

# DOWNHILL



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## OHIO REGION WINTER NEWSLETTER 2024

**H. Scott Griffith, Ohio Region Patrol Director**



**Hello Fellow Patrollers!**

It looks like Mother Nature is helping us out with some much-needed cooler temperatures and some snow. With the season getting into full swing that means it's time for SnowSport Enhancement (SES) and Toboggan Enhancement (TES) as well as other opportunities to help your continuing education. Please check the Ohio Region website for more information on the upcoming Ohio Region Events. It was my pleasure to meet the members of the Ohio Region this past fall while visiting your refresher. If you would like more information or would like to be a part of the Ohio Region Staff please feel free to send me an email @ [RD@ohionsp.org](mailto:RD@ohionsp.org) .

**See you on Snow!**

**H. Scott Griffith LCA# 8551  
Ohio Region Director  
Central Division  
[SGriffith@MadRiverSkiPatrol.org](mailto:SGriffith@MadRiverSkiPatrol.org)**

## Winter News – Rusty Parka Treasurer's News

The NSP mission is to provide education and accreditation for emergency care/safety providers in the outdoor recreation industry. In the Ohio Region we are focused on making sure that the educational programs and resources are available to all our patrollers. Thirteen dollars of your annual dues goes to the Ohio Region administration each year to help insure that financially we can provide the needed support. Our region is in a sound financial position and works with a budget and fiscal controls to ensure we stay that way.

One of our goals is to help our patrollers to reach beyond their own patrols and contribute their talents to helping others succeed via the Senior program and testing, as well as other skill enhancements, and with quality control oversight of all programs run locally. Those patrols that have enough funds to help patrollers travel to do that are the first line of action, but the region will also help where needed. When patrollers are requested by the region to lead/evaluate in those region activities, we have financial assistance through reimbursement of defined expenses.

If you haven't been on the Ohio Region website in a while, please check it out! Take a look at the Organization Chart for known faces and consider yourself for any open positions. You can find information about events throughout the year, and if you are serving the region as an advisor, evaluator, or lead instructor in the many programs, you will also find Staff Resources to help you with procedures and forms for reporting expenses. To that end, if you do receive reimbursement during the year for mileage, we have been reminded by our division leadership that any funds received over the \$.14/mile IRS guideline for volunteer activities is considered taxable income. Please make sure as always to keep receipts to support your actual expenses, and consult your own tax advisor for any advice. Please be sure to take time to recognize those near and far that work so hard to support our educational programs to ensure we are all the best possible at the many facets of our craft.

Thank YOU for the valuable contributions you give to the organization!

Cheryl Raudabaugh, Ohio Region Treasurer and Digital Records  
Mad River Ski Patrol, NSP LCA#8391



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## Programs Update- February 2024

This quarter I would like to highlight a couple of our programs and their advisors. I appreciate the energy and passion of these patrollers and encourage you to join them for a class, reach out and ask a question, or just read below to learn more about the various programs in the Ohio Region.

If there is a program or event that you would like to learn more about or see the Region host, please do not hesitate to reach out ([ardprograms@ohionsp.org](mailto:ardprograms@ohionsp.org)). We would love to assist you in learning more!

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## Mountain Travel and Rescue (from Tim Durbin)

We are going to run a MTR1 class in March, location to be determined. The MTR 1 class is a great introduction into low angle rescue, hiking, backpacking, land navigation/ maps/ gps, outdoor cooking/meals, and search and rescue. Watch the region website for more information and to sign up for this class.

The MTR program also has 4-8 hour clinics that can be taught for the above skills for anyone just looking for a more focused topic. Please reach out ([mtr@ohionsp.org](mailto:mtr@ohionsp.org)) if you have any questions or would like to learn more about any of these topics. Click [here to read](#) about a recent operation Tim and his search and rescue team were recognized for. Way to go!

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## Young Adult Patroller Program (from Mason Boswell)

Hello, I am Mason Boswell and am the new Region YAP Advisor. Last year I started a YAP program at Perfect North with generous support from area management. My daughter Emily graduated in the first class and I have four other children that hope to go through the program when they are old enough. If you are going to Powderfall consider joining our AM session April 11th, "*Our Experience Starting a YAP Program*," where we plan to share everything we learned.

