

## Course Development Worksheet

This form is to be maintained for all approved NSP courses and used by instructors leading the course. Some elements are required across all courses so they are not listed here, including course registration and closure, participant completion of an evaluation, IT completion of a QA form, a signed NSP release form by all participants, and use of the conflict resolution process in the NSP Policies & Procedures. Some courses may have local/divisional variants that should be documented elsewhere.

Standard Course Elements:

### CERTIFIED MODULE #6 Toboggan Handling

Program/Discipline: Certified

Suggested resources (use latest publication editions)

- National Ski Patrol, Outdoor Emergency Transportation: Principles of Toboggan Handling (#500) [www.nsp.org/member\\_resources/education\\_resources/OET/oet\\_manual](http://www.nsp.org/member_resources/education_resources/OET/oet_manual)
- Cascade Toboggan Rescue Equipment Company Inc, [www.cascadetoboggan.com](http://www.cascadetoboggan.com)
- Local Ski Area Protocols
- Association of Professional Patrollers – Study Guide [www.propatrollers.org](http://www.propatrollers.org)

**Module Objective** – Upon successful completion of this module the candidate will demonstrate extensive toboggan handling skills in varying terrain. Toboggan handling skills need to be comprehensive and suitable to travel in advanced and expert terrain, as described in the Essential Knowledge section below. Upon completion of this module, the candidate will demonstrate effective decision making and problem management, and an understanding of effective on-hill navigation and trail inspection in order to reach an accident scene under any condition, and any terrain. The program objective is to effectively manage on-hill transport of an injured person no matter the terrain and snow quality.

**General Information** – The toboggan module is condition-dependent for a quality exam. However, the Division Supervisor and their evaluation team, has the authority to use sub-optimal terrain if necessary. All evaluators will ski along with the candidates.

**This module is a Four-part evaluation consisting of:**

- 1) An empty sled run demonstrating consistent speed and navigation of terrain utilizing experience, terrain, toboggan maneuvers and ski technique.
- 2) A loaded sled run, on moguled terrain, demonstrating a consistent speed and navigation of terrain utilizing experience, terrain, toboggan maneuvers and ski technique while periodically monitoring the patient and maintaining communication with the tail rope person or rear handle person.
- 3) Tailrope or tail handles, on moguled terrain, behind a loaded sled demonstrating proper positioning, navigation of terrain using ski technique and rope-handle management. Candidate must be

in position to stop the sled in the event of an emergency. (In the event a four handled toboggan is used, the candidate will demonstrate rear control.)

4) A loaded toboggan course demonstrating consistent speed and navigation of terrain utilizing experience, terrain, toboggan maneuvers and ski technique through a set course of traverses and direct fall line decent demonstrating at least three transitions in each direction with a controlled stop.

#### **Module Structure:**

- a. **Venue** – OET evaluations will be held on Single or double black diamond trails in moguled terrain
- b. **Class size** – Reasonable discretion of the division Certified Supervisor
- c. **Instructor/Student ratio** - Minimum of 3 to maximum of 8 examiners.
- d. **IT Oversight Needs** –
  - i. Frequency/Timeframe – every exam shall have a qualified IT present for QA purposes
  - ii. The Division Certified Supervisor is responsible for the QA at every exam.

**Module Content** - Successful candidates will demonstrate the ability to maneuver a toboggan in steep, moguled terrain maintaining stability and control at all times.

#### **Resources Required:**

- a) **Examiners:** Referenced above
- b) **Helpers:** All helpers must be NSP patrollers in good standing. Helpers may be used to assist in the transportation of toboggans, or other tasks associated with the efficiency of the module. (Host area employees can assist with the transportation of toboggans)
- c) **Equipment:** Toboggans – Divisions may opt to have candidates provide their own toboggans
- d) **Educational Materials:** Listed above

#### **Instructor Credentials:**

- Certified members who have participated at the Certified Exam in an OET Examiner Capacity within the past 3 years.
- Certified members who have not examined in a 3 year period must participate in a Certified OET training/recertification module for standards calibration.
- PSIA Level-3 may be used as a resource at the discretion of the Certified Supervisor.
- Examiner Candidates (Provisional Examiners) will shadow evaluate at either a Certified Pre-Test or Certified Exam to compare scores against qualified Examiners for calibration purposes before being deemed a Toboggan Examiner. Those failing to meet the examining criteria will not be eligible to examine until they meet said criteria. Provisional Examiner scores will NOT be used as part of the final evaluation.
- Certified members at the discretion of the Certified Chair
- New evaluators must participate in a Certified OET training/recertification module for standards calibration and will serve in a Provisional status until successfully completing an evaluation and receiving feedback as to the accuracy of their assessment.
- OET Instructors who are Certified members and meet the criteria above.

