



National Ski Patrol Ohio Region

Ohio Region Board of Governors 2003 Fall Meeting September 21, 2003

Draft

The 2003 Fall Meeting of the Ohio Region Board of Governors was hosted by Liberty Township in Powell, Ohio on September 21, 2003. The meeting was called to order by the Region Director, Chris Raudabaugh. Members of the Board of Governors, staff, patrol reps and others present at role call were Cheryl Raudabaugh, Richard Nau, Ed Raudabaugh, Nancy Kohlrieser, Kim Hiser, Doris Noe, Dave Cobb, Dale Grugle, Don Phipps, Larry Vasel, Dick James, Bob Ayers, Max Davis, Rob Hovanec, John McGoff, Layton Ives, Greg Schmidt, Guy Day, Bill Harkins, Rae Gommel, Mark Fogt, Scott Kinnamon, Dave Baumlein, Jay Zedak, Freddie Shima, Jim Vickroy, Steve Barbour, Janet Glaeser, Anthony Snodgrass.

Chris Raudabaugh, Region Director, called the meeting to order.
Don Phipps accepted the role of Sergeant at Arms.

Calendar

Max Davis passed around a calendar for attendees to enter important dates.

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the May 2003 meeting was made by Don Phipps and seconded by Freddie Shima. None opposed.

Central Division Meetings

Chris Raudabaugh reported on the Central Division meetings held earlier in the month in Minneapolis.

Programs

Instructor to IT ratios need improved – Rob Hovanec to increase the number of IT's for OEC. Recruiting was a big issue, tracking and promoting programs such as MTR, highlight our perceptions. Also mentioned were how to promote MTR and OEC outside of the patrol – get folks hooked. There is a need for more instructor recognition, identify and promote new instructors. Take a Friend program, improve mentoring and monitoring of programs.

Mission Statement and Core Values

Dick Everett from the NSP board is leading a retooling of the board with a new mission statement. The new board is trying to be forward thinking and making sure we have excellent core values: educational programs, service, integrity, and camaraderie. We can all keep track of what is going on thru the NSP website. Please provide feedback to National through the website, email and or in writing.

OEC vs EMT

Chris talked about issues surrounding the OEC vs EMT controversy. EMT certification not transferable from state to state – may even have to get liability insurance. Dave Grugle discussed reciprocity effective only if only one is listed on the National Registry. Jay Zedak said some states will allow you to challenge their EMT certification. National is trying to keep the OEC certification separate.

PSIA

Skip Dickle, President of PSIA also spoke at the Division meeting. PSIA is taking a hard look at our relationship and is also looking at our programs such as avalanche and MTR. NSP and PSIA are looking at a way to reduce dues for those individuals that are members of both organizations.

MSAA

Chris Stoddard from Midwest Ski Area Associations was also there. He had many statistics and issues that were are facing. Chris S. reported that last year ski areas experienced the 2nd smallest of skiers visit but 2nd in growth of the sport. He also reported that Ohio had negative growth despite that we all experienced higher numbers. Freddie reported huge numbers at Boston Mills/Brandywine, Frank also reported high numbers at Perfect North Slopes as well as Mad River Mountain. There was a suggestion that maybe they used Spicy Run as an example.

* indicates written report submitted.

Chris S. also reported that the average age of skiers is going up, 85% of people that try the sport never return. MSAA is also promoting the Kids on Lids program kidsonlids.org is a great website and has much useful information on helmets. Frank Cleary concurred. There were 37 deaths nationally last year due to skiing.

Legal Issues

Vehicles out on the slopes are a huge liability and basically indefensible in the court of law. One case cited was in NY. Apparently a patroller on a snowmobile stopped a skier got startled and subsequently injured. They settled out of court for 50K. Chris asked that each patrol take measures to avoid a similar situation.

Division Elections

Division Director election is upcoming and Jim Woodrum will be on the slate. The election will take place this winter. Please make sure all the names and addresses of all the PRs are current. Chris is not technically elected (appointed interim RD) and technically cannot vote.

The Division added 670 new people this year to total 6361. Central Division is the 2nd largest division.

Risk Management

Chuck Martschinke asked if you have an event with NSP and you have an injury, to please advise up the ranks. Contact your supervisors, Region and Division immediately. An incident report is not necessary but just make sure your supervisor knows. We will make sure the information goes up the line.

New Senior Supervisor

Senior Supervisor is a new position and Chris Moe is the new advisor. Chris M. will help all the Senior Programs in the Division. Chris R. mentioned that we might consider creating a Senior Supervisor here today.

