

CT Region Advisor Meeting
Meeting Minutes—Tuesday, December 15, 2021
Zoom conference 1832-1952

Attendees

Advisors: Peter Bayer (ROA); Becky Mudge (Sr Program Coordinator); Larry Hyatt (Sr OEC Training Coordinator); Melinda Mingus (Medical Advisor); Tom Kim (Snowboard Advisor); Andrew Flint (Outdoor Risk Management Advisor); Michael Gajdosik (ID Advisor)

CT Region Admin: Skip Mudge (RD); Mark Pahmer (Alternate Region Director); Tony Philpin (Housatonic Section Chief); Liz Fenner (Treasurer)

Absent: Michael Lapierre (MTR Advisor); Chuck Boyd (Avalanche & Nordic/Backcountry Advisor); Cally Regan (Women's Program); Paul Katz (Assistant Snowboard Advisor); Mike Bafuma (Awards Advisor); Austin Hochstrate (Assistant YAP Advisor); Kathy Fitzpatrick (Safety Team Advisor); Justin Regan (Certified & Sr OET Training Coordinator); Sue-Ellen Repeta (YAP Advisor & Pequot Section Chief); Steve Goldblatt (Medical Advisor); John Segretta (Webmaster)

CT REGION ITEMS

- Mohawk has started operations. The rest of the areas hope to be running within a week or so.
- Send Skip or John Segretta any updates or additions for meetings, clinics or evaluations. Having all events on website may help to avoid conflicts.
- There is currently a conflict with the Sr OEC Final Evals and the Snowboard Clinic. Our goal is to minimize any potential scheduling conflicts among regional events so that patrollers are not faced with choosing one event over another. Next season, we will try to get all program advisors to better coordinate calendars before dates are finalized and posted on the region calendar. The group agreed that using Google Docs to help everyone better understand how all programs work, along with one or more Zoom meetings might reduce such conflicts, thereby increasing participation for all programs. Local area OEC courses could also benefit. Candidate OEC evaluations require a lot of resources, and many patrols rely on assistance from other ski areas.
- OET Instructor Refresher is being postponed as Mohawk only has one trail open. In addition, OET Instructor certifications will not expire at the end of April, allowing refreshers to be held when areas are fully open. There may be other updates after his weekend at Killington.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – Medical Advisor

- The Medical Advisory Group has been very active, meeting almost monthly. Two topics being discussed are the efficacy of pelvic binders and the practicality of log roll v. BEAN lift for Pts with suspected pelvic injuries. Many patrollers will perform a log roll to check the spine anyway. Melinda emphasized that these are topics under discussion. We must continue to train based upon current scope of training (OEC 6).
- The early use of AEDs is a good way to go. Patrols should consider where these are located at their areas to facilitate access to them.
- Guidelines are still to mask up when working with patients and have patients wear masks as well.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – Instructor Development (ID) Program

- Mike reminded all instructors to make sure they fulfill all requirements for renewal every three years. Minimum requirements include (1) one discipline-specific continuing education course per discipline;

(2) one instructor skills review clinic (these are sometimes run in conjunction with the discipline-specific course); (3) teaching evaluation by an Instructor Trainer in each discipline; (4) actively teaching in each discipline, during the three-year cycle. Mike has set up a number of courses for instructors who need the instructor skills review course. These courses will close 12/31/21 This is an online course (NSP Instructor Skills Review for Continuing Education).

- As of the meeting, 30 instructors have registered and 20 have sent Mike their completion certificates. Skip will send out lists of those needing to refresh to program advisors and PDs.
- All new instructors (first time to any discipline) must complete the ID course prior to beginning their instructor mentoring phase.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – ROA

- Plan to close out the Fall OEC Refresher courses this week.
- Sundown will be running a 2018 and 2019 makeup refresher this month. There was also a 2020 make up refresher, just recently closed. Peter is planning a 2021 makeup refresher which will probably be at Sundown in January. If an OEC Technician is not up to date with all refreshers, they cannot provide care. PDs should be aware.
- Local areas are finishing up their fall OEC courses. Sundown has some retests to finish. Southington is complete. Powder Ridge will run their skills evaluations on 1/5 and then join forces with Mohawk for their scenario evaluations 1/8 (Mohawk will run both skills and scenarios on 1/8. Pahquioque is TBD, probably in January.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – OEC Module of the Senior Program

- The Sr OEC module is underway, just having finished the 3rd clinic. The next clinic is scheduled for first Sunday in Jan (tentatively at Powder Ridge). The Final Evals are scheduled for Sun 2/6 at Southington.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – Safety Program

- New safety kits will be available by the end of January (delayed due to supply chain issues). Last year's kits (also delayed for the same reason) were received the end of March. The NSP online store will have the 2020-2021 kits for sale tomorrow (12/17/21) at a reasonable price.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – Snowboard & OET Programs

- There is a growing list of people interested in the Snowboard Clinic.
- Tom and Paul appear to be unique in the Eastern Division in that we may be the only region with a Snowboard Advisor. They will be in touch with Mike Porter, the Mt Snow Patrol Director.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – Sr Program

- Only one or two people need to forward their approved and signed application form. Will reach out to Justin to make sure we have everyone.

ADVISOR ROUNDTABLE – ORM Program

- The Outdoor Risk Management program is still in development with an expected roll out in summer or fall 2022. Andrew provided a quick overview and timetable to program development and rollout.

- One area of concern for Connecticut patrollers is how § 29-212 Assumption of risk of injury caused by hazards inherent in the sport of skiing, would be applied to us as skiers. In part this says that skiers shall assume the risk of and legal responsibility for any injury ... (6) collisions with any other person by any skier while skiing, *except that collisions with on-duty employees of the ski area operator who are skiing and are within the scope of their employment at the time of the collision shall not be a hazard inherent in the sport of skiing.* (emphasis added). One of the cases cited was one in which a Mohawk Ski Instructor collided with a guest. The ski area and the instructor were both named in the lawsuit.
- Does this apply to only paid employees or does it also apply to volunteers? Our JSOU states that we are “agents” of the mountain. What does that mean in this regard? Skip will contact Jonathan Ruhe, our region’s Legal Advisor for more clarification.

Next meeting – Wednesday, January 19, 1830

Adjourned 7:52 PM

Respectively submitted,
Larry Hyatt