## **Module requirements:** NSP Member, Alpine Patroller Classification

**Evaluation Format** - This module will be conducted on the hill in terrain deemed acceptable at the discretion of the Division Certified Supervisor and the examining team and will be held on an advanced/expert level of difficulty (single to double black diamond levels) slope using moguls where appropriate. Less advanced terrain, if used, should incorporate terrain changes that are significant so as to raise the level of difficulty versus terrain otherwise deemed sub-Certified. The examiners must assess the course in order to gauge the relative difficulty of the day's conditions and terrain. The Module lead or the Division Certified Supervisor will have the discretion to cancel testing at any time due to conditions. Candidates will demonstrate toboggan handling from top to bottom where possible. The Certified evaluation's foundation is built on complexity, scaffolding layers of variables that rely on an extensive depth of knowledge. The candidate must demonstrate their knowledge, critical thinking, creative problem solving, and toboggan handling skills across various topics included but not limited to:

- Proper checkout of the toboggan being used. Modifying or altering the toboggan by applying extra chain brakes, cravats to manage the chain, etc, by the candidate is permitted.
- Knowledge of toboggans and their applications at the candidate's home ski area.
- Approach to the rescue scene is controlled with an empty toboggan.
- Proper anchoring of the toboggan at the rescue scene. The chain brake must be used.
- Proper anchoring release of the toboggan and transition into the fall line with a partner on the tail rope or rear handles.
- Running a loaded toboggan with a tail rope or rear handle operator through a course that includes:
  - A) Fall line with course and direction changes.
  - B) Traversing.
- Running with the loaded toboggan should be controlled and steady. No excessive speed or un-safe maneuvers are acceptable.
- Know and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of different toboggans. This includes toboggans that might not be used at the candidate's home ski area.
- Demonstrate proper patient loading position for specific injuries. This may be area specific.
- Candidate should have no problem navigating the test courses smoothly and with control.
- Critique and /or demonstrate the setup and use of a simple Toboggan belay.

All NSP OET Certified exams require at least one OET IT to be present to provide quality assurance and support/guidance as per NSP standards. It is strongly suggested the OET IT be a current Certified member.

## **Scoring scale/structure:**

Successful candidates will score equal to or greater than 8 on a 1-10 scale or equivalent.

## **Reporting Requirements:**

- **Class Registration** – On line (follows normal course registration, Divisions have the option of keeping module records locally, but must register the exam if this option is chosen)
- **Course completion** – On line completed by the Division Supervisor
- **Course feedback** – Course evaluation form completed by students

- **Other** – As per local (Division) policy

**Risk management considerations –**

- a. NSP Event/Training Release Form
- b. Local Area Release Form (if needed)

There is an inherent risk involved in all instructional activities. All instructors must provide an environment that will permit anyone who is not comfortable attempting any portion of the training to elect to not participate in any activity. All participants need to sign an Event/Training release form. A copy of the release forms need to be kept for at least seven years unless division's policy directs differently.

**Conflict resolution –**

Due to the potential for disruption of an orderly process, appeals because someone does not agree with a test score on any education or skill test, while permitted, should be done with the ranking test official on the test day while all the pool of test judges are present. When an appeal is filed because someone does not agree with a test score on any education or skill test after the test has concluded and the test judges have departed, this appeal should be denied unless it can be shown by clear and convincing evidence the test result was not based on program standards but the result was due to clear evidence of bias, prejudice or a violation of the program rules and only then is an appeal to the next highest level warranted. The officer at the next highest level should obtain evidence on the issue from the test judges present during the test along with evidence from the person making the appeal. Otherwise the officer to whom the appeal is made should deny the appeal. Any appeal filed more than thirty days from the date of the test should be denied unless not to grant the appeal would shock the conscious of fair-minded patrollers.