

Statement of Purpose: Eastern Division Nordic Master

- Provide a level of achievement, within the Nordic Program, above the Senior Nordic Patroller.
- Verify a patroller's ability to function, at an advanced level, in all areas of the Nordic Discipline while demonstrating competency in skills of the Avalanche and Mountain Travel and Rescue programs.
- Demonstrate the knowledge and ability to independently provide emergency care when needed and sustain one's self in a winter environment over a multi day period.

Prerequisites Required

- Mountain Travel and Rescue, Level 2
- Avalanche, Level 2
- Nordic Senior
- Nordic Senior Evaluator
- Instructor Status in Mountain Travel and Rescue, Avalanche **or** Nordic Programs
- Approval of Nordic, MTR & Avalanche Supervisors
- Search & Rescue Certification from any accredited organization outside the NSP

Nordic Module:

1. NSP Nordic Management

Patrol Director: Responsibilities National/Division
Relationships Federal/State & Local Organizations
Relationship with public

The candidate shall have completed one of the following for at least one year:

- a. Served as either patrol director or assistant PD of a Nordic patrol for one year
- b. Held an advisory position on either a region or division level for one year
- c. Shadowed one of the above.

2. Equipment

Ability to technically define & instruct the use of appropriate:
Clothing, Boots, Skis, Poles
Waxing
Daypack
Multi Day Pack

3. Toboggan

Improvised Nordic Toboggan; Construction / Group Instruction
Belays Static, Dynamic & Mechanical
Demonstrate, in area, free heel ski skills equivalent to NSP Alpine Patroller.

4. Ski Skills

All Senior Nordic ski skills reviewed
Seven to ten kilometer timed course. (This is a sustained aerobic exercise. The course will be set over moderate terrain and is not designed to be a race. Course will be pre-run by two Nordic Senior level patrollers.)
Demonstrate advanced Free Heel ski skills parallel and telemark. Both in area and off piste.

MTR Module:

1. Demonstrate mastery of land navigation with topographic map and compass.

Map reading – elevation, orient map, declination adjustments, position location.

UTM system

Following a compass route of at least one mile with a minimum of five course changes.

Demonstrates understanding of GPS navigation and its use.

Demonstrates working knowledge of dressing for the conditions.

Candidate must use acceptable equipment and demonstrate adequate knowledge of its use. Skis are required for majority of travel.

Demonstrates proper consideration for environmental concerns.

Sets out with acceptable knowledge of weather developments in given time.

Demonstrates how to use real time observations to make decisions concerning weather changes if needed.

2. Overnight ski tour

Not less than four hours on trail.

Length to be determined by conditions

Demonstrates proper route selection judgment and hazard awareness.

Overnight bivouac in shelter constructed by candidate to include evaluator.

Must provide safe water for self and evaluator (starting with 2 liters or less).

Must provide fire and warm meal for self and evaluator.

Meal must provide acceptable levels of nutrition and hydration for climatic conditions.

Demonstrate rescue of evaluator

Will require use of emergency sled

Will require use of Z drag or equivalent rope system

Must set up some type of signaling system

For air search as well as land search

Will diagnose and treat one medical emergency and two non-life threatening injuries, one potentially serious, one minor.

3. Additional requirements

Organize and lead a search and rescue problem. Candidate will demonstrate proper levels of leadership, communication, teamwork, effects of working under stress, and accessing team member abilities. Incident command system (ICS) will be followed.

Avalanche Module:

1. Snow Pit Analysis

Stability Evaluation

Proper use of tools

Hazard Evaluation

Snowpack - Field Tests

Decision Making

2. Travel concepts as applicable to avalanche terrain

Route Safety

Ascending

Crossing

Descending

Route Selection & Safe Travel Procedures and Travel in Avalanche Terrain
Rescue Scenario – Candidate shall lead “untrained” team members (or act solo) in an immediate rescue of three or more trapped avalanche victims. Two partial burials one complete burial (use dummies where appropriate) - Timed Performance- Evaluators will consider the following factors; Scene Safety, Decision Making, Immediate Search, Witness/Patient and Scene Management, Spot Probing and Strategic Shoveling, Beacon Search/Multiple Beacons, Extrication and Evacuation

3. Organized Search

Understanding of ICS as it applies to Avalanche search
Organization and management of Probe line
Effective skill in transceiver search
Rescue Reporting

4. Additional requirements

Organize and lead a search and rescue problem. Candidate will demonstrate proper levels of leadership, communication, teamwork, effects of working under stress, and accessing team member abilities. Incident command system (ICS) will be followed.

Oral board of review

The candidate shall satisfactorily complete an oral “Board of review” before a minimum of three Nordic Instructor Trainers, preferably with two who are Nordic Masters. Questions will be posed to determine the level of understanding of the Avalanche, Mountain Travel and Rescue program and the Nordic discipline.

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