

CT Region NSP Advisors Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday September 21, 2022
Zoom conference 1700-1815

Attendees

Advisors: Peter Bayer (ROA); Bob Cassello (Alumni Advisor); Becky Mudge (Sr Program Coordinator); Larry Hyatt (Sr OEC Training Coordinator); Melinda Mingus (Medical Advisor); Michael Lapierre (MTR Advisor); Sue-Ellen Repeta (YAP Advisor & Pequot Section Chief); Rick Knight (Awards Advisor); Paul Katz (Assistant Snowboard Advisor); Rebecca Moran-Rubin (OET)

CT Region Admin: Skip Mudge (RD); Mark Pahmer (Alternate Region Director); Liz Fenner (Treasurer)

Absent: Berni Fowler (Assistant ROA); Chuck Boyd (Avalanche & Nordic/Backcountry Advisor); Cally Regan (Women's Program); Austin Hochstrate (Assistant YAP Advisor); Justin Regan (Certified & Sr OET Training Coordinator); Tom Kim (Snowboard Advisor); Andrew Flint (Outdoor Risk Management Advisor); Michael Gajdosik (ID Advisor); Kathy Fitzpatrick (Safety Team Advisor); Tony Philpin (Housatonic Section Chief); John Segretta (Webmaster)

CT REGION ITEMS, Review Goals, Budgets & Challenges & Opportunities

- Everyone should review their goals and budgets. At the 2022 SOM, program administrators were encouraged to consider charging a minimal fee to help support their program. MTR and Avalanche have been fully self-funded for many years and do not accept any region funds.
- Rick Knight has taken over the Awards program, Skip will send Rick the Goals for the upcoming season.
- Get back to Skip if OK to publish your 2022-2023 goals on the region website.
- Program Goals and Budgets are inter-connected.
- YAP program Challenge
 - Problem getting YAPs to respond to request to work on fund raising initiatives, specifically helping out during the Refresher days with selling lunch items. So far have Sue Ellen, Fallon and Aengus, but all three of them have to take the Refresher sessions which will cut into their time being able to support the lunch serving effort Liz's grand-daughter Paige and daughter Kristen will be helping Southington 1st day of Refresher so can help during that lunch break.
- Finance
 - We will not be using RSPVify for refresher registration, instead, Google Forms which is a better fit and will save the region about \$200 (approved, non-budgeted).
 - Staples joins Amazon in allowing us to purchase products exempt from sales tax. Products must be purchased with Eastern Division funds. The region will then reimburse the division. Please coordinate all such purchases with Liz Fenner. Dallas Coffman (ED Treasurer) is working to get the same deal with Office Depot/OfficeMax (NSP partners).

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE - Awards

- Rick is our new Region Awards Advisor. He has been working with John Segretta to upload historical awards information to our region website.
- It is important to recognize our patrollers. We need to submit more award nominations. With a couple exceptions (such as National Appointments), any patroller can write a nomination. Rick can help anyone who needs assistance. It is best to begin the process early and not wait until the end of the season. The review process takes time.

- Rick explained that there are Regional, Divisional and National awards. For some awards, (such as Outstanding awards) Regional winners are automatically submitted for the Divisional award, and then winner of Divisional award is submitted for the National award. The Policies and Procedures (which can be accessed under the Governance tab on the National website) cover many of the awards. As some applications have been updated, use the most recent version of the form. Some of the awards discussed are:
 - Patriot Awards – for patrollers who have serviced in the armed forces, the requirement for serving in an active combat zone has been removed
 - Outstanding Awards – there are many categories, only 4 of which were submitted from the Eastern Division and then only 1, Instructor, had 4 submittals
 - National Awards – some briefly covered - National Appointments, Distinguished Service Awards, Merit Stars (Purple, Blue, Green, Yellow), Patroller's Cross
 - Certificates of Appreciation – Regional, Divisional, and National
 - Hall of Fame – Region, Division and National
 - Division – 21 different awards, 12 no one was submitted for this past season

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – Nordic and Avalanche

- The Avalanche, MTR, Nordic Backcountry Instructor Refresher is held every 5 years at Winding Trails and was held this year on September 17th. Some 60 instructors attended. Stations were run from noon to about 5:30 PM and included topics from sled building to avalanche. Speakers from all over came and topics included the new LMS.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – YAP Program

- This year's summer YAP OEC program was updated based upon lessons learned from the first such program run in 2021. Next year's program will benefit from lessons learned this year. One goal is to complete the course by September. Zoom classes will begin in spring, and as soon as school ends, they will shift to 2 hands-on classes a week, wrapping up with a 2-week prep for the final evaluations. This year, issue arose due to candidates missing several classes. Stricter attendance requirements will be in place next year.
 - Last weekend, four candidates were evaluated. All were successful. Three of whom had to re-test one or two stations.
- The upcoming YAP schedule for the season includes
 - An assessment workshop on Saturday December 10th (still looking for a host site)
 - A joint session with Western MA at Butternut for OEC & OET March 4, 2023 (tentative date)
 - YAP seminar at SMUGGS weekend of March 10-13, 2023
- With the help of Virginia Bruce, recruitment posters, stickers and other handout items were created and are planned to be distributed to schools and other locations.
- Currently, we have 13 YAPs in the Region, representing Powder Ridge, Pahquioque, Mohawk, Sundown and Southington. Sue-Ellen has had some difficulty getting Patrol Reps to respond to her inquiries.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – Sr OET Program

- Tentative dates for the upcoming season dates will be placed on the region website. Initially all the dates are Sundays, but some could be moved to Saturdays.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE - ROA

- OEC Enhancements – since OEC Enhancements can be used as Sr electives, planning on coordinating with the Sr OEC program. Tentative dates are 12/4 and 12/17. Will be contacting Powder Ridge and Pahquioque about hosting clinics.
- OEC Refresher (Oct 23 & 30) – much credit is due to Berni for developing and implementing a new, streamlined and simplified registration process. All attendees, including IT's and Instructors should respond to the eblast to register and sign liability release form prior to attending. Out of Region patrollers will pay \$15.
 - Continuing Education Recruitment - Berni is working on a newsletter and signup posters.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE - OEC Module of the Senior Program

- NSP is planning on updating the Sr OEC program, but likely won't happen this coming season so this season will be similar and using same documentation as the recent past. One thing planning to slightly alter is the scenarios that will be practiced early in the clinics prior to the arrival of snow. Because candidates have to have scenarios on snow to gain signoffs, it is planned to expose the candidates to scenarios that are not in the used for signoff scenarios (Appendix G in the Ski Patrol Manual) that could contain instances similar to those that they could see in real life or on the final evals (example - 2 patients with injuries).
- Plan is to have an Orientation, 6 Clinics, and the Final Evals. More clinics can be scheduled if it is found the candidates would benefit from the extra training. Initial plan has the Orientation 2nd weekend in November and the Final Evals the first Sunday in February (5th). There is an attempt to avoid conflicts with other programs for Clinics and the Final Evals, but with all the other activities, some conflicts may be unavoidable.
- Peter mentioned that an OEC TE Clinic needs to be scheduled. He will look to schedule a meeting with Paula, Skip, and Larry to plan the Clinic.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE - Alumni

- Alumni Day will be February 28, 2023 at Sundown. Anyone planning on going to please let Bob know.
- As season approaches, anyone thinking of going Alumni this year please let Bob know. Bob has to know to make sure the person will be properly registered.

NEW BUSINESS – None

Once the season is underway, some Advisor and Leadership meetings may be combined. Next Advisors meeting will be Monday, November 7, 1900

Adjourned 8:15 PM

Respectively submitted,
Larry Hyatt