T&T Clinics

Dale Grugle reported there will be two T&T clinics this year. One to be held at Boyne Highlands and the other on the other side of the lake at Wild Mountain. We should have spots available for the clinics.

Awards

Rae Gommel will cover awards later in his report but this year the Ohio Region did quite well. The following awards were presented at the Division Meeting: Dale Mahuta received the Outstanding Alpine Patroller and a Gold star. Frank Cleary received the Outstanding Patrol Representative and a Gold star. Max Davis received the Outstanding Administrative award and a Silver star. Tom Worley received a National Distinguished Service Award. Cuyahoga Nordics received the National Outstanding Nordic Patrol. Janet Glaeser received a Meritorious Service Award.

Frank Cleary mentioned that Buck Hill Ski Patrol in Wisconsin developed a program for adaptive skiing and won an award. They are also doing electronic sign in for the patrol room and electronic incident reporting with 3 PC's in the first aid room. Next year's Division meeting is at Pheasant Run and Spa, near Chicago. Chris said that this year's meeting in Minneapolis was nice but last years meeting in Dublin ruled.

Max added that the program for setting up patrol with a website was a great program and a balance program for skiers was good too. The patrol that ran programs was very accommodating for special needs.

Calendar

Max Davis circulated a calendar and urged folks to please change things that need changed and add things that added. Kim and Max will share one calendar and the information will be posted to the website. The current calendar on the website should be up to date. The Organizational chart was also circulated. We will annotate what we know.

Elections

Nancy Kohlrieser, Elections Officer distributed a report, qualifications and eligibility sheet and an election calendar. Nancy also noted the agenda listed elections for Sections 1 & 4, but that was actually our 2003 election. The 2004 election is for Section 2. Ballots are due back to the Elections Officer by April 20th. The new Section Chief for Section 02 will be announced May 1st. Larry Vasel will be ready to relinquish his 02 position.

Section Reports

Registration

Ed Raudabaugh, ARD Line, Registration Coordinator, had registration information for each of the patrols that he will distribute to the Section Chiefs to give to each of the PR's at the next break. There will be no change in dues for this year. Currently dues are \$35 National, \$10 Division, \$8 Region. Ed called for reports from the sections.

0-1 Section Chief Don Phipps**PNS**

Frank Cleary of **Perfect North Slopes**, provided a summary. The OEC refresher is on the 12th – had to send out 15 rejection letters for all the people that wanted to be on the patrol. Already have 10 transfers this year and will have over 200 patrollers. They formed 2 boards to help with functioning. An Executive Advisory Board (National Appointment members and LCA's) and an Operations Board with 13 appointed members – Their function is to operate patrol, increase communications with members, area and skiers, enhance and add to programs, prepare future PR's. Want to move to a separate PR election, where the area will select the PR from the Operations Board. They are still in the process of developing bylaws and proving to themselves and the membership that it will work. Some on board are experienced and some are new. They are moving towards an elected Operations board. Membership will still have elections of the PR but it will be through the election of the OB. They want to show the area consistency in way they manage. They now have a paid administrative assistant, that has area group responsibilities as well as patrol. They help increase programs and communication with instructors. They are offering NSP programs to ski school, and PNS employees. Until now it has been casual but should work better with an Administrative Assistant. The website is the primary communication tool. PNS approved to use their web consultants who have great ideas with same look/feel of the current website – non website folks can access and update calendar with information via a password. For HIPAA, Chip Perfect (chair of MSAA) reports the insurance company and area aren't going to do anything this year. Division folks, NSP, MSAA and insurance are not doing anything, so Frank is asking patrollers to maintain confidentiality regarding accident information. The area now has a magic carpet and really worked on the new beginner area. Really trying to retain 1st time skiers. Being innovative by keeping a lesson card until you can learn to turn and ski. The area also enhanced the tubing area from 10 to 12 runs and added a new glade down Center Stage.

Buckeye Nordics

Nothing from Buckeye.

