EASTERN DIVISION CERTIFIED ANNUAL MEETING

HELD ON ZOOM

April 19, 2022, 7-9 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM with 65 in attendance. Justin motion, Mike Wess 2nd

* 2021 Meeting Minutes went out late so acceptance will take place at a later date.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

* National Board Members – John Kane, Bob Bernatos, Marc Abend
* National Chair – Chris Brodersen, outgoing May 1
* New National Chair – Sal Mascarenas, incoming May 9 meeting
* APP/PSPA Russ Monast, Bob Franz, Justin Guth, Donny Mills, Joe Kulina, Joe Greenwood

ANNUAL EXAM

We had 77 participants. Everything worked well. Thank you to Sugarloaf!

Welcome to our new members:

* #852 Roddy Erlenbach, Sugarloaf
* #853 Brian Reed, Canaan Valley
* #854 Mike Ksenich. Elk Mountain

CHAIR REPORTS

*Avalanche – Linda Helms*

Clint read report from Helms – we did it! Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

* Thanks to Wilson for the opportunity to serve
* Bernatos worked with Helms on beacon search which was held on a closed slope.
* Avalanche module – 3 of the 5 completed the module.
  + Written 50% pass rate 2/1
  + Beacon 100% pass rate 4/4
  + Interview 50% pass rate 2/1

*Low Angle – Bill Zink*

* 2/0 0% pass rate. Both very close and got very detailed feedback.
* Looking for instructors

*Lift Evac – Tom Wallin*

* 3 candidates took, 1 successful 33% pass rate.

*OEC – Laitala*

* Written 100% pass rate 2/2
* Practical 75% pass rate 4/3
* Bystander 0% pass rate 2/0

*ORM – Mark Petrozzi*

* Thanks to all. Had a Zoom pretest for examiners 13 attended, 10 participated at exam both examining and aspiring.
* Two candidates were unsuccessful. Both admitted they needed more preparation.
* Changes in Skier Responsibility Code. Bernatos asked for information. Let people know it’s coming for the 23/24 season. Mike Wess was at a Pro Division meeting and said that the rollout is planned for May 2023.

*OET – Donny Mills*

* Thanks to all who helped at exam and pretest this year.
* Skiing 67% pass rate 3/2
* Toboggan 0% pass rate 1/0
* Look forward to seeing everyone at the pretest at Killington 2/5

*CREDENTIALS – Mark DelSesto*

* 2 applications, expecting many but many dropped out
* 100% pass rate

*RECERTS – Eric Kreckel*

* 7 recerts all successful; 5 at Killington pretest; 2 at Sugarloaf. Guth stated there were more at the exam, looking for the details.
* 8 byes granted due to lack of available events.
* 32 due in 2023 all received byes this year.

*LIFETIME – Herb Kushner*

* Team is Kulina, Armet, Nickerson, Barnes, and Jordan.
* Thanks to all great, fun exam.
* Overjoyed that I was overridden about having the exam.
* Two new lifetimes – both on the call Joe Menichino and Karl Johnson well deserved and well earned.

*AWARDS – Peter Neefus*

* Thanks to Joe Kulina and Steve Barnes for all their help.
* 32 Yellow Merit Stars have already been given out to recognize members who year after year have contributed to the program.
* Criteria
  + Active NSP member
  + Active or lifetime Certified member
  + Greater than 10 years and actively involved the whole time.
* This year Yellow Merit recipients to Erik Kreckel, Joe Probst, and Matt Nebzydoski
* Gordie Bell Certified Patroller of the Year – Don Mills

*STEERING – Bill Cline*

* No report

JUSTIN GUTH MOVED TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS, PETER NEEFUS SECOND. MOTION PASSED.

*REPORT ON CERTIFIED EVENT – Jon Wilson*

* Huge challenge following two years off.to Sugarloaf following two consecutive cancellations.
* Roddy and his team did a great job.
* Sugarloaf Inn was a great host providing food and coffee and separate meeting areas. No one got sick.
* Magnetic board worked well – thanks to Bob Bernatos.
* Will continue to use Patrollerschool.org for registration.
* Thanks to all…and no one got sick!

