

CT Region NSP Leadership and Advisors Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday December 17, 2024
Zoom conference 1830-1953



Patrol Directors: Eric Schmidt (Pahquioque); Randy McKee (Lakeridge); Mike Smarz (Mohawk); Justin Lonergan (Powder Ridge); Michael Lapierre (Nutmeg Nordic, MTR);

Assistant Patrol Directors/NSP Reps: Kevin Muravnick (Powder Ridge);

CT Region Admin: Skip Mudge (RD);

Advisors: Berni Fowler (ROA); Robert Clark (Assistant ROA); Rick Knight (Awards); Larry Hyatt (Sr. OEC Training Coordinator, Administrative Assistant); Bob Cassello (Alumni); Melanie Muszynski (Safety Team); Michael Gajdosik (ID);

Guests: Paula Knight (Natl OEC Pgm Asst, ED OEC Asst Supervisor)

Absent: Jeff Barter (Ski Sundown); Ron Fenner (Southington); Walt Behuniak (Southington); Jake Worstell (Pahquioque); Tom Kim (Ski Sundown, Snowboard); Liz Fenner (Treasurer); Kenn Kostuk (Housatonic Section Chief); Greg Bruhin (ARD); Sue-Ellen Repeta (Pequot Section Chief, YAP); Justin Regan (Certified, Sr OET Training Coordinator); Kathy Fitzpatrick (Div Safety Team); Steve Goldblatt (Medical); Roger DelGiorno (Bike); Neil Glagovich (Sr Program Coordinator); Andrew Schuch (ORM); Cally Regan (Women's Program); Paul Katz (Snowboard); Chuck Boyd (Avalanche & Nordic/Backcountry); Jonathan Ruhe (Legal); John Segretta (Website, Technology); Dan Miller (Elections); Gadi Bourla (Telecommunications)

MEETING, REGIONAL, DIVISIONAL AND NATIONAL

- There are three open regional positions
 - Election committee member – there are elections this Fall for RD and ARD and next Spring for a Section Chief. If anyone is interested, please contact Skip or Dan Miller.
 - Historian – People have volunteered to assist the Historian. We need someone to lead the effort.
 - Assistant Awards Advisor – Please contact Rick Knight.
- Region Website
 - Advisors and Patrol Directors should review the website and calendar to ensure all information is up to date and correct. Contact Skip if there are any updates.
 - Forward names of candidates/patrollers who have:
 - Passed OEC, OET and/or become Patrollers, Alpine Patrollers.
 - Photos are encouraged.
- The Snowbound Expo was held in Boston – The Eastern Division hosted a booth. Several thousand people visited, from 10 years old to 80. We are hoping that national will provide financial support next year.

PROGRAMS

- Safety
 - There were 3 showings of the Warren Miller movie event in CT, 1 at Southington and 2 at Mohawk.
 - The Eastern Division set up the safety tent at the FIS race at Killington during the last weekend of November. Melanie Muszynski, Andrew Schuch, Dave Sacchitella were among those who attended and supported the event.
 - The CT Region team is out of swag to hand out at events and will look to purchase more. January is Safety month so will be looking to reach out to Safety Captains to plan events.
- Bike Patrol
 - National has sent a follow-up survey. Patrol Directors should reply if they have not done so yet. It is important to identify all bike patrols in the system, particularly those functioning as part of a ski patrol.
- YAP
 - The YAP Summit program will be March 7-10 at Smugglers Notch. Cost is \$475. Scholarships are available but deadline to apply is February 3, which may be moved up.
 - Southern Vermont will be hosting a clinic at The Hermitage on January 26. Western MA and CT have been invited to participate. Lunch and lift tickets provided.
- OEC
 - About 281 patrollers completed both the online and in-person portions of the Fall OEC Refresher. Delinquency reports have been sent to patrol directors. Patrols are encouraged to reach out to each other to join resources for makeup refreshers. Powder Ridge, Mohawk and Southington may need makeups.
 - A quick look at the numbers indicates about 350 active patrollers in the Region including Alumni. It also looks like 133 Mountain Hosts and 139 Bike Patrollers for a total of about 650.
 - We have about 32 new OEC technicians in the region.
 - The new Hybrid OEC course looks very promising. National is working on giving IORs the ability to monitor student progress in the online portion, as we had with Brady and JBL.
 - There may be a round table this Spring to discuss the new Hybrid course prior to next season's start of the OEC classes.
 - Paula mentioned that the new Modified Challenge class for EMTs, AEMTs and Paramedics is available. They must demonstrate competency in 46 OEC skills. No written or practical exams.
 - Some patrollers need more than we can provide at our annual OEC refresher. ITs need to identify these patrollers and notify the patrol directors who needs additional training. This could be done through dedicated training at the patrol, participation in on-going OEC classes or enhancement clinics.
 - ITs spend a great deal of time observing instructors at the refresher. These observations should be accomplished during candidate OEC training and enhancement clinics whenever possible.

- The OFC course has been updated. Skill sheets have been added and the “written” exam is now online. One potential issue regarding the online exams is that many hosts have difficulty with technology, and some do not have access to a laptop or tablet. Paper and pencil exams would be preferable for these people.
- ID
 - The ID program has updated its presentation on the National website and Mike Gajdosik discussed these. 10-12 patrollers have expressed interest. There will probably be a face-to-face module in April.
 - All instructors should be familiar with The Instructor Administration Training & Toolkit in the Center for Learning.
- MTR
 - 7 patrollers are interested in the MTR class this year. It is expected that the online Hybrid portion will take people 4-5 weeks to complete. The in-person portion is scheduled for February 15-16. Mike Lapierre is finalizing preparations for the class.
- OECMSP
 - The 2 candidates are doing well in the clinics. Unfortunately, the clinic this past Sunday, 12/15, did not have enough helpers to run two concurrent scenario stations. Therefore, have started to reach out individually to people to hopefully have enough attendees at the upcoming clinics to run the 2 concurrent scenario stations. The remaining scheduled clinics are Sunday 1/5, Saturday 1/11, Sunday 1/26 and the Final Evals are scheduled for Sunday 2/2.
- Alumni
 - Nothing definitive on the Eastern Division Alumni Day, possibly at Stratton.
 - Region Alumni Day is still scheduled for March 4th at Sundown, need to get confirmed. Expect cost to be the same as last year.

PATROLS

- Mohawk
 - Things going well. This Friday will be Day 7
- Lakeridge
 - They are looking for a new Recreation Manager (contact Skip if you might be interested).
- Powder Ridge
 - All candidates in their OEC class passed.
 - Getting ready for the Winter operations.
- Nutmeg Nordic
 - Without natural snow on the ground nothing can get started.

Skip will send out inquiries for best times when next meeting will be held.

Adjourned 7:53 PM

Respectively submitted,
Larry Hyatt