Mad River Mountain

Jim Vickroy new PR from Mad River Mountain thanked Chris Raudabaugh, Don Berlin, Nancy Kohlieser, Jim announced APD's, Kim Hiser, Kent Oliver, Steve Billiar, John Norris. This year registering 125 patrollers – probably an all time high for us as we dropped to a low of 89 a few years ago. MRM is actively recruiting from fire houses which is something to consider for other patrols, as many are volunteers. Scheduling has been challenge-but it is worth it. Basic OEC progressing – Cheryl Raudabaugh is the new IOR this year with 15 OEC candidates. We expect another 4 in a challenge course to be run later this year. Introduction to Ski Patrolling is being introduced to new candidates this year consisting of a 3 day program with 2 days of which are on the snow. We also integrated ITP into our refresher and will have one in each year. This year snowmobile training was added as a module. The OEC refresher is scheduled for October 5th, this year changing format to cafeteria style. We will still have some traditional stations, but many are skill only. The first Region SEM standardization clinic was held September 20th – 16 attended, 9 from mad River, all 6 ITs from MRM were there. The SEM clinic is scheduled for December 13th at MRM. As far as HIPAA – they are doing nothing other than a lock box this year – only folks to have access are to be area management, hill leaders, PR's and APDs. The BOG (Board of Governors) working well – still working on the P&P manual. We Plan to start to open board meeting to the rest of patrol as a typical board meeting starting in the new year. Our website continues to develop since we broke away from the MRM's area website. The URL is ski-patrol.org. We continue to add functionality. Some changes at MRM – this year many resources were put into Crotchet Mountain. The area moved terrain park this year. The long term plan to expand to the ridge to the east and add a new chair which is expected to be 2 times as long as our currently existing longest chair. Frank Cleary added that last year National rejected some P101 names listed on the course completion roster, sighting that it was not a patroller program, therefore some did not get credit for participating.

0-2 Section Chief Larry Vasel

Larry not present

Boston Mills/Brandywine

Freddie Shima stated that the sister area, MRM seems to know more about what is going on than we do. Many maintenance people and managers have gone to Crotchet Mountain. The area is increasing snowmaking on both sides of the valley. BW got a new roof. When they tore off the old roof, they found 2 old roofs and a tin roof and they couldn't understand how it could leak. Currently have 30-35 OEC candidates, expecting to register 280 patrollers by fall. Pick up new members through the Meet the Ski Patrol program. They offer donuts, talk about NSP, take out the participants with trainers, see their abilities, review the programs and the steps needed to follow to get into the patrol. They have 2 refreshers 27th at BM – 19th also at BM – everything at BM till BW gets put back together. The ski swap is scheduled for the 10-11-12. Freddie is stepping down at the end of this season– 8 years is long enough. No announcements for improvements. The area is instilling Midnight Ski this year. Chris welcomed them to our Hell (at MRM). Years ago, BM/BW ran till 6am years ago with a variety of other closing times. They finally nailed them down this year to BW will close at 10 re-open from 10:30-3, BM closes at 11 and will not reopen. Chris said to call Jim Vickroy if you have any questions. Close the dome and make it snow. Rae asked what process

other areas use to cover mid mads. Chris asked Jim Vickroy to cover what MRM does. Jim said they require everyone to sign up for 2 Mid-Mads every year, one has to be prime season – not April 5th. If a patroller schedules every mid mad, there is no hourly requirement. At one time, all candidates were required to schedule all Mid-Mads, where they gained the most experience working accidents. Patrollers over the age of 60 are not required to do Mid-Mads. Holiday coverage is the hardest challenge to cover. They usually have 4-5 patrollers on Mid-Mad, but prefer 7-8. Freddie asked about consequences. Jim replied that the consequences for no-shows are a letter is issued for consistent no shows and brought before BOG for disciplinary action. The area upped the price, changed hours which really helped with the crowd. Frank said once their area charged more, skier numbers went down the area made as much money with less people. Friday and Saturday nights have developed shifts, so people tend to show up more. Crew chief monitors for people not showing up. The personal contact helped out a lot. Email reminders were sent out to mid mad folks.

Cuyahoga Nordics

Freddie reports they are happy. Rae said he didn't know the statistics but they had a great year.

0-3 Section Chief Dick James

Clearfork

Ken Radke reported that they have 5 new candidates in OEC. Since their patrol is a bit smaller, they train with Snow trails. The OEC refresher is Oct 5 refresher at Snow Trails. They are updating the SOP by getting the past PRS to help develop since they have more experience – part of the new advisory board of directors. They have a website: cfpatrol.org Kept the website very active with scheduling 75% of the patrollers have access from home. Will host Spring meeting – Camp Nuhopp – May 1st. The goal is more for recruiting, organizing a courtesy patrol and more communications.

Snow Trails

Scott Kinnamon reports they have 7 new candidates this year and Nov 15th is the OEC exam. They have been training along with the Clear Fork candidates. New this year is a link from CF's website. Scott has been going to the staff meetings at Snow Trails. They are scheduled for Midnight Skis 2 in January & 1 in February as test nights. Trying to get volunteers, if not then they will have APD's work. They may do every Sat next year, so they may have to go to a more regimented schedule. The area expanded terrain park by widening and tree removal and added 10 new pole mounted snow machines. Can literally drain water reservoir. Scott announced the APD's – and reported on the 2nd year of the Snow Patroller program with the young kids. Last year they had a dozen in the program and management really embraced it. The program helped with the younger kids and the "never evers" who saw the kids run around with their vests on presenting more of family atmosphere. They are going to try to grow the program again this next year.

