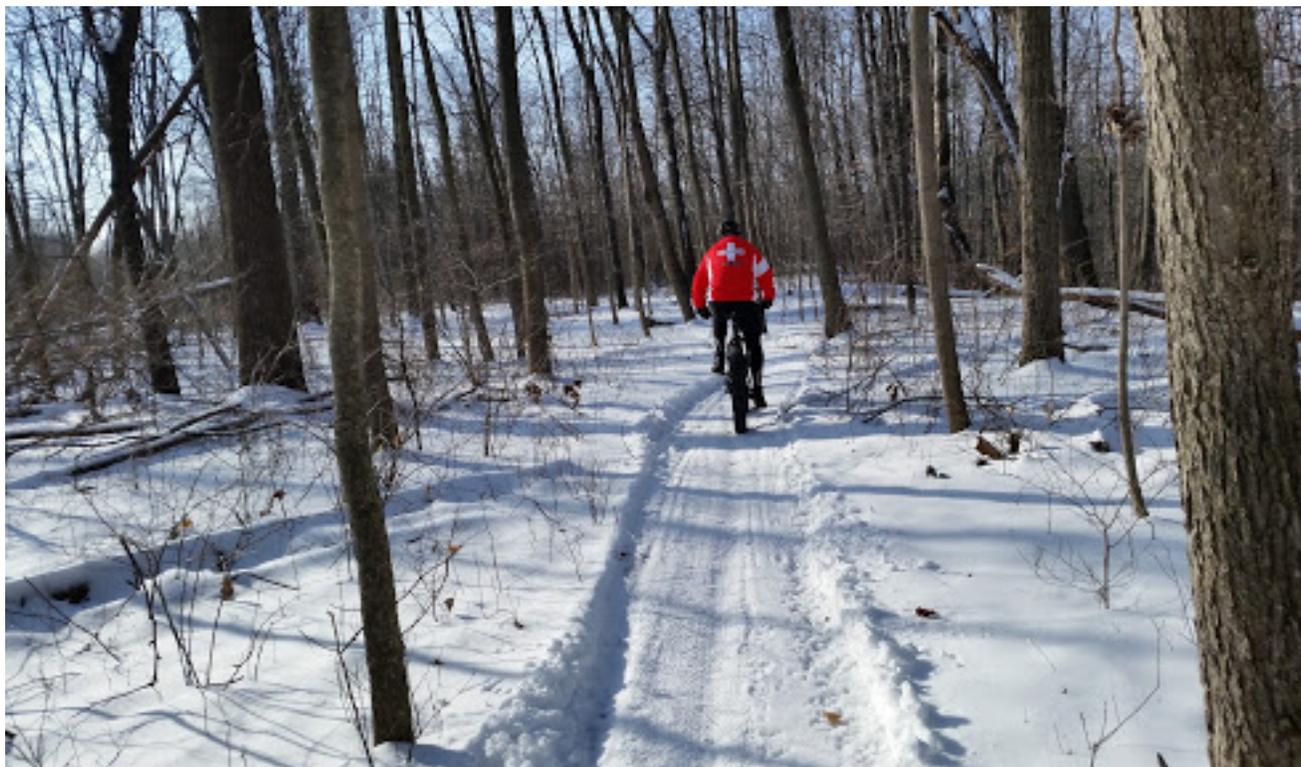
Most of the scheduled training and on-boarding of new patrollers, events, races and just riding with others were cancelled or postponed in the beginning of the pandemic. Over the summer months we were able to sift through the information, recommendations and guidance and some patrols were able to get out and to what patrollers love to do, patrol. And it was needed. If one thing we learned is cycling is still part of American society and when people are pressed to get outdoors for simple, safe and physically distant recreation, riding bikes is a great choice. Local, county, region, state and national parks not only had to recognize and deal with COVID, they also had to adapt to the rapid influx of users. Several of my local parks even had to limit entry into the parks due to reduced capacity and increased demand. This all in turn means there were more cyclists on the trails, everything from avid riders to novice and even first timers. At any given time on some trails you could see an entire encyclopedia of bicycles, if it had 2 wheels and a chain, people were riding them. This is where the Bike Patrol earns its keep. The main premise of Bike Patrol is to Assist, Educate and Inform. We Assist all trail users in wayfinding, medical response, and mechanical issues. Then the Education comes in the form of exchanging knowledge of Trail Etiquette, trailside repairs, general information about the parks, trails, trail features and skill levels. Lastly we Inform land managers or proper authorities of issues, concerns or recommendations of the trails we patrol.



