

Eastern Pennsylvania Region Stated Meeting Minutes November 10, 2019



Section Chiefs and Region Staff Meetings From 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

Sharon Friedel, Region Director, called to order the regular meeting of the National Ski Patrol Eastern Pennsylvania Region at 9:45 AM on November 10, 2019 at Blue Mountain Ski Area.

A moment of silence was held for Dr. Walt Larkin (Spring); Dr. Ted Kowalyshyn (Shawnee); Bill Phaneuf (Liberty); Frank Mason (Ranchlands/Alpine); and Sheldon Langer (Masthope).

A motion was made by Tony Alber and seconded by Bobby Morgan to approve the Minutes of the April 13, 2019 meeting; motion carried.

SECTION CHIEF REPORTS:

Northern - Bobby Morgan

- **Montage:** Hired new lift mechanic; lifts have all been serviced; held two lift evacs.
- **Big Bear at Masthope:** Online course successful; trying to increase their patrol size; need pro patrollers.
- **Elk:** Three adult and five YAP candidates; YAP program; replaced windows in bar; new snowmaking gun; new mountain manager; one of the original Elke patrollers, Mike Senio, retired after 60 years.
- **Hideout:** Retention is difficult; have six patrollers and two secondary patrollers; new magic carpet; received donation for one combi board; CPR/OTH is next weekend; new (used) groomer; added a warming hut.
- **Upper Delaware Nordic:** Have 5 patrollers; looking for people; have a lot of fun.

Pocono - Tony Alber

- **Saw Creek:** Joint training with Ranchlands; two new patrollers; management changes.
- **Big Boulder:** One candidate; expecting three more this season; plan to open next week.
- **Camelback:** Bought by KSL; all patrollers required to go through interview/background checks/drug testing; new SnowCat with depth viewer; 377 new snowguns; future lodge renovations and new lifts; two new SOEC; three new OEC instructors; all SOET candidates passed last year.
- **Shawnee:** No candidates; five patrollers retiring; new SnowCat; welcomes additional patroller help.
- **Ranchlands:** Joint training with Saw Creek; OTH completed.
- **Jack Frost:** New patrol management team; two adults and five YAPs passed OEC final practical; presented two 50-year service awards; issues with NSP profiles; used sandbags instead of people in lift evac.

Southwest - Jay Thompson

- **Roundtop, Liberty, and Whitetail -** Purchased by Vail and going through new changes; new risk manager; lift evac will be changing; 1Risk software may be replaced; Liberty had three 50-year service awards; considering YAP program at Whitetail; held SOEC clinic last year; patrollers required to do Mountain Ops training online; 75% complete with ICS-100 requirement; low angle rescue held at Whitetail; OEC enhancement course at Liberty; new patrol headquarters at top of Whitetail.

Central - Inese Jardine

- **Spring Mountain:** All is good; nothing to report.
- **Blue Mountain:** Finished pre-season training; new trail that requires natural snow; 75-80% complete with ICS-100 requirement.
- **Valley Forge:** No report.
- **Bear Creek:** All is good; opening as usual; eight new patrollers; 95% complete with ICS-100 requirement; plan to hold EMR to EMT bridge course.

- **Eagle Rock:** Had a feasibility study; private ski area; open on limited basis - Saturday, Sunday, and Monday holidays; no night skiing; new groomer; 41 new snowguns; working on infrastructure.

A motion was made by Tom Davis and seconded by Greg Mohr to approve the Section Reports.

Updates on OEC - Flo Rutherford: OEC instructor and IT updates have been sent to Division; instructors should check their own profiles for accuracy; OEC 6th publication date is May 2020; it's in final review; price is @\$100; expect changes in terminology, O2 delivery, spinal motion restriction; announce with a rollout program.

National Board Update - Bob Scarlett, National Board Member Thanked everyone for their vote in last year's National election. Eastern Division is supporting Paul Kelly and Liz Dodge in this year's National election. EPA Region is very important to voting success. NSP has about 32,000 members and is embracing new programs and types of patrols. Working on a lot of legal at National; Code of Conduct; NSAA; YAP Child Safety Policy; Chair of By-Law Oversight Committee. One concern has been the consolidation of the ski areas; recent meeting with Vail Resorts to discuss "who we are" and "why we're important" but also to listen to their concerns. National can provide material if you need help at your area with new ownership or management. Rich Messina thanked Region Legal Advisor Tim Kelly and National Board member Bob Scarlett for their assistance with Camelback and KSL.