0-4 Section Chief Bob Ayers

Alpine Valley

Bob reports Section 04 will be holding the OEC refresher Oct 5th. The instructor refresher was held yesterday, Bob talked to Dave Walker and it went well. The regular refresher should be a real success since they have a lot of new instructors that have helped rejuvenate the program with a lot of new ideas and energy. Don Stamford, the PR had to work today.

Big Creek/Cleveland Ski Club

Bob reported for Big Creek Ski Area. They are looking recruit, have 1 new patroller from the OEC course at Alpine so they have about 20 patrollers now.

Ohio Nordics

Steve Barbour reported last year was a pretty good snow year for them. They have 2 areas, Lake Park System and Holden Arboretum. The Lake Park System has a lot of skier and they rent skis. We just don't have manpower to cover. He has flyers at ski shops and hoping to recruit from the Ohio Nordic Ski Club. Planning on going to one of their meetings. They won't have coverage all the time at each of the places – basically tell recruits they will just ski for fun but be ready to act if someone needs help. He is trying anything to recruit. Chris suggested to try to get them excited about the programs that the NSP has to offer such as avalanche. Perhaps invite president to come out patrol with you or attend a refresher to observe what is going on.

Bob mentioned that he also patrols at Peak & Peak in western New York and he gave their PR dates of the refreshers in northeast Ohio in case some of their patrollers happen to miss a refresher.

Treasurer

Cheryl Raudabaugh, Treasurer, reports all financials have been rolled up and submitted to Division. She distributed a full set of financials to the ARD's and all checks have been written. Cheryl distributed a summary and summarized by this year vs last year. The report will be in the *Downhill*. We made over \$2500 this year. The budget was break even but obviously, some

funds not were not spent that were originally anticipated. Region balance of the various accounts total up to \$33,209. We are in good financial shape. Year to date, we just have some small ongoing expenses. Budgets were received from nearly everyone. The current budget is right on break even. Layton asked about his budget from last year. Cheryl keeps current values unless is advised. Our goal is to break even on an annual basis. Another item, up to this point is that Jim Woodrum was the 2nd signatory on account. Cheryl suggested Dave Cobb be second signatory and will serve as back up. Dale Grugle **moved to have Dave Cobb be the Second Signatory on the Region Account**, Don Phipps Seconded. All approved. Chris thanked everyone for getting their budgets in and said we don't get subsidy from Division if we don't get our reports in.

Assistant Region Director Reports

Administration

Dave Cobb

Region Awards Advisor

Rae Gommel reports that the Ohio Region got 40% of the Division Awards and 50% of the National Awards at Division. There are 11 opportunities for awards, unfortunately for the small alpine patrol there was no report. If you don't submit, you can't win. It is not brain surgery, just planning and implementation. Rae is always willing to have a workshop. Deadline for nominations for all DSA's, LCA's and Nationals have to have a December 1st postmark. Rae doesn't do those, Dick does. Max asked if both areas could be covered. After looking at the calendar and some discussion everyone decided on the weekend before Thanksgiving, November 23rd. Jay Zedak noted that it is same weekend as the Division event at Wild Mountain. **Region Award Writer Workshop is scheduled for the 23rd of November** at 10am-2pm at the Key Bank on Bethel Rd. in Columbus. Dave Cobb will check with the bank and let Rae know if there are any conflicts. Rae will contact the PR's Sections Chiefs. Rae was applauded for doing a great job. Frank asked if electronic submittal was available for awards yet. Rae had not yet heard, but what typically happens is the awards come in and are perused for content and validity then sent out for judging. Copies go from Region to Division, that is why they require so many copies. Rae is not sure how Division is set up for electronic copies. It would be ideal for electronic submission, but not going to happen right now. Rae will prod Division and let everyone know.

Alumni Advisor

Dave Cobb mentioned the Alumni Advisor position is vacant and asked if it was something we wanted to fill. Rae said alumni could participate in training and assuming they keep current with their dues. They could also participate as instructors. Frank asked what they were getting for their dues. They apparently get mailings. Frank said on the PD list, the names of alumni and life members don't show up. We should find out what benefits these folks should have. Freddie use them as sign in folks and are utilized at the area.

