



Mt. Hood Ski Patrol

Snojob

October 2014



Mt. Hood Snow Sport Swap

Dateline: September 29, 2014

Flash: [It is not too late!](#)

Yes, dear readers, it is not too late to dispatch for the Mt. Hood Snow Sports Swap. At press time there were still opportunities to join in on the fun! Clerks and Cashiers are particularly required on Friday, Saturday afternoon and Sunday. So warm up your computers and go on line to www.mhspdispatch.org/cgi-bin/swap. Sign up for two shifts!

Having trouble dispatching? Never fear! Email pat@sdeltd.com or joel@sdeltd.com and they will help you! Working that weekend? Not a problem! Contact kgranning26@me.com to see if there are alternatives available. She just might have a pre-Swap job that needs to be done!

Got a Facebook page? Talk up the Swap! Better yet, go to the Swap's Facebook page and like it. The more chatter about the Swap the better!

So, boys and girls, we look forward to seeing your smiling faces. Be sure to read the FAQ that was sent to you so you will know what to expect and what to wear. And by all means, please remember, SPIF!

Your Swap Team Reporter, Pat Stevens

PATROLLER OPERATIONS

Patrol Chief

By Doug Stanton, Patrol Chief, HC 995



Uniforms

As we approach the 2014-2015 season, a discussion about uniforms needs to be had. Our uniforms represent our organization and recognized by the public for the service we provide. Keeping your uniform current and clean is essential to the image we project while protecting us from the elements.

One of my pet peeves as Patrol Chief is having our entire patrol in compliance with color and badging requirements. Every effort is made to make everyone aware of our standards yet we still have issues in compliance. So, in an effort to recite our requirements, the following are guidelines toward making your uniform the best that it can be:

Outerwear – Solid red jacket or vest, solid black pant.

Badging – Large MHSP cross upper mid back of jacket/vest, MHSP shield left breast pocket, name tag above shield, shoulder crosses upper sleeve both arms (white cross Hill, black background cross Associate).

Packs – Midsize or small MHSP cross center back of pack or first aid belt.

Other Badging – Senior and/or National Appointment patches right breast pocket.

If your outerwear meets these parameters, thank you for your compliance. If your outerwear is out of compliance, please take the necessary actions to correct before the season starts. Compliance helps with the professionalism of our organization and it just looks great when done correctly. Lastly and very important, don't forget to clean your outerwear and apply appropriate waterproofing. Even though it may look clean it's probably not. If your gear is torn or severely faded, you should consider replacing. No duct tape on pants, please.

Dispatch

I'm starting to receive emails asking when dispatch will be open which is great and shows the anticipation for the coming season. A lot of work needs to be accomplished between now and when the resorts begin to open. Resort meetings are being scheduled, OEC and Chair Evac training is ramping up, Hill Captain and Associate Supervisor meeting needs to be completed, and don't forget about the Swap. There's a lot to be accomplished in a short period.

Dispatch will be open November 1 this year. Biggest change will be the elimination of modules. This year, dispatch days will be scheduled and open to be filled through May 31st covering the entire winter season. If you elect to dispatch for the entire season, it is incumbent that you manage your dispatch very closely. Dispatching for a date then forgetting creates a "no show" problem. It leaves a dispatch slot open on the mountain for that day/date and may have excluded another patroller from filling that slot. You should initially only dispatch to the level commitment you've made for the season. Prudence and respect for your fellow patrollers should be your guide.

Is your Equipment Ready?

In last month's Snojob I suggested that if you hadn't started a conditioning program, you should actively start to reduce the potential of injury and fatigue. This month I want to talk about your equipment that is just as important in making your patrol day on the mountain enjoyable.

