

CT Region NSP Advisors and Leadership Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 23, 2022
Zoom conference 1832-1957

Patrol Directors: Jim Tully (Pahquioque); Jeff Barter (Ski Sundown); Randy McKee (Lakeridge); Michael Lapierre (Nutmeg Nordic)

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

Advisors: Peter Bayer (ROA); Kathy Fitzpatrick (Safety); Mike Bafuma (Awards); Bob Cassello (Alumni); Melinda Mingus (Medical); Justin Regan (Certified, OET); Becky Mudge (Senior); Larry Hyatt (Sr. OEC, Administrative Assistant); Andrew Flint (Outdoor Risk Management); Mike Gajdosik (Instructor Development); Gadi Bourla (Telecommunications)

CT Region Admin: Skip Mudge (RD); Mark Pahmer (Alternate Region Director); Sue-Ellen Repeta (Pequot Section Chief); Liz Fenner (Treasurer)

Guests: Ken Joyce (Pahquioque)

Absent: Mike Smarz (Mohawk); Justin Lonergan (Powder Ridge); Kevin Muravnick (Powder Ridge); Tom Kim (Snowboard, Ski Sundown APD); Ron Fenner (Southington); Tony Philpin (Housatonic Section Chief); John Segretta (Website/Technology); Berni Fowler (Assistant ROA); Cally Regan (Woman's); Chuck Boyd (Avalanche, Nordic/Backcountry)

ANOUNCEMENTS

- Still looking for a Region Historian.
- Send to Skip or John Segretta patroller achievements like candidates passing OEC or OET or if they attain Alpine Patroller status so it can be placed on the website. Pictures such as of a graduating class are also welcome.

AWARDS

- Mike Bafuma presented award opportunities. Nominations for the Eastern Division level “Outstanding” awards are due by March 1. Send nominations to Mike and he will review and forward it to the Division Awards Advisor.
- The Eastern Division is working on a new computerized awards system (SquadTrak). We will be Beta testing in the upcoming months. This system will enable us to electronically write, track and submit award nominations. It will reduce much of the research required in writing awards.
- Use the Word Doc template available on the National and Division websites for submitting the nominations. PDF files become difficult to amend when needed. Electronic signatures are now accepted. One option is to drop a jpeg signature into the doc file. Another option is to type “e-signed [*Your Name*]”. Type your name in any cursive font. When you do this, please send an email to Mike Bafuma stating that you have e-signed the (attached) nomination so that he can validate each e-signature on the nomination.
- Confirm names by doing a member search on the website. The name must be the one listed on the NSP database (e.g., Calvin Goldsmith vs. Cal Goldsmith; Rick Knight, not Richard Knight; Everett Fenner, not Ron Fenner, Richard Jacques, not Dick Jacques, etc.). Also make sure that the date field in the upper right of the form is entered.
- Memorial Scholarship application is due by March 31. Information is on the Eastern Division website with a link to it on the CT Region site. The scholarship is for any Eastern Division patroller who wants to further their education.

LAKERIDGE SKI AREA

- Randy McKee ridge is looking for at least two additional patrollers to help. We would like to build a small pool of patrollers that Randy could call to fill in staffing gaps due to vacation, illness, etc. They are open weekends from 10 – 4. More information is available on our website. Contact Randy or Skip if interested.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Expense reports should be sent to Liz as expenses are incurred. Reports can be found on the region website (Documents/Budgets & Other Things Financial).
- Program Reports and Budget Requests for 2022-23 season are due to Skip and Liz Fenner by April 1.
- The Region Spring Officers' meeting will be at Mt Southington on April 14.
- The Eastern Division Spring Officers' meeting will be on April 29 through May 1 (Desmond Hotel in Albany).
- Following the Spring Officers' meeting there will be the Minnie Dole NY Historic Roadside Marker and Gravesite rededication on May 2 at St John's Cemetery in Paul Smiths (upper New York state).
- CT Region Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday June 11.
- CT/WMA YAP clinic will be held at Ski Butternut on March 5.
- MTR1 and Fundamentals will be held on April 2 & 3.