Region Legal Advisor

Don Schumacher – **no report- not present**. Dave Cobb reports nothing very new that Don was aware of. Frank asked if Don was working on HIPPA, Dave replied that he needed more input from the PR's and not sure if he got anything.

Downhill Region Newsletter Editor

Max Davis thought alumni were on separate database and can choose to be affiliated or not with a patrol. We should look in the PNP for policy information on alumni and life members. Bob Ayers mentioned a big problem in past was people registering themselves with National and maybe have the option of registering with a patrol. For the mailing list for the *Downhill*, Max will drop some names as he is still having problems with folks not keeping their addresses current with National. Max's own email with National was not correct since he failed to correct it and imagines many other people have the same problem. Max encouraged everyone to check their information that National has on file and make sure it is current. Please pass this information to members of your patrols as well. This is where Region looks for info and where the mailing list for the *Downhill* comes from. Max gets about 30 mailed copies returned for each mailing. He changes the address if a forwarding address is provided, but many have no forwarding address. Max has about 800 currently on mailing list and it changes all the time – it is a dynamic problem. It is your job to keep records up to date with National. In addition to the folks on the list Max will also mail to former members, old RD's, very active folks, send to ski areas and RD's in Central Division. If there is someone that should be on this list please let Max know. Max will take some new photos at lunch time for folks that are new officers and advisors. The first issue of the *Downhill* usually comes out in September, around the first, but being delayed until after this meeting to have updated calendar.

Max listed items that he had for the newsletter and reminded everyone to please check Region calendar.! Chris suggested sending the area managers name and address to Max as well as new candidates and alumni to get those folks on mailing list. These folks will get the email version if nothing else. Max thought it was already going to alumni. Chris mentioned that we tried the Ambassador Program at MRM to get patrol alumni and inactive ski instructors out on slopes and keep them active. Talk to Delma Robinson if you have any questions.

Historian

Dave Cobb reports that his wife Carole has expressed interest in resurrecting the Historian position. Carol has ideas of developing a sense of history, a database and preparing articles for the *Downhill* on quarterly basis. Ideas such as revisiting the Ohio region 25 years ago - somewhat like what you see in the newspapers. Max will call Anita to see what she has. There was a **Motion resurrect the position of Historian** by Dale Grugle, seconded by Ed Raudabaugh. Motion carries.

Web Site Manager

Mark Fogt – not present – Chris reports that Mark is working in Minnesota this month and has been quite busy. He has the current Org chart updated and has a lot of ideas on what he wants to do with the web site. He is fighting with current provider and searching for other hosts. Max will email Mark the Division web site managers address.

Break for Lunch – 11:55

Resume at 12:46pm

Proficiency

Dale Grugle stated that there will be two T&T clinics this year in the Central Division, one at Wild Mountain from November 21-23, and the other at Boyne Highlands from Dec 5-7. The program runs from Friday evening, all day Saturday, to a half day Sunday. The topics this year are Introduction To Ski Patrolling, Instructor Development Refresher for Alpine Toboggan, Senior Alpine Clinical Evaluations and NSP – C/PSIA ski school. We are allowed to send 2 representatives to attend each event, therefore we can send 8 from the Ohio region. As PR's if you have someone in mind, please let Dale know, as they need to meet approval. People meant to go are patrollers willing to traveling with Layton around the region. The deadline for choices to be made is 2 weeks prior to event. We hope to have additional spots but may not know until the last minute.

Another item, upon reviewing the region P&P, he unfortunately came upon a situation on procedure which may affect several people. The bylaws state that a section chief or PR cannot hold a Region advisor or Assistant Advisor position. This affects Don Phipps as Section Chief 01 and as Assistant to Layton Ives and may involve Ken Radke too.

OEC

Rob Hovanec announced that yesterday we held first SEM standardization clinic at Mad River Mountain. Rob thanked Mad River Mountain for hosting and Ed Humphrey for helping to plan the event. The event was well received and there were 16 participants. The input received was outstanding and should help alleviate some problems that we have been having at the SEM. The plan is to have it as an annual event and hope to get everyone through it once every three years. Also once every three years have the OEC instructors attend to get re-certified. Information received yesterday was very important to SEM trainers and candidates, so please let those folks know to help keep the candidates on track. Rob will send handouts to the trainers and candidates if you email him. Some of the items of discussion were, fluid to fluid contamination and what if any local protocols are in place. It was a great event and it will be continued in the future. All of the refreshers have ITs assigned to evaluate them. The SEM is scheduled for Dec 13th at Mad River Mountain. A reminder is to be in the *Downhill*. For the SEM instructors, all information is in the patroller handbook and the written scenarios need to be submitted 2 weeks before the clinic. Rob is going to try to get more 2 more IT's in Section 3, 2 more in Section 2. Rob just lost one in section 1 and just found out he is losing another.