The Bike Patrol season never really ends. Many patrollers do hang up their bikes and grab the skis or snowboards, but some just exchange the summer bikes for winter fat bikes. More and more resorts and

parks are adapting to the increase in winter snowbiking, even as far as grooming trails and purchasing rental fleets. If the trail users are out there, there is a need for patrollers.

If you have questions about winter bike patrolling or bike patrolling in general, please email me at bike@nspcd.org



Safety Team

As our seasons start up be sure to keep an eye on the <https://nsperves.org/> store to get your safety team kit for your region or patrol. The kits sell out fast. This year there will be buffs, stickers and more! Be sure to order yours as soon as the email from National hits your inbox!

If you haven't joined the instagram for the Central Division please follow @nspcentralsafetyteam. If you have anything your patrol is doing to promote safety please message me a photo on instagram or text me a photo at 248-767-4146 so I can share it on the page.

Some ideas other patrols have done to promote safety is to put up a tent and pass out stickers. Maybe try having a safety day at your hill to make sure kids helmets are fit properly. Another great idea is to ride along with some kids on a chairlift and ask them the safety rules of riding the chair, if they answer give them a sticker.

This year may look different but we can still have fun! Remember to smile and enjoy the great outdoors this winter!

Make sure you stay safe this year on the slopes!

The graphic features a blue background with a white border. At the top left is the 'NATIONAL SKI & PATROL SAFETY TEAM' logo. At the top right, it says 'Sponsored By: patagonia'. The main title is 'Current Safety Team Programs'. Below this, there are two sections: 'Kids on Lifts "Sit Back and Hold On"' and 'Helmet Usage'. The 'Kids on Lifts' section includes a small icon of a chairlift and text describing a joint effort between the NSAA and the NSP to promote safety for kids while riding a chair lift, listing items like posters, trading cards, coloring, and placemats. The 'Helmet Usage' section includes a small icon of a helmet and text urging skiers and riders to wear a helmet and to ski or ride as if they are not wearing one, noting that a skier's behavior has as much or more to do with the safety of the sport as does any piece of equipment. The bottom of the graphic shows a snowy mountain range.

NATIONAL SKI & PATROL SAFETY TEAM

Sponsored By: **patagonia**

Current Safety Team Programs

Kids on Lifts "Sit Back and Hold On"
This a joint effort between the NSAA and the NSP to promote safety for kids while riding a chair lift programs will include:
Posters, Trading Cards, Coloring Placemats, Etc..

Helmet Usage
We urge skiers and riders to wear a helmet – but to ski or ride as if they are not wearing a helmet. A skier's behavior has as much or more to do with the safety of the sport as does any piece of equipment

NEW NSP PROGRAM! Outdoor Risk Management

Every day, we have a chance of encountering risk; a situation involving exposure to danger. We attempt to avoid driving into other cars on the road, tripping over furniture on our way to bathroom at 2:00 am, and spilling hot coffee on ourselves in the morning. Luckily, we are fairly good at managing these situations and are able to navigate most of our days without incident.

When people visit or work at ski and bike resorts, they are exposed to more risk than daily life presents. Skiing, snowboarding, and biking down steep trails and working with chairlifts, snowmaking and snow grooming machinery have inherent risks.

Over the years, ski areas have had to increase efforts to manage risks. Regulatory organizations such as American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and Occupational Safety and Health Organization (OSHA) set and enforce standards that resorts must follow. Most states have enacted Ski Area Safety Acts which lay out legal responsibilities for ski areas and patrons. In addition, area insurance companies ask that resorts take measures to reduce risk in their daily operations.

What is Risk Management?

Risk Management is the process of identifying, assessing and controlling threats to an organization. In this case, the organizations being ski and bike resorts and the threats being injuries to staff or guests or damage to property.

How does Risk Management fit into the role of the patroller?

If asked about your role as a patroller, your answer may be: "My role is to rescue injured people and provide emergency care." While this is a very important part of what we do, it's not all encompassing. Ski area managers view patrollers as being knowledgeable in the area of injury prevention and safety. After all, we receive excellent education and training from the National Ski Patrol, whose motto is "Service and Safety".