OEC

- Peter Bayer requested that IORs should contact him before registering any OEC course first, so that an ITOR can be assigned. Trying to change the ITOR after a class has been registered can be problematic.
- If new candidates join before July 1, they will have to pay dues for the remainder of the year and then again at end of the year for the next year. If they join after July 1, their dues are good for the remainder of the year and for the following year, or up to 18 months.
- A few patrollers still need to complete the last Cycle B refresher (for some it is simply a matter of submitting their workbook). Peter is still working on a location for the physical hands-on makeup. Contact Peter if interested in running the makeup refresher.

INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT

- The new LMS (Learning Management System), Top Class, is just about ready. The plan is to preview the system at Powderfall, and then go live in middle of June. This should streamline the registration process and better support online training programs. Added functionality includes the ability to support division, region and local training programs in addition to national programs.
- Under consideration: moving written exams into Top Class or Navigate.
- All instructor continuing education programs need to incorporate the instructor skills review (ISR). This can be done by: (1) taking the online ISR course; (2) incorporating the ISR into the discipline-specific instructor training; or (3) having an ID teach that portion of the instructor continuing education. Mike has set up another course for those who need to take the online ISR. Course E602220002 will close on 2/28/22. He will open another for those who need it.
- Many instructors incorporate ISR in their regular instructor refresher courses. They register two

separate courses, one for the ISR and one for the discipline-specific material. Patrollers must register in both, even though they are presented as one class.

- Patrollers should check their instructor status in their online Profile.

SENIOR PROGRAM UPDATE

- Becky Mudge said that this is both her first year and the first year for the current Senior Program handling of the process and paperwork. The first candidate in this setup was processed and received their Senior status change. As one of her responsibilities is to track and assist senior candidates from the time they enter the program until their status has been upgraded and they have received their certificate and pin at the Awards Banquet, it is important that initial copies of senior applications be sent to her. She also needs to be notified when they have passed the OET and OEC modules. Once all the requirements (OEC, OET, electives, completed applications, etc.) have been completed and verified, she will complete the final paperwork and send it to the Patrol Rep with instructions to forward to National. She will also notify the Awards Advisor, OEC and OET Advisors, RD and candidate that the paperwork is on the way. She will then monitor the national database to ensure the records have been updated and notify all when this has been finalized.
- Justin Regan noted that he hadn't been requiring patrollers to submit an application until they take their final OET evaluation. This keeps the program open to those who just want to clinic.

SNOWBOARD CLINIC

- February 6 clinic was a success. 11 people attended including 3 AASI instructors and 8 patrollers (3 from Mt Southington, 1 from Pahquioque, 4 from Sundown). They will use the feedback received from the clinic to improve the program next year.

FINANCE

- This year's budget is doing well, in part due to the fact that there wasn't a lot of travel out of state this year. Waiting for the refund of the Region dues.
- Everyone needs to fill out expense reports. If expenses have already been reimbursed, reports are still needed to ensure they are properly accounted for.

PROGRAM REPORTS

- All Program Advisors must submit their annual report using the template found on our website (Documents/Budgets & Other Things Financial). These must be sent to Skip and Liz no later than April 1. Refer to last year's submission for 2021-22 goals. Make sure you use the Approved budget, not the Requested budget. 2022-23 Budget requests should reflect the program goals for next season.
- Succession planning is important for every program.

ICS REQUIREMENT

- There are 48 active patrollers in the Region (some candidates,) who have not been documented as having taken the ICS 100 course. Every patrol has some patrollers on the list. PDs are asked to look at their rosters (on the NSP website). Skip has opened a class, E202220003, which will be open till September 3. They need to register in the NSP course and submit the certificate of completion to Skip.

USE OF NALOXONE

- Ski Sundown is considering using naloxone. At this time, Mohawk is the only other patrol in the region using it.
- Mt Southington management has decided not to stock it, as Police and EMS carry it and their response time is short.

NEW CANDIDATES STARTING WITH OET

- Walt Behuniak asked what other patrols are doing with candidates who are taking OET but have not yet passed OEC and what they are allowing them to do. Mt Southington allows them to repack sleds and with training they can assist with filling out accident forms (but not finishing or signing them).
- Pahquioque just has them do training
- Mohawk only has one candidate currently, they can't do any medical support, they can help with fencing.
- Sundown doesn't have them do anything other than training.

Next meeting will be Thursday March 24, 2022 at 18:30.

Adjourned 7:57 PM

Respectively submitted,
Larry Hyatt