My initial goals for the region are:

1. To support existing YAP programs at resorts across the region.
2. To help any resort that does not have a YAP program and wants to start one to get the support and resources they need to be successful.
3. To plan an event for YAP next year that offers engaging YAP-specific content and will be well attended.

I welcome any suggestions, particularly for events you would like to see. Please also contact me with any help your YAP programs might need at [yap@ohionsp.org](mailto:yap@ohionsp.org). I look forward to helping our young adults flourish and grow as patrollers in the Ohio Region!

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## Safety Team Advisor Welcome



We recently welcomed Mike Kopf ([safety@ohionsp.org](mailto:safety@ohionsp.org)) from Snow Trails as our Region Safety Advisor. Mike has 40+ years as a safety professional (Certified Safety Professional, Certified Hazardous Material Manager, Certified Ergonomist) with extensive resort experience (Regional Manager of Engineering & Sustainability). He is an OEC Instructor, Lift Evacuation Instructor, and has vast professional education experience across all levels. He has extensive accident investigation experience and has provided program management and development for corporations both nationally and internationally. As we all work to keep ourselves and the entire snowsports community safe, we look forward to learning from and working with Mike.

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## **Upcoming Program Dates:**

**Senior Ski/Ride Test- Feb 18th at Perfect North**

**Senior Toboggan Test- Feb 25th at Boston Mills**

**MTR1 Class- March ? Watch website for more details**

**Avalanche Awareness Course - March 23rd at Hudson Fire Department**



I look forward to seeing you on the snow at our Region program offerings soon!

**Tricia Mencin, ARD Programs**

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## **AWARDS UPDATE**

With the ski season well under way, so is awards season. As we all know it takes a lot of time to gather four years worth of historical information, so hopefully you have been busy little patrollers gathering said information for this year's awards write ups! Remember anyone who won at region / division last year is not eligible this year, and anyone who won nationals are not eligible for 4 years.

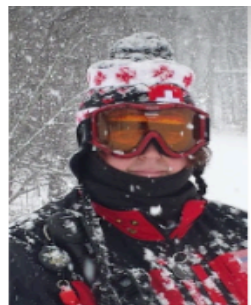
Patrol of the Year is especially important to keep as a living document, adding this year's information to the previous write up and drop off the oldest information if not eligible in any given year. Look around your areas: Did any patrollers treat a significant injury that was not immediately life threatening but could be over time? Submit them for a Central Division Critical Care Award.

Who has provided exceptional service to the Region, Division and/or the NSP as an administrator, patrol director/representative, Instructor or OEC Instructor over the last four years? Start gathering information to submit them as an "Outstanding XXXX" for Region judging. We all know that our region's patrols provide outstanding service to the region, division, and the National Ski Patrol as well. Start gathering information to submit them as an "Outstanding XXXX Patrol" for Region judging. Remember – Nordic patrol is never submitted from this region – not only should they be recognized but may have a good chance at division as well!

Deadline for submissions to me is **March 1st**. We must use the current forms, which local advisors already have. **NO repeat, NO PDFs** – with the exception of the points based Patroller Achievement Award. Forms must be submitted as Word; Times New Roman Font no smaller than 9. No information can be from before the 2020-2021 season, and no identifying geographical information. Nominations cannot be longer than four pages. There is no longer a letter, just the last question, "Why is this patroller outstanding?" This should not be signed. Remember also that someone who holds a region position, with the exception of an IT, is not eligible for Outstanding Patroller, and the Outstanding Administrative Patroller must hold a region position or beyond. Deadline is **SOON!**

**And mark your calendars for the Awards Banquet at Perfect North Slopes on April 27 th!**

Lori Ringley MHS PT  
Ohio Region Awards Advisor





## Successful candidates for the Senior Program -OEC Module

**Congratulations!**



**Tyler Thieding**



**Sean Power**



**Pat Conochan**



**Julian Tagaoen**



**Joseph Maus**



**John Vigar**



**Emily Boswell**



**Todd Bowman**



**Matt Baughman**





**Kelly Standriff**



**Steward McDowell**

For any updates, corrections, or suggestions for our newsletter, contact [downhilleditor@gmail.com](mailto:downhilleditor@gmail.com) or email [leahmorgan51@gmail.com](mailto:leahmorgan51@gmail.com). We welcome articles and photos.

**Leah Morgan, EdD:**  
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