While Risk Management may not have been something you have considered or done in the past, you should be open to learning more about it. Risk Management is something that can be practiced and addressed throughout your patrolling shift. Topics include:

- Fencing and padding
- Signage on the lifts, building, parking lots
- Management of snow and ice removal
- Education of guests on helmets, chairlifts, Your Responsibility Code
- Incident investigation
- Critical Incident Stress Management
- Snowmobile and other on-snow vehicle operations
- Understanding how to work together with other departments at the resort
- Snowmaking and Grooming
- Terrain Parks
- Bike parks and trail maintenance

Mark Petrozzi, a long time Patroller and president of AlpenRisk Safety Advisors, a company providing risk management and operations consulting services to ski areas, has noticed that resorts need to have more staff addressing Risk Management. He also knows that most patrollers are not educated or trained in Risk Management.

Mark wanted to fill this gap, so he has put together a group of patrollers and industry experts from around the country to develop a new NSP program call Outdoor Risk Management. The goal is to create a program that introduces patrollers to Risk Management concepts that pertain to ski and bike areas. The NSP supports this initiative as it continually works to make sure that its educational programs are relevant to the ski and bike areas that we serve.

The ORM program is in its infancy, and there is currently no timeline for its rollout. Be on the lookout for additional information in the coming year. Committee members will be asking for help from patrollers with expertise in the above topics.

In the meantime – Stay safe out there!

Jeannine Mogan
Outdoor Risk Management Advisor
Central Division
Jeannine.mogan@giantsridge.com

Robert Meyers
Assistant Outdoor Risk Manager Advisor
Central Division
rjmmqt@gmail.com

PSIA Update



Marty Blazkowski
NSP-C Snowsports
School

Its close to the start of ski season again. That means it is time to join the NSP-C Snow sports School again. Just click the link NSP-C Snow Sports School Central Division and sign up, It is free.

With the face to face training and certifications put on hold for the 2020-21 ski season has presented some new challenges. To help the relaying of information and ideas We created a Facebook page and group. If you have a lesson progression or idea to share, please join the group. It is easy to join, click this link for the FB page NSP-C Division Snow Sports School click this link for the group NSP-C Division Snow Sports School Group . This page and group are a place to share ideas and information that we could not at the ASDW.

This year the PSIA/AASI is offering its certification clinics. Go the web site PSIA-AASI-C Calendar of Events to check out the PSIA calendar and sign up for a clinic. Once again, we will have the PSIA/AASI awards for passing your certification \$50.00 for level 1, \$100.00 for level 2 and \$300.00 for level 3. The rules is simple

1. fill out the application prior to December 16, 2020 NSP-C Snow Sports School Central Division
2. Send me a copy of your certificate of passing
3. Go to the web site for further instructions



Women's Program



Greetings Ladies of the Central Division!

Welcome to the Central Division Women's Clinic 19.5! This year was to be our official 20th Anniversary, but we decided to dial it back a bit so next year we can do a BIG celebration when we can be F2F!

This year is throwing challenges our way every day! My first desire for everyone is that we are staying safe and healthy in this crazy time.

As winter approaches and colder temps are forecast, the wearing of masks becomes a bit more tolerable – they can keep us warm! Your ski areas are working on plans to be open and keep everyone as safe as possible. And we all want to be outdoors!

Kerstin Hammarberg Womens Program

The Division Women's Program has been developing a Plan A (business as usual), Plan B (dramatically smaller event in-person), and Plan C (online) to continue to serve the women of the Central Division. At our most recent meeting we decided to go with Plan C – more online to keep everyone safe. So, now I can share with you how we will deliver the Women's Program to the Division this season!

There is a survey for all women of the Division in the link below. Please take some time to answer the questions and let us know your thoughts.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8G2DSTW>

Our plan for you this season is to provide training online with both pre-recorded and live options. Our team is working to get things for you on a YouTube channel designed for the Central Division Women's Program. We will also be posting things on the CDWC Facebook page. If you have not already joined that group, please check it out!

What can you expect? Here are a few things we have been considering:

Short video clips:

- Skiing/riding skills demonstrated by Division staff
- Toboggan demos of specific skills demonstrated by Division Staff
- Ski/Ride tips and tricks
- Toboggan education
- Participant discussions of their experiences

History of the CD Women's Program

- Words and photos from our founding members
- What we've done in 20 years!

Online Saturday evening event

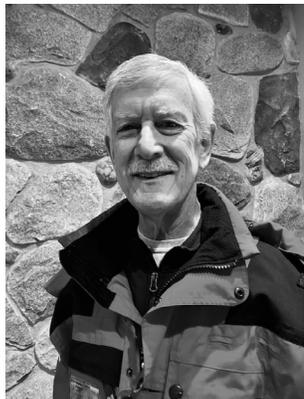
- Door prizes (yes, we have a way to do random name drawing for registered participants online!)
- Costume contest – your best or most creative ski gear while online!
- Participant commentary
- And no Women's Clinic is complete until we know what Pearl, Glitter Butt (Diamond) and the Vest have been doing over the past year! Photos will be shared!

