

CT Region NSP Leadership Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 13, 2021
Zoom conference 1930-2017

Attendees

Patrol Directors: Justin Lonergan (Powder Ridge); Kenn Kostuk (Ski Sundown);

Assistant Patrol Directors/NSP Reps: Walt Behuniak (Southington); Eric Schmidt (Pahquioque); Kevin Muravnick (Powder Ridge);

Advisors: Melinda Mingus (Medical); Kathy Fitzpatrick (Safety); Jenny O'Donnell (Safety); Peter Bayer (OEC); Mike Bafuma (Awards);

Guests:

CT Region Admin: Skip Mudge (RD) Larry Hyatt (Administrative Assistant); Sue-Ellen Repeta (Pequot Section Chief); Tony Philpin (Housatonic Section Chief); Mark Pahmer (Alternate Region Director);

Absent: Randy McKee (Lakeridge); Michael Lapierre (Nutmeg Nordic); Scott Dawick (Ski Sundown); Mike Smarz (Mohawk); Ken Joyce (Pahquioque); Ron Fenner (Southington)

ACTION ITEMS FROM DECEMBER 02 MEETING

- Two Regional positions are still open (ORM Advisor and Historian); Directors should talk to their patrols and try to get interested people to step forward. There is a desire to get both of these positions filled, so please check with your patrols.
- The Patroller Achievements section on the website still needs to be updated for some of the patrols. Ideally would like to have all new candidates for the last two years recognized.
- Youth Protection Program training was a success this Fall getting all but 1 Leadership personnel by December 31 to complete the training. There are 71 patrollers certified now where there were 48 people having taken the training as of December 02.
- “Goggles for Docs” distribution update: Goggles have been distributed to every patrol except Lakeridge. Feedback was requested from each patrol on the program:
 - Sundown – goggles are in the patrol room for people to take (the pink or salmon ones aren't going fast)
 - Powder Ridge – issued them to those that wanted them, supply if needed in patrol room
 - Southington – using a checklist trying to get to everyone
 - Pahquioque – in patrol room for those who want one (the pink or salmon ones also aren't going fast)
 - Mohawk – believe they were handed out but there's still a stockpile in the patrol room
- Awards – Outstanding nominations need to be submitted to Eastern Division by March 1st; last

year there were about 50 nominations from the Eastern Division; this year they are especially looking for nominations for Alumni, Bike Patroller and Bike Patrol, Auxiliary, and Paid in addition to the more regular nominations of Patrols, Patrollers and Instructors

- Patrollers may apply for the Memorial Fund Scholarship which is awarded to those who are pursuing college degrees. More information and application can be found on NSPEast.org
- Mike Bafuma plans on getting out to each patrol in the Region to meet everyone and to bolster the knowledge about the awards available; also wants to introduce the NAG concept

ITEMS FROM THE EASTERN DIVISION BOARD MEETING JANUARY 11 (Attended by Skip)

- The Bike Program is now an official program
- The ORM Program expects to release a document in the Summer of 2022; it's an opportunity for someone to step up and be part of this launching by taking on the CT Region position
- Membership had been off 30% until December when we saw a surge in Alumni, Candidate and active Patrol memberships. Active patrolling lagging somewhat behind last year but overall membership numbers came in about 5% behind last year.
- National created a new Ski Area Relations Committee. One of their tasks is to improve relationships between patrols and area management. While all of the areas are party to the JSOU, each area does not have to sign the document. Patrol leadership will be asked to sit with area management to discuss this document to ensure everyone has a good working understanding of it.
- The handling of the COVID-19 vaccine is varied between regions in the division and in some cases even between patrols in a region; NY, VT, NH, MA and Eastern PA are active in getting the vaccines approved for patrollers as first responders; NY is having problems with its online scheduling system, ME has issues with priorities of teachers vs patrollers as first responders, Eastern PA reached out to hospitals where they send patients and ended up being an easy “sell”;
- Sue Ellen Repeta worked with Skip to get patrollers first responder status for the vaccine through Hartford HealthCare. Skip has a contact with Hartford Hospital’s Emergency Services Medical Director. An email was just sent to each patrol with information and a request to have each patrol assign a vaccine coordinator to work with local patrollers and communicate vaccine requirements to HHC ensuring vaccines would be available where needed.
- Everyone getting the vaccination will do so through the MyChartPLUS application. Patrollers individually set up their own appointment through the application. There is no ability to select either Pfizer or Moderna. The second dose can be administered at any location, but must be the same vaccine (the software will take care of that).
- There are some questions on vaccinations for YAPs as an adult signature might be needed,

also the Pfizer vaccine has been approved for 16 and older, whereas the Moderna has been approved for 18 and older.

- It was noted that you can get the vaccination if you've had Covid-19 and are asymptomatic. It was noted that these people might experience a more significant reaction to the shot.
- A question was raised if any patrols are requiring vaccinations, none appear to be, but not sure what ski area managements might require
- In-person training was revisited, especially since the spike in cases, hospitalizations and deaths; there's been no change in the Eastern Division guidelines.
 - OET, Senior, Certified, YAP have all canceled in-person activities for this year
 - Avalanche and MTR have canceled in-person activities and are doing more online training. Plans are to have participants complete all didactive work online this season so that they can focus on field work next season.
 - Nordic is doing only local area refreshers
 - YAP will provide some virtual activities such as a scavenger hunt, ski-a-thon and a live Zoom meeting where they hope to invite ski celebrities such as Mikaela Shiffrin. All patrollers, regardless of age will be invited to this event. Eastern Division's winter and spring officers' meetings will be held via Zoom.
 - It was also noted that there are a number of good online training videos at PatrollerSchool.org which is a great resource and can be used with OET training.
 - All regional programs must first be approved by the RD. Any local area in-person training has to remain local without inviting patrollers from other areas
- The Eastern Division COVID Task Force (COOPED-UP) is reconvening tomorrow (January 14), to review ED guidelines
- Sue Ellen said that Corey Clukey from Southington has registered an ICS 100 course (E202210002) open to anyone in the Region that needs to take it

Next meeting will be Wednesday February 24 at 7:30 PM.

Adjourned 8:17 PM

Respectively submitted,
Larry Hyatt