Rob wants to make sure all that all the training this year and all the information is based on 4th edition of the OEC manual. One issue that Rob ran into yesterday was with the Release forms brought back from Division. One thing Rob asked the this board is what do we do if you have a refusal to sign? Yesterday he had someone refuse to sign. It is an easy out for someone that doesn't want to do any hands on and just wants to sit out. Chris said if an activity is a critical part of the activity, then perhaps the person should not get credit for that event. They are welcome to hang out, but cannot participate. The same form is used for all events. It should be used for high risk events such as Chair evacuations or any non-NSP event. Division has asked that we use these forms. Chris R. said that the one form with multiple signatures was poo-pooed. Nancy asked that the staff look into it, since it is an outrageous looking form and she anticipates that patrollers will not like it. Perhaps there could be one form to sign off for the entire year for all the activities. We will have Don Schumacher look at the form. Jay Zedak said as an IOR for an event you need to keep the forms for 3-4 years. One benefit of multiple signatures on a form is storage. The down side is the attorneys may have access to multiple witnesses and could use it against the patrol. Layton said that Central Division folks should be the ones consulted. He added, your first inclination is to not sign it, but it is easier to sign it than to argue about it. Ed Raudabaugh thought it was a very objectionable form. Mad River Management at one point wanted everyone to sign a release, and no one signed it. There was some general discussion about Chair Evacuation and several stated that area management approves lift evacuation. Chris R. to check with Don Schumacher on the wording in the form and see if one sheet could cover all events for the season. Maybe he could look at current forms wordage and take it to Division to see if is possible for them to make it not so objectionable. Talk to Charlie Meyers, Corkie drafted the form. Dick Nau said the attorneys for Division and National are protecting the Division and Nationals best interests but they are not looking after your own personal interests. In terms of membership interest, the advise given or instructions given or the demands made by Division and National could very well be counter to the best interest of the individual patroller. Dale asked whether the release

form was a Division policy, are we bound or can the region elect not to implement the form? Jay said that Dick Daldell said we can pick and choose from Division. Perhaps no form at all, everyone takes their risk.

Alpine Senior Clinic

Greg Schmidt reported that the biggest challenge with the Alpine Senior evaluation is consistency and making sure we are teaching and testing the same thing. The biggest stride last year was to focus on teaching and testing with the T&T clinics; the two opportunities to really improve the consistency. Greg encourages all Senior Evaluators to attend one this year, one will be held at BM/BW on January 10-11th, the other at Perfect North Slopes on January 17-18th. Greg will put out communications on it. The second thing to improve consistency is to continue to get folks involved in PSIA training. It is what we are teaching and it provides unified, coordinated material. Greg made some comments on the size of the evaluation staff, we currently have more than 2 times the number of people that we can use for evaluators. We have great participation and we have very little turnover, which limits the number of people that we can bring onto the staff. This presents a challenge in terms of being able to use the staff, as you have to test every three years to be certified to continue. We will probably have a limited number of openings for new evaluators this season, so please be judicious in selecting on folks that you are sending to be evaluators. The Senior Clinic is scheduled for February 7-8. There are three criteria for where he wants to hold a clinic, one is terrain that is available to test on, we need to get about 50-60 people on suitable terrain to evaluate performance on a senior level, second thing to look at snow conditions, third traveling around the region which puts a burden on folks that travel from across the state. Greg does not take the travel issue lightly. PNS is the best in terms of presenting terrain and conditions suitable, you can be spread out, the snow has been good, the facilities are good. Greg asked around the Division and most regions usually just select a "Senior Hill". **Greg recommends PNS for our Senior Hill this year.** Jay Seconded, Chris asked for discussion. Layton stated the best snowmaking was at BM/BW - it is unique and people come in from all over the world to see the snowmaking system. Some may have issues with the terrain for a Senior rated hill. Division certified North Pole and Tiger as Senior rated hills. BM would like to have the event there. No question that PNS is a great place to have the Senior, but in his opinion crowd control is better at BM/BW and lift access is better. Layton would like to see their hill used once in a while. Greg said the problem is everyone has to congregate on Tiger especially at the end of the day and trying to get 50-60 people is difficult. Ed R. restated that Greg's issue today is just for this year, not for ever and ever. Ed stated that Spicy was going to be "the Senior hill" in Ohio. Dale said his recollection was that BM was secondary but we need to check with Chuck Martschenke. If not true then the board will look at BM as a site. We need to make a decision today – so we recommend Perfect North Slopes. We will revisit for Spring meeting. Chris called the question – **motion passed.** Chris will verify with Chuck on what transpired.

