



NATIONAL SKI PATROL
EASTERN DIVISION
FALL BOARD MEETING



CP/HM Emergency Corps Bldg.
September 15, 2007

Welcome and Introductions:

Eastern Division Board of Directors

Burt Mitchell	Connecticut Maine (absent)
Trish Watson	Western Massachusetts
John Shipman	Eastern Massachusetts & Rhode Island
Chris Brodersen	New Jersey
Peter Kaufmann	New Hampshire
Don Weaver	Western New York
Meg Smith	Southern New York
Noel Rios	Central New York
Peter Neefus	Eastern New York
Gerit Lewisch	Eastern Pennsylvania
Steve Schopfer	Western Appalachian
Christian Jaquith	Northern Vermont
Terry Randolph	Southern Vermont
Mike Lord	Genesee Valley
John Beach	Alternate RD – Eastern New York
Rick Knight	Connecticut Section Chief

Division note: The Division and Region websites need to be kept updated. If a program is going to seek reimbursement from the Division, for an activity, it must be listed on the Division calendar. Program Chairs need to communicate this with their program Supervisors.

Update on National Issues:

The Board has been having conference calls on a monthly basis. **Tim White**, our new Executive Director, has reported on the many things he has been working on. He talks with our National Chairman once a week and has filled several vacancies in our National office staff. Tim officially started June 1st but worked 30 days before that to get things up and running. **Jim DeWeerd** resigned and was replaced by Terry LaLiberte to be our new National Chairman of the Board. Bob Knox, Central Division, filled the empty slot on the Board. Bela Musits is now the Assistant National Chair. **Software** study – negotiating with person to use the software to it's potential. **Staffing** – Tim White, Executive Director; Michelle Perry, NSP Advertising/Sponsorship; Cheri Overton, NSP Member Services/Registration; April Darrow, NSP Communications Director and Editor; Carol Hudson, NSP Member Services; Denis Meade, NSP Education Director; Karen

Kalafat, NSP Special Projects Manager; and Eastern Division's Telecommunications Advisor Dick Woolf, was reinstated to the Telecommunications (FCC) position at the National level. **Education** – Avalanche manual being rewritten. **Lift Evacuation** – Should be seeing new techniques and equipment but no manual to date. **OEC** – The 5th Edition is currently being worked on, but no publication date has been set. **Patroller Manual** – Nothing said yet. **LCA** – The Board voted not to change the LCA and National Appointments. You still need to pass the Senior S & T to become a National Appointee. **Expense** – National was spending approximately \$15,000 per year on bulk shipping of OEC books. There is now a shipping fee of slightly more than \$1.00 per book. OEC Instructors should start building this cost into their course costs. **Student Patroller** – May now be called “Young Adult Program”. National wants to create a program for these young people interested in becoming a patroller. **Affiliated Program** – NSP offers courses to the public. Need to review this program in order to see a return of monies. **Insurance** – The National Board has tasked our Executive Director to analyze our current insurance and to also review liability issues.

2008 Board Election – With this vote it will be a fully populated Board and for the first time in history we will have a complete board that will have been voted in by the membership. Out of 16 candidates five are from the Eastern Division: John Beach, Jim Decker, Mike Lord, Burt Mitchell, and Carl Smith. From now on you will vote for either four or five Board members – each serves a three year term. Resumes and platform statements for all of this year's candidates are also on the National website. Please encourage your Patrollers to review the applications and to vote for the candidates they feel will be the best board members. VoteNet is now our vote provider. The contract allows us unlimited use throughout the year (Division down through Patrol) for the same price. There will be no paper ballots, all electronic. Make sure everyone's email addresses are up-to-date with the National office. October 15 through December 1st is the election. VoteNet will be getting the master list from National in one to two weeks.

2008 Registration Process - It is now being sent to the Division registration coordinator. One check for National and Division fees should now be sent directly to Donna at the Eastern Division office and one check sent to Region. This is the procedure that was used three years ago.

