

**CT Region NSP Leadership Meeting
Meeting Minutes—Monday, November 02, 2020
Zoom conference 1904-2010**

Attendees

Patrol Directors: Bob Cassello (Alumni); Ron Fenner (Southington); Justin Lonergan (Powder Ridge); Mike Smarz (Mohawk)

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

Advisors: Melinda Mingus (Region Medical Advisor); Kathy Fitzpatrick (Safety Team Advisor); Peter Bayer (Region OEC Administrator)

Guests: Rick Knight (NBoD);

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); Ken Joyce (Pahquioque); Kenn Kostuk (Ski Sundown);

ACTION ITEMS FROM OCTOBER 05 MEETING

- Two Regional positions are still open (Historian and ORM Advisor); Directors should talk to their patrols and try to get interested people to step forward.
- The Patroller Achievements section on the website still needs to be updated for some of the patrols.
- Youth Protection Program training is still moving forward, there are now 31 people that have taken the training and have been certified (last month there were 18). There are more people that need to get certified. It is important that people who need to get certified do so and forward their certs to Skip. (Skip will ensure the certs get loaded into the Eastern Division database.) Getting people certified might help avoid lawsuits and bad press. Anyone who is in a leadership position (Division, Region or local level), IOR's, or other instructors who may be working with youth need to take the training. There is a good chance down the road that all patrollers may be required to take this training.
- Reminder that the elections for the National Board of Directors is going on now through December 1. The next and final Candidate Forum will be Wednesday, November 4 at 9 PM. Info is on both the Regional and National websites. The Division is recommending voting for John Kane, Wendy Aarnio and Bob Bernatos, and asking people to also consider Deb Endly, Donna Gardino and Byrd White.
- Goggles for Docs – as mentioned last month the Yale-New Haven Hospital has a large supply of unused ski/snowboard goggles that were donated to the hospital through the Goggles for Docs program. There are enough for about 1 per patroller in the Region. Chris Chmura, both a patroller at Southington and a nurse educator at YNHH emergency department, is accepting them on behalf of the region. We are in the process of distributing them to our patrols. Chris did a Stop the Bleed program at Powder Ridge and brought them the goggles. Sundown has also received the goggles. Hopefully the rest will be distributed in the next few weeks.
- Reminder that the Awards “Banquet” video has been loaded on the Region website.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Safety Team

- The National Safety Kits are about finished, and hopefully will be available in early December. After having issues with the ones put together last year, the ones this year were ordered from China. The new kits should be complete with new boxes.
- Due to COVID-19, and possible restrictions on many activities, there could be an increase in backcountry skiing popularity.
- The stress management study is complete and should be out within a week to regional directors with a request for them to share it with the patrols and will be available on the Eastern Division website. The study solicited input from patrol directors.
- The new Safety Tent is in, but there are still some hardware parts to finish up with.
- In lieu of their traditional ski swap, Ski Sundown will support swaps at five local shops—Bob’s Ski Chalet in Bristol and Avon, Fatty’s Skis & Boards, Colorado Ski Shop in Springfield, and Satorius Sports. Two to three patrollers were scheduled for two-hour shifts at some of the locations.
- National guidelines for CPR will follow those established by the American Heart Association during COVID-19. Sunday River shared their guidelines which were pretty much the same. If an event happens, they are recommending not to cycle rescuers if possible, or at least minimize the number of people involved in direct patient care. Also, early use of an AED might be beneficial and at times doing compressions only. Question was raised that when doing compressions, after 1 ½ – 2 minutes people may lose their effectiveness. Response was that individual risk vs benefit would have to be done and people do the best that they can. It was also pointed out that having a LUCAS automatic chest compressor would help with providing the compressions, but there is a significant expense for one of these units.
- An open discussion was held on what are the procedures to follow should a patroller test positive or become exposed to someone who has tested positive with Covid. Each patrol needs to follow guidelines established by the local health department, which are usually in line with state guidelines. Each patrol should have procedures for this, including a reporting chain of command (which usually goes from shift captain/session leader to patrol director to area management), and all patrollers need to understand these procedures.

New York Updates

- Eric Schmidt reported there was nothing new from the NYSAA, but Thunder Ridge came out with some guidelines. These discussions are ongoing and updates to guidelines are to be expected. Thunder Ridge just started selling season passes and sales are high. Speculation is that people want to get them prior to possible other restrictions or limitations. Mountain is not sure yet on how to handle groups. Right now, they can have 50% of capacity indoors and 75% of last year's peak outdoors.
- There was also a discussion about Vermont and that the Vermont governor has classified patrollers as non-essential personnel. This would significantly restrict use of patrollers coming in from “red” counties. There will be a meeting tomorrow to further explore how the state will handle this situation.

Mohawk

- Mike Smarz talked about the Mohawk On-the-Hill Refresher and chair lift evac drill held yesterday, 11/1. There was much discussion about the upcoming season and dealing with COVID-19. Mohawk will be following NSAA and NSP’s guidelines. Management is handling the buildings. Two

construction trailers are being brought on site, one for ski patrol and one for ski school. The patrol building will be used as an aid room or if necessary, as an isolation area should someone become ill. A question was raised if someone becomes sick and there are other trauma related injuries. Some thoughts are maybe the sick person should be kept outside until they are transported. Other patrols are also planning on utilizing outside tents (for people that don't have major trauma). It was suggested that we adopt a clean/dirty system similar to that used in hospitals.

Other Questions or Concerns

- A question was raised if patrols are allowing kids or family into the patrol room. Southington, Powder Ridge, Mohawk, and Sundown will only be allowing patrollers in the patrol room. A patient can have only one person with them while in the patrol room.

Next meeting will be Monday November 30 at 7:00 PM.

Adjourned 8:10 PM

Respectively submitted,
Larry Hyatt