PROGRAM UPDATES:

Treasurer/Finances - Jack Bogdon/ Ken Reese Jack Bogdon gave report on his tenure as Treasurer; welcomed Ken Reese as new Treasurer; outlined transition process; investment balance @\$56,700 and operating funds @\$4,600; dues will start to come in during November. Ken Reese served two terms as Camelback Ski Patrol's Administrative Officer; has revised the chart of accounts to mirror the 990 format; will continue to use BillPay for expense reimbursement. Ken outlined his objectives as Region Treasurer: open communications with quick response; expense voucher submission efficiency and speedy reimbursement; and prompt completion of 990s. Ken's contact information is on the EPA website.

Secretary - Nancy Mayberry Nothing to report.

Alumni - Jim Cahill - About 350 Alumni in EPA; working on getting a contact list of all EPA Alumni. Plan to poll them about what they're interested in doing, which programs they would like to participate in; and if they would be interested in organized ski trips. Alumni have always enjoyed being comped at ski areas; not sure if that opportunity is still available.

Avalanche - Rich Hartman Encourage patrollers to attend Avalanche courses; trying to set up a course at Jack Frost.

Communications - Greg Mohr FirstNet/AT&T program is available for NSP members. This came about due to September 11th communication failures. Patrollers can get FirstNet phones; phone plan is \$39.99/month for unlimited services. Additional features being considered for release are EKG leads and sonograms. Channel 14 gives precedence to FirstNet users. This may change the way patrollers communicate in the future. Greg will share information when he receives it. Narrowbanding has caused an issue with "fringe;" adding repeaters or updating existing repeaters may be necessary.

Certified - Sharon Friedel for Brant Maley Exam being held at Sugarloaf, ME, March 19-22, 2020.

Elections – Sharon Friedel

- Delegate at Large, Ryan Molloy, Term 1
- Pocono Section, Tony Alber, Term 2
- Central Section, Inese Jardine, Term 3
- Region Director, Sharon Friedel, Term 1

Instructor Development – Brent Watts Class scheduled for December 15, 2019 at Spring Mountain; would like to schedule another one end of March/beginning of April. Instructor candidates can start the mentoring program prior to taking ID class.

Legal – Tim Kelly Discussed MN case where ski instructor, on trail with 6 year old student, was injured by snowboarder who went off a jump. Appellate court said getting hit by a reckless snowboarder was not an accepted risk of skiing. Similar case ten years ago at Seven Springs; a drunk skier injured another skier; also ruled as not an accepted risk of skiing.

MIST – Wolfgang Boernert Program advisors should update website pages with a focus on marketing each program. Registration for OEC refreshers was opened late this year; do not go to National with questions on EPA Region registration process. Plan to open registrations earlier next year. Some patrollers signed up for several OEC refreshers; caused a problem with head count/staffing; suggested a \$10 registration fee; patrollers who don't show up could be charged; patrollers who attend would not get charged. It's easy to cancel a registration through EventBrite or by emailing Wolfgang directly.

MTR – Lou Marchi This year's event is November 23-24, 2019 at Jack Frost; about 22 registrants so far. MTR course includes ICS 100. Looking for MTR venue for next ski season.

Nordic – Tom Kneiss - Nordic doesn't run a specific program; issue is getting nordic patrollers; always looking for secondary patrollers; requirements are less. Contact Tom if interested in learning more.

OEC – Dennis Zercher Refreshed 249 instructors + 996 patrollers = 1,245 people through 14 refreshers. Cost of equipment and administration expenses are becoming more expensive. Consider charging to attend refreshers or increasing dues to cover the costs. Some refreshers fell short with OEC instructors; OTH refreshers effected number of instructors available; next year's schedule will be on EPA calendar shortly. Reducing number of instructor refreshers to three in 2020; considering reducing number of patroller refreshers. Dennis thanked Wolfgang, Sharon, ITs, and instructors for a successful refresher season.

PA License Plate Program – Howard Rosenthal License plates are now available for motorcycles and trucks. Some license plates are delaminating; there is no warranty; have to buy new plate to replace delaminated one. There are some delays in the program that are out of our control. Profit to-date: \$700. Looking for an assistant to have a succession plan in place.