Committee and Program Update Briefings – Christian handed out a report. Flo Rutherford is our new Instructor Development Supervisor. Everyone wanting to become an instructor in any program must take this course. Need interaction and exchange of ideas. Input from Region Directors is needed on what other chapters can fit into this program. - Mentoring program has fallen between the cracks. - Record handling needs to be applied to all our programs. Instructors of Record need to do their paperwork within the 30-60-90 day period. **Mountain Travel/ Rescue:** Burt Mitchell reported on the MT/R, Avalanche and Nordic Instructors meeting held last week at Northfield Mountain. They talked of trying to expand the program, make new instructors, recertification and continuing education. Reviewed all paperwork that should be done and what the timeline should be. **S & T:** Committee meeting is scheduled for Killington in December. We are looking for a sled manufacturer who endorses the use of sled

techniques commonly utilized in the Eastern Division. Senior Continuing Education Program for S & T - This program needs to be renovated. Board Member Randolph asked that if the Board has any issues with the S & T program, let him know and he'll bring it up at the meeting and see if they can solve the problem(s). **Nomination & Election Committee** – Don Weaver handed out a report. The report shows the election year of the officer, year they began, and the term they are serving. **Reminder for the 2008 spring meeting: Our by-laws require us to look at the distribution of delegates within the regions.** **OEC** – Restructuring supervisor's areas. Paula Knight - CT/VT/SNY; Ed Hirshman – EPA/WApp; Robert Andre – WNY/CNY/GVly/ENY. **IT Handbook** – The Instructor Trainer is part of the Region Administrator's staff and it is the Region Administrator's prerogative to choose the IT. **Trail Sweep** – Kudos to Laura on this issue!! **Toboggan Instructors** – Your Region S&T per Advisor needs to get a list of all outdoor emergency transportation instructors to Frey Aarnio by mid October since he has to get that list to National S&T Supervisor before November first. **Marketing** – We have some posters left and work on the history film is ongoing. **Avalanche** – Phil Galka ran a terrific seminar at Northfield Mountain. Meg asked the RD's how to structure a continuing education program. May need to buy eight new transceivers (\$185 apiece = \$1400 plus shipping). Money is in their budget.

Finance Committee – Chris Brodersen handed out a 19 page report.

(1) The committee has improved the process for budget data collection.

Motion by Randolph/Jaquith to have Division Treasurer Jeff Barcus create a budget template.

Carried

(2) Mileage rate – It has been suggested that the rate could be stated as a percentage of the IRS allowable mileage rate. Example – 75% of the current IRS allowable mileage rate of \$0.495 would equate to \$0.37/mile and the rate would change as the IRS rate changes. This will have to be discussed further as a part of next year's budget process.

(3) The Finance Committee recommends that the Board run on a balanced budget or surplus.

(4) A motion was made by Randolph/Neefus that a reserve of 1.5x operating expenses based on a trailing three year average should be our goal.

Carried

(5) The Finance Committee recommends that the board look at how expenses are allocated between the Division and the Regions. Some examples of how costs have shifted from Region expenses to Division expenses were discussed.

(6) Based on where we are today, we may need a dues increase in the future. How do we handle it? We will look at different scenarios in this regard. It was agreed that Patrollers must be made aware of any increases well before they took place.

(7) Investment – we are now with Heritage Financial Services. The committee’s thought is that our investment is producing a reasonable return.

Other Issues

Tax Exemption: There are some states that are still interested in obtaining tax exemption information. Legal Counsel Henry Williams may have a copy of a letter from IRS stating that we are a tax exempt organization.

Division Communications: Division and Region websites calendars needs to be kept up to date. All programs or events that will be seeking expense reimbursement from the Division must be listed on the Division calendar.

40th Anniversary, Nordic Program: Nordic anniversary is happening in the EMARI Region in 2008.

70th Anniversary: National is having pins and patches made up that will appear in the 2008 catalog. The Eastern Division Board agreed to wait and focus on the 75th anniversary.

Division News: The New England Ski Museum film on the NSP is proceeding. A portion of the production costs will be paid for by grants from the museum, funds from the Eastern Division and from some of the Regions. The movie should be completed for the 70th anniversary. Regions, who said they would pledge funds toward the film, please send them to our Treasurer, Jeff Barcus.

Hunter Day Support: 40th year of celebration is the day after Thanksgiving. It would be appreciated if you can attend this event to show our appreciation for the support that Hunter Mountain has provided to the Eastern Division.

Winter Meeting Location: As we have in past years, the Board will have its winter meeting at the Student Seminar location so that we can meet in the evening and support the event during the day. It is tentatively scheduled for Killington in March (14, 15, 16, and 17). John Shipman will be handling Board reservations.

Division Director Refresher: Our Division Director will be attending his refresher in the Western Massachusetts Region.

Conference Call: December 12, 2007 at 7:00p.m.

Motion by Neefus/Brodersen to adjourn at 3:10p.m.

Carried

Respectfully submitted
Donna McGraw