Certified program

Guy Day distributed some information on the Certified Program and stated that unfortunately in the past the Certified Program has been given a bad rap of an elitist egotistical bunch of a**holes. This year the Division certified event will be held in the Ohio Region the end of February. Guy invited everyone to come down to take a look at the program. There will be a pre-clinic/qualification event on the January 19th, Sunday at PNS. This event or another in the Division is a must do for participation either in the Certified program. They are also offering a mini-clinic at BM/BW Friday night January 9 at 7:30. Guy reminded everyone that there are also women involved. Guy listed how many Certified folks that are National and Division advisors. If you have any interest in the Certified Program, you don't have to drive so far this year. The Division event is scheduled for the 26th-29th of February, possibly could be the weekend before (19-22) from Thursday through Sunday. Also distributed to PR's what the Certified program is about. In the past the only places for Certified has been Boyne Mtn, Nubs Nob, Indian Head, Marquette, Mount Ripley. Northern Michigan and UP have been the only places for Certified testing. Guys goal is to have 12 Certified patrollers by next year. Currently have 2 in the program. As a Certified Patroller you need to Re-certify every 3 years your riding/skiing and toboggan handling skills. Send anyone interested along to Guy. Dave Cobb asked what happens if you fail to re-certify. Guy said you get chances to re-certify, if you fail, you do lose the classification and drop to Senior level. It has happened with some individuals, some folks drop. There are 80-100 people expected to be at the Certified event. There was some discussion to create some sort of Certified alumni. Jim Vickroy asked if there was a Certified workbook and Jay said there is a huge packet upon registration. The reason why they wanted to move program this year was to take advantage of the probability of better snow conditions and there was another Division conflict with avalanche program. Chris said it is an amazing program, quite an educational experience.

Senior Program

Bill Harkins said there were just a few things he would like to change. One thing is to do away with pay pal for registration and just have checks sent to him directly. Also, reduce deadline time.

Ski School

John McGoff from Ski School distributed some applications for the NSP-C ski school. This is the 4th year for it. The Ski School is playing a big role in standardization of senior evaluation. Ski School is bringing out PSIA ED staff to calibrate and validate our skills and those that participate are the folks that will participate in Senior evaluation. John is populating the test team with people that are PSIA level II & III certified. The skiing public sees the patrollers as expert skiers. Currently the

Ohio Region has over 70 members which is 10% of the Regions patrol population. There are liaisons at each of the patrols. There are dry land clinics and PSIA events to help get ready for the season. It helps us be better teachers. **John moved to raise the fees for the clinics from \$15 to \$20. Motion 2nded** by Layton. (no need for motion). This year the goal for ski school people is for personal improvement; focus on something like to go from level II to III. Johns other goals are to increase the number of Level II evaluators so we can teach to level 6-7, mentoring, increase number of snowboarders, reach out to Nordics and have resources grow throughout the region. This year there will be video analysis for the SES clinics.

AlpineToboggan Standards

Layton Ives said there are 4 events this year, the Division clinics December 5,6&7, region clinics January 11th at BM and January 18th at PNS for testers trainers, teaching staff needs to come every year (used to be every 3). The big message from Division this year with respect to toboggan handling is that we can't afford to have people intimidating candidates. Proper teaching is emphasized so you don't lose candidates. You don't have to be a ski school member, but if you don't have the skills, you won't get to be an IT. The best thing you can do is become a member of the ski school or take a clinic which really improves your skills. Layton also said a new Assistant needs to be appointed. Talk to your training people, Layton said we can put on a toboggan enhancement seminars around the state. Jim Vickroy asked who can conduct the TES and what structure. Layton thought any toboggan IT could put it on, they don't have to have Region staff put it on. It is a National program.

Programs

Doris Noe

Avalanche

Jay Zedak said the Ohio region led Division in all areas except the Avalanche program. Currently there are only six ITs in the Division. Division wants each region to be self sustaining. We only have 2 level 1 instructors. In order to be a level 1 instructor you have to have a level 2 instructor observe you teaching 2 times. Very costly to train and sustain. The analog transceivers no longer approved and we need digital ones now. The Region needs to purchase 2-3 at the cost of about \$203 each. For the Certified program, you need to bring all your own stuff such as sled, transceivers and other equipment. It would be nice to have transceivers available for loaning. Ray thinks Division ought to supply us with level 2 instructors. Dale G. asked for new transceivers, currently we have 2 that are not even working, the others are analog. Dave Cobb made a **motion to buy 3 new transceivers** – the motion was 2nd by Dale. Discussion followed. Dale thinks we still need to train on both transceivers (analog and digital). Ray suggested that we amend the **motion to buy 4 new transceivers**. Chris called the question to raise from 3-4. Motion passed.