Patroller School – Sharon Friedel for Matt Nebzydoski Elk Patroller School is January 25-26, 2020; registration opens Thanksgiving morning at www.patrollerschool.org.

Pro Program – Terry Ownes There is no money generated by this program; there has been a disruption with changes in ski area management and knowing which pro patrollers will be remaining.

Risk Management – Sharon Friedel for Ed Kupillas No Report.

Safety - Sharon Friedel for Jim Policelli Safety kits are available at NSP store. Cost is \$25 kit and \$25 for shipping. Get your order in now; kits are limited.

SOEC - Flo Rutherford SOEC test dates are February 29, 2020 at Round Top and March 8, 2020 at Spring Mountain. Two SOEC clinics tentatively scheduled instead of three; check EPA calendar.

SOET - Ron Helm SOET test will be March 7, 2020 at Elk. A group of TEs and ITs are interested in helping with clinics at patrols; let Ron know if you'd like to schedule a clinic. OET paperwork continues to be a problem. Regional TE re-certifications may be broken down in to three groups.

YAP – Megan Eckhart Region planning a YAP ski day tentatively on December 30, 2019 at Blue Mountain; kids 13+ are invited. Region YAP OET and OEC event is March 1, 2020 at Blue Mountain; kids under the YAP age can still attend and watch. Division YAP event at Smuggs on March 13-16, 2020. There are about 30 YAPs in the Region. Child protection policy being developed by National.

Women’s – Inese Jardine Women’s program will be held at each Patroller School. Possibly holding another event on March 8, 2020 at Montage. Visit patrollerschool.org for a schedule of other clinics.

Open Position: Elections – if interested, notify Sharon.

Awards – Steve Buzzard; David Marks

Steve is retiring from this position; David is the new Awards Advisor. Each patrol should have its own Awards Advisor. Would like to see more Merit Star awards and more nominations for outstanding awards.

Outstanding National Nordic Patrol:

Valley Forge Nordic

National Appointment:

Joe Asher - Jack Frost

Purple Merit Star:

Peter Silberman – Bear Creek

Blue Merit Star:

Marci Krauth – Bear Creek

Tom Newpher – Bear Creek

Steve Sevi – Bear Creek

Melissa Bubbenmoyer – Bear Creek

Yellow Merit Star:

John Doremus, Bear Creek

Nancy Mayberry, Camelback

David Olsen – Jack Frost

Chuck Fernald – Roundtop

Patroller’s Cross:

Rebecca Toman – Roundtop

Steve Watkeys – Roundtop

Gregg Fetterman – Roundtop

Robert Shultz – Jack Frost

James Oswald – Spring Mountain

Eastern Division Patriot Star:

Salvatore Caruso – Big Bear at Mast Hope

50-Year Service Awards:

Earl Straub - Jack Frost

Ed Csongradi - Jack Frost

Ron Guse - Camelback

David Hassler - Camelback

Tom Shanley - Liberty

Chris Fraser - Liberty

50-Year Service Awards (Continued):

Steve Marshall - Liberty
Bob Starr - Liberty
Tom Buckwalter - Liberty
Pete Kauffman - Bear Creek

EPA Region Certificate of Appreciation:

Jack Bogdon, Camelback
Steve Buzzard, Roundtop

NATIONAL, DIVISION, REGION UPDATES - Sharon Friedel

National:

NBOD – Elections end December 2, 2019.

ICS 100 - Due December 31, 2019.

Eastern Division:

Elections - The Eastern Division recommends Paul Kelly and Liz Dodge for the National Board. Patrol Directors should share this information with their patrollers.

EPA Region:

Registrations – Finalize them so members can pay dues. Host patrols will pay dues to National; Division and Region will refund.

EMT Bridge Course – Information being sent to all Patrol Directors.

PA Snowsports Museum Hall of Fame – Induction September 2019; Dr. Walt Larken and Tom Buckwalter inducted.

Warren Miller Film – Northampton County Community College this weekend. NSP-EPA will be represented.

Course Registration — If anyone has issues with registering for courses at NSP, please contact Wolfgang or Sharon for assistance. Please do not call National.

OPEN DISCUSSION

- Thank you to Sharon and Wolfgang for rapid responses on all issues.
- The EPA Spring Line Officers Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2020 at Blue Mountain.

Motion made by Bobby Morgan and seconded by Jack Bogdon to adjourn the meeting at 12:02 PM. Motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by Nancy Mayberry