These are just some of the things we are working on for you. Stay tuned for more details which will be sent out to your email (update your NSP page).

Participants in this year's clinic will need to register for the Saturday evening event – details will be posted on the CDWC Facebook page and emailed to all ladies in the Division once it is available.

So, in this craziest of times, we still need to gather together (online) because we are a social bunch. For your health wear a mask. For the health of others – wear a mask. And remember WASH YOUR HANDS!! Be safe and well everyone!

Division Medical Advisor



Dan Goldberger
Medical Advisor

To begin with, let me say in no uncertain terms, there is absolutely nothing good about the COVID pandemic. Seriously. Not a thing.

That said, the only good thing I can think of about COVID is I don't have to try very hard to come up with something to write about for this edition of RPN. As you know, addressing the effect the pandemic will have on the rapidly approaching ski season has been a major focus at all levels of NSP. By now, most patrols have either completed their local protocols or are putting on the final touches. We should all commend and support those members of our patrols who put in the effort to educate themselves, slog through all the guidelines, and develop protocols tailored to the specific needs of their patrols. NSP works as an organization because patrollers at the local level care enough to dedicate their time and energy to all the many things that have to happen each year in order to have a safe and successful season. And this year the challenges are substantial.

If you are like me (or even if you aren't), you are probably tired of hearing about COVID. We just want to get back to some level of normalcy in our lives. Many of us thought that, by now, the situation would be under control and we could just go to work, send our kids to school, look forward to our patrol activities, plan our travel adventures, and do all those things we enjoy with our families and friends without second and third guessing each step. Unfortunately, the warnings about a winter "third wave" from scientists and public health authorities are proving to be on target as we reach daily records of new cases. And some of the greatest increases are in the upper Midwest – which just happens to be where we patrol.

So, this season we have to accept the reality that there will be risks to patrolling. It is very important that all of us learn our local protocols and master new procedures such as screening our patients, using PPE, cleaning protocols, and so on. And we have to work together to collectively maintain our focus and follow the standards, as much of a nuisance as they may be, throughout the season. The good news is that in lands down under this ski season, where these standards were used and enforced in New Zealand and Australia, there were no outbreaks related to ski resorts despite increased cases in their nations. Evidence that safety protocols do make a difference.

Please remember that the goal of all this is to keep ourselves, our families, our fellow patrollers, and our communities safe. Hopefully, before too much longer this disease will come under control and we will be left with some skills that improve our patient care safety and patrol room hygiene. And memories that we would love to forget!

NSAA Chair Evacuation



Jim Woodrum
MSAA Liaison

As many of you know, the NSAA Chair Evacuation guide has been under updating/changes for several years. It has finally come to completion in September and is now called Aerial Evacuation Resource Guide. It is available in the NSP catalog and through the NSAA website to those member ski resorts. It is available in electronic and booklet form. It is a guide to creating the Ski Resorts own Lift Evacuation Plan.

Even though we as patrollers, in most cases, conduct the evacuation, the development, procedures and equipment selection is the responsibility of the ski resorts. The guide gives many of the details of some of the more recent OSHA and ANSI requirements for evacuating a chair lift or an aerial lift like Gondolas or Trams. It provides information on things to consider when that time comes. As some states have their own OSHA requirements that ski areas must be in compliance, this update addresses many of the updates on the ANSI B77 and Z359 standards and the Federal 1910/1926

codes. One in particular, requirements involving fall protection when practicing, refreshing, and demonstrating evacuation procedures that we use as patrollers during annual refreshers. Some of these procedures are different from what is used when doing guest emergency evacuation during a lift issue. You will also see many of the updated/changes to equipment requirements when performing evacuations. If you have questions the names of those that contributed to the final guide can be reached out to for comments.

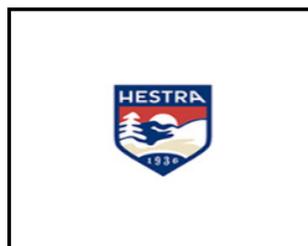
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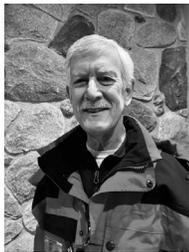
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