NEW BUSINESS

*ANNUAL CERTIFIED TEST DATES*

* 2023
  + HurriKane Cove - Aug. 20-22, 2023 – food prices rising, may be a challenge/cost for attendance increase? Candidates are first, followed by Chuck’s Team. JK costs this past year were triple and are continuing to go up. ED hopes to send some $$? Get a grant? We’re around 54; good number. We can push to about 70 but more isn’t great. More to come. Week following boot camp will be available for those who wish to stay for vacation. Arrive Friday and forward.
  + February 3 Pretest and recerts at Killington.
  + February 4-5 Certified calibrations.
  + Possible pretest location TBD
  + March 16-19 Annual Exam at Killington with the possibility of 14 candidates; 8 new starts. Looking for block of 25 rooms at Killington Grand
* 2024
  + Annual Certified Weekend
  + Jay Peak has called twice to have us come back.
  + Sugarbush would like to host.
  + Stowe (possible issues with Vail)
  + Gore
  + Whiteface
  + Smugglers’ Notch

Matt Nebzydoski moves to defer to leadership team to investigate and make a decision; Peter Neefus second. Motion carried with 62 in attendance.

*Certified Preschool/Patroller Schools*

* 1st weekend February
* Pretest suggestions:
  + Justin/McCauley
  + Justin/Magic
  + Young/Sugarbush is best terrain in the East
* Possibly have a budget for 2-3 rooms per pretest

*Smartsheet Rollout – Nancy Mayberry, Division Administrator*

* Eastern Division Certified has a Control Center
* Each certified will be able to monitor their data and keep it current.
* Allows us to provide information about the program and the shadow it casts and share with all divisions.
* Currently has approximately 100 members.
* Everyone will have viewing access.
* Members need to update their profiles and keep data current.
* All info will go to Sal and he can get the snapshot
* Wilson: Huge thank you to Nancy for putting this in place.

*Memorial Plaque – Peter Neefus*

* Suggest that Eastern Division be spelled out.
* Wh*o will have custody of the plaque?*
* Will have member name, certified #, and year passed.
* Have a book to accompany plaque with more details about each member.
* We need to start up Certified Angel Pins again and get a list of who has received one. Offer logo clothing.

*Diversity, Equality, and Inclusiveness – Bill Cline*

* We are a positive performance team, everyone is welcome.

*Avalanche Weekend with Eastern Division*

* Zeek will schedule a definite weekend for Avalanche 1 parts 2 & 3.

*OET Tailrope question/follow-up*

* Bill Zink suggests Don and OET team come to a resolution on this issue.
* Sarah – Needs to come to conclusion; is this for tailrope evaluation or for safety?
* Brad – when we do run a tailrope we’re a team. But here we’re evaluating the candidate running the sled. We need to come up with a way to take the team aspect out of the situation. Not about whether the person is running the tailrope successfully.
* Mills – wrap up – agree with Brad (team working in tandem) needs to be there for these exams. We can evaluate the driver. Scoring calibration: what are we looking at for safety. Both have to do their job.
* Grant – dialogue I want to initiate – tailrope will be necessary at Gore.
* Wilson tabled discussion.

*Chuck’s Team*

* Need to reinforce the team concept
* Need a strong list of folks to run check’s team.

*Chair Position*

* Leadership team needs to step up.
* Term ends 2024.
* Anyone interested in the job?

*Messaging*

* Online and in person “The Certified Program is the quintessential patrol leadership training program for future leaders in the NSP.”
* Need to focus on well-rounded patrollers comfortable in every situation.

*Discussion* points:

* Program delivery; areas to improve upon and areas of concern.
* Powderfall feedback – successful, areas to improve on.
  + Successful event
  + 2 indoor, 2 outdoor events
  + Jim O’Connor – most attended event was the 60+
  + Roundtable very well attended.
  + Sal M. – we cast a long shadow, this program will provide the next mentors and leaders.
* Instagram value as photo editor
* Photo slide show needs more pictures and video. Thanks to Mark DelSesto*.*
* Instagram and Facebook accounts – anyone want to take these over contact Wilson.
* Next season we may have eight new candidates with potential for four more.
* Want to expand on the region advisors and have 2 per region.
* Need everyone at Killington because of exam size.
* Invitation going to all certified chairs and division directors.
  + Sal will attend and has requested funding for committee supervisors to attend.
  + Certified committee has not had a face-to-face meeting in four years. Five are brand new.
  + Abend – need good concrete stories as to why they should attend and the value behind it.
* Need to keep the division certified webpage current.
* PowerPoint presentation from Southern Division will be modified for Eastern Division. Intention is that people have access to the presentation for information to give out.

Motion by Herb Kushner to adjourn, Chris Brodersen second. Motion carries at 10:00 PM.

Submitted by Bob Bernatos, Secretary

Following the meeting Justin Guth and Clint gave a slide presentation about their attendance at the Olympics in China. Discussion about roll out, logistics, team members, terrain, cold, and injuries. “Does the certified program prepare you to work at a high level within the Olympic platform?”

Thanks to all.