Region Mountain Travel and Rescue

Tony Snodgrass announced that this years summer event was a good session and next year he wants to run a summer, fall and a winter session. The Basic Mountaineering session will be in mid-December and the Advanced MTR would be the 2nd weekend in March. He would also like to raise the fees to \$40 and include the webbing and carabiners, since we are working on terrain where we want the patrollers to be safe. They also want to set up Extrication clinics at the ski areas any Saturday or Sunday, just contact Tony or Doris. Max asked if we had an MTR advisor yet, Chris replied that Tony would like to be the MTR advisor but needs more qualifications as he is a candidate.

Auxillary

Doris said that Phyllis was not here today but that her comment in an email was that we need to identify more folks and working on qualifying pieces.

Medical

Doris was unable to contact Dr. Anderson.

National Appointments

Dick Nau said his remarks will be the same as the last 13-14 years but it bears repeating - anything sent to Ray after the Dec.1st deadline (wrong routing) of course will be rejected. Any nominations for DSA, LCA or Nationals must come to the NSP Appointments Review Board by Dec 1st, otherwise they cannot be considered. It is unfortunate when a qualified person cannot be considered when it has not been done by the rules. Please look at Section 21 & 22 of P&P for those rules. Division has been diligent about being on the most current form so please make sure you are using the most current form. Follow the instructions on the form. Typically, corrections are to the full ID not being present on the form and the C-137 needing to be added. For the Years of service, be sure you reconcile the years correctly. Don't do your own computerized forms, this will result in rejection. The guidelines are pretty clear in the National books for Nationals and LCA's. For DSA, it is a little different as it used to be automatic, but they have been tightening the standards. Needs more than just length of service, has to have contributions to the patrol. Dick also reminded the Section Chief that they need section review panels and each Section Chief will serve as chair. Dick likes what is coming out of section 03, attaching a sign up sheet and the following people on

the review panel sign off on these people. This gives confidence that it has been reviewed. Dick urges all sections to do the same. Please make sure everything is correct. Much discussion followed about a meeting on December 13th at 4:30, the same day as SEM at Mad River. Anyone who holds an appointment can attend but then they go into a closed meeting for the vote. Dick distributed a written report that had his contact information on it.

Old Business

Region Refresher - Rob Hovanec discussed a region refresher. Rob talked to several people, PNS is charging for a makeup refresher, not a region refresher. A region refresher might be a lot of work. If patrols want to charge for make up refreshers, it is O.K.

HIPAA – Everyone is being extremely closed mouth. Some of the big issues are who has access to records and it seems more of an area management issue rather than the patrol.

New Business

Advisor openings: Carole Cobb to become the Historian. If you have any ideas on Alumni advisor please contact Dave Cobb. For the Avalanche and MTR openings, Doris is working on those folks. The Avalanche and MTR Programs are going, however and we would benefit from having these positions filled.

P&P is a little out of date we need to re-visit this issue eventually. We need to get rid of snowboard advisor which we got rid of two years ago and need to change all Patrol Directors to Patrol Reps. Guy Day is willing to help. Max suggested to the advisors to check over their sections and come up with some proposals for the spring meeting. Bylaw changes require 2 readings. Guy to look at areas that have no advisor first.

Powderfall - April 14-17 at Snowbird. Layton has applications already. Limited to 95 participants this year due to another conference at the same time competing for space.

New Toboggan Training Manual – Layton would like for trainers to download and provide feedback to National.

Active Duty Proposal from Chris: This issue came from Division. Patrollers who are in active military to be waived their Region level dues - submit a waiver to Division and National dues are waived. **Dale Grugle moves that the Region suspends dues to patrollers on remote active duty.** Dave Cobb seconded – all approved, motion passed.

Important Dates:

Region Awards committee meeting is Feb 28th.

Spring Region meeting May 1st at Camp Nuhopp.

June 19-20th OEC IT and supervisor meeting. We need to get our ITS there the location is TBA.

In future years section 03 would like to relinquish the banquet responsibilities. Ed R. thought that Jim Woodrum liked having it centrally located.

Ed R. reminded all that if patrol registrations are late there is a \$10 per person late fee.

Don Phipps moved to adjourn, Doris Seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned 2:51pm