Probably the last time we touched our gear was in late spring unless you patrolled this summer on the Palmer snowfield. In either case, your gear is exactly where you left it months ago, collecting dust and needing attention. Depending on the age and use you put your gear, your bindings should be checked annually to assure they function correctly and are at the correct setting. Just cranking them down to hold you in is not an appropriate solution to premature releases. Skis may need to be fully tuned but certainly should be hot waxed and scraped clean. Nothing worse than a bad tune, no wax, or wrong wax. How about those boots? Can you buckle them in the morning and never touch them again throughout the day? Maybe a custom boot fit is in order? Comfort is everything.

Don't forget about your gloves, helmet, hat, goggles, neck gaiter – all that stuff in your gear bag. And speaking of stuff in your pack, how's your first aid pack looking? It's a good time to make sure you have the correct stuff in your aid pack. Nothing worse than arriving on scene and not having the right stuff to properly address a case. Have a radio and/or transceiver? Updated the firmware lately? How about changing the batteries? These are all critical items as you prepare for the season. Start now and be ready before the snow flies.

Senior Program

One of the best leadership and skill building programs that NSP and MHSP offers is the Senior program. Comprised of Senior OEC, Senior Ski and Toboggan (S&T) and a compliment of electives, the Senior program develops the skills that transform a patrollers confidence and capabilities. The confidence developed within the program is an essential part of becoming leader within the patrol. It's a challenging and rewarding development program that any patroller that has completed their rookie year requirements can pursue.

There will be more announcements in the coming weeks detailing the program and training dates. Questions can be directed to me, David Atkinson, Jeffrey Weitz, or Cleo Howell.

Commitment Levels and Benefits

The Wiki has been updated for the 2104-2015 season detailing commitment levels and benefits. Please go to the Wiki and review the season commitments prior to attending OEC refresher. You will be asked at check out to fill in your commitment for the season. Knowing in advance will minimize extended discussions while other patrollers are trying to checkout.

Free Skiing

Many of our patrollers when free skiing occasionally choose to ski with their aid pack and in some cases carry a radio. Although having this gear available, it can become a problem for resort management. Patrollers responding that are not dispatched creates problems with resort communications and potentially exposes the resort and MHSP to liability.

Effective immediately, patrollers free skiing will not carry a patrol radio, personal patrol radio, or resort radio while free skiing. At no time will a patroller free ski in uniform without being part of the patrol dispatch for that day. If you choose to carry your pack, all badging identifying you as a ski patroller must be removed. At no time will a patroller out of uniform access a lift other than through public lanes.

I have had patrollers come to me once I suggested this change that they're an asset on the mountain that compliments the dispatched patrollers by being an additional set of eyes on the hill. As with everything in life, there is always a justifiable reason for doing something. In this case, the problems outweigh the benefits. There is no reason that a patroller free skiing needs to carry a radio, be in uniform or even carry a pack. If this were the case, they should be dispatched as a patroller for that day.

If an off duty patroller comes across a case, establishment of scene safety, sending another guest skier to the nearest lift to contact dispatch with location is all that is required. Assisting patrol once on scene if asked is all that should be provided, you will not control the scene or the case. If patrol dismisses you from the scene, you are relieved of any further responsibility. You may however be requested to fill out an incident report.

Adherence to the requirement is very important to the overall operation of our patrol and the relationship we maintain with the resorts. Any questions should be directed to me for clarification.

Mt Hood Meadows and Timberline Teams

Teams are forming at both Mt Hood Meadows and Timberline for the coming season. Any patroller interested in joining a team should contact the area APC's to learn about team requirements. Below is a list of the APC's:

Jeffrey Weitz – Timberline (Hill)
John Howard – Timberline (Associate)
Roger Meier – Mt Hood Meadows (Hill)
Kat Moore – Mt Hood Meadows (Associate)

Associate Director

By Jodie Jeffers, Associate Director, AS 90526



As I am writing this, I am in wonder of the snowpack I am currently seeing in Alaska and knowing our season will be in full swing soon. We all are waiting for lots of snow to arrive so I want to encourage all of you to help your council with communication. This will be important to have from you to us but even more so from us to you! Please review the Snojob and your emails from members of the council in regards to up and coming events and your needs. The OEC Refreshers, Ski Swap, Chair Evacs, and our first monthly meeting will be occurring this month. If you have suggestions or concerns, please let me know as soon as possible so I can help you or get you to

the right person. This might include uniforms, dispatch, procedures, and area specific questions. Please, let's keep those lines of communication open so that we can all enjoy our time on the mountain.

Associate Uniform Requirements

This month's focus is about uniform expectations. Dust off your gear and clothing to ensure all is fitting and operating well. Our uniform shows our professional identification and pride in what we do. Uniforms are a key factor that the public looks to as well as the ski areas. Uniformity is a key component of our job. It is also about safety and protection for you and others whether on the hill, the road, day and night.

Our Patrol Chief, Doug Stanton, is expecting all of us to make sure we are on track with this. If you are having problems remembering all the specifics of what goes where, what color scheme inside or outside? Go to www.mthoodskipatrol.org/wiki and click *Uniform Requirements* in the Patroller section. Please review the Uniform Requirements and any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Yes, it is all about the communication.

New Avalanche Training Requirements

By John Gastineau, Avalanche Training Director, HC 1393

Avalanche training is required of all patrollers. The level of training depends on the patroller classification.

There are four avalanche courses taught by Mt Hood Ski Patrol.

- Avalanche Awareness is a one-evening course to expose apprentices to the nature of avalanche hazards. There is no refresher; the course is simply repeated. The course can also be taken online, for a fee, at the NSP web site.
- Level 1 Avalanche introduces fundamental principles of avalanche hazard, safety and rescue. It includes an organized rescue component not found in non-patrol avalanche courses. The ability to travel safely on steep, ungroomed terrain is assumed.
- Level 1 Avalanche Refresher serves to review material for Level 1.
- Level 2 Avalanche for Rescue Personnel adds advanced background material for hazard assessment, forecasting, and mitigation. Level 1 is a prerequisite, as is the ability to travel uphill on snow.



The MHSP council recently revised the avalanche training requirements in response to certain changes in the National Ski Patrol avalanche program. Level 1 Avalanche initial instruction now consists of three modules: Avalanche Foundations (about a day of classroom work), Fundamental Field Skills (two days of field work) and Organized Rescue Fundamentals (another day of classroom and field instruction).

Hill and Nordic Patrollers – Hill and Nordic patrollers are required to achieve and maintain certification of at least Level 1 Avalanche (including all three modules). Refresher certification is required once every three years. Hill and Nordic patrollers age 65 and older may substitute the Avalanche Awareness class, repeated once every three years, to remain active. Initial certification is done during the patroller's rookie year.

Associate Patrollers – Associate patrollers may take either Avalanche Awareness or Level 1 Avalanche. Avalanche Awareness is the minimum requirement to remain active. Both Avalanche Awareness and Level I require refresher certification once every three years. Associate patrollers wishing to patrol at Mt Hood Meadows must be Level 1 certified. Associate patrollers age 65 and older may substitute the Avalanche Awareness class once every three years to remain active.

Apprentice Patrollers – All Apprentices must take Avalanche Awareness. Apprentices wishing to optionally take Level 1 training during the apprentice year must get approval from the Apprentice Training Director and Avalanche Training Director.

Level 2 Avalanche Certification – Level 2 certified patrollers must still take a refresher course once every three years, but passing Level 2 resets the refresher clock.

Cadet's wanted for 2014-2015 Ski Season

The MHSP Young Adult Patroller (YAP) program is a great way to introduce teens to patrolling, and lay the groundwork for them to become tomorrow's patrollers. Last season MHSP had 8 active Cadets in the Young Adult Patroller Program (a record!). As we gear up for the 2014-2015 season, the YAP program is looking for new cadet patrollers to join the program. Candidates must be between 15 – 18 years of age, be able to ski and be willing to make the time commitment for training and on-mountain activity. Cadets will spend 8 days on the mountain (2 at each resort), learn basic sled handling and first aid, and shadow patrollers as they open/close and patrol the mountain. And patrolling time can be used for service hour requirements at many Portland area high schools! If you have (or know of) teens who would be interested, or would like more information, contact Eric Granning at egranning23@me.com

Nordic News

By Jeff Hepler, Nordic Director, 30006

This ski patrol year will embrace changes to help meet the needs of the skiing public. The two areas our MHSP-USFS agreement provides coverage for are (1) Teacup Lake Nordic Area, and (2) USFS Nordic Trails. Nordic Patrollers have traditionally played an important role in event safety and I anticipate supporting 8-10 events this season (in addition to events sponsored by Teacup). To align our equipment with our mission we have 1 sled (Mountainsmith) and trauma kit dedicated to Teacup Lake, and a second sled (cascade) and trauma kit in the locker for events.

It is unlikely that MHSP Nordic Patrollers will be used by Clackamas County or Hood River County Sheriff's Office this season for Search and Rescue (SAR) outside of Teacup Lake Nordic Area. I will be meeting with the SAR Deputies of both counties to clarify our role in SAR at special events. I hope to get authorization to carry out event-specific SAR operations. More to follow at the On-Hill Day.

Nordic On-the-Hill training is scheduled for Saturday, November 15th, 0900-1500 at the MHSP station in Government Camp. There will be important new topics covered in this training so please make every effort to participate.

Keep in touch and thanks for serving the mountain as a Nordic patroller.

Instructor Development Goes Hybrid

By Kathy Lee, SS90232

This year, Instructor Development will be offered as a hybrid E-course rather than the traditional two night classroom course. The e-portion covers information that typically would be covered the first night of the course and allows you to complete this portion at your own pace. There is still a required classroom portion where you present a six-pack lesson. This is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12th, 7pm, location TBD, and will be on the dispatch soon. There is a \$20 fee for the e-course.

For more information and to enroll in the e-course, contact Kathy Lee, leek232@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT CAMP BUILDING OPERATIONS

Assistant Caretaker Needed

By Mike Anderson, AS 1510

For the coming ski season it is going to be difficult for me to continue my capacity as the Govy Building Caretaker without some extra assistance. As you recall last Spring I had to take some time off, and my schedule isn't getting any easier. I am hoping that someone would be able to step up to help me with covering all of the responsibilities to keep the building running smoothly, possibly a transition year with me assisting and a new person to gradually take over completely. It really isn't difficult, but there is a need for someone to be there at least every other weekend. If one of you are interested in working with me to insure proper coverage, or if you are already there quite a bit of the time and would like to talk about his more, please e-mail me and we can get together to chat.

The benefits include free lodging when you are there, a place to store some of your stuff so you don't have to haul it back and forth all of the time, and most importantly you get to meet most of the folks in the patrol!

You all have done a great job in keeping the building clean and letting me know when something needs to be taken care of. It's just becoming more difficult for me to be there as much as I would like, so a "job share" or training for a new person to take over would be great.

mikeanderson3@comcast.net

MOUNTAIN HOST OPERATIONS

Mountain Host Director

By Mike Cullen, Mountain Host Director, HS 60009,

Apprentice Recruitment

Our Host Recruitment Director, Gery Schirado, has been very busy contacting applicants. We are currently processing folks that have expressed an interest in becoming part of the Mountain Host program. Interviews will continue this month to select those who will be in the next group. The focus is on building up the number of members that will be making Skibowl the primary resort that they will dispatch to. There is still a little time for interested applicants to participate.

OEC Update Training = Host participation

Each year all of the "red coat" patrollers go through refresher training for their Outdoor Emergency Care skills. We have opened up slots on the dispatch for hosts to play the role of a patient at these sessions. The trainers will help teach the patient volunteers how to do a little acting to simulate an actual event.

Chairlift Evac Training = Host participation

This is the annual refresher training for all of the "red coat" patrollers. Patrollers will be polishing their skills at evacuating guests from the chairs in the event that a chair lift stops running. We are inviting hosts to play the role of a guest and be evacuated from the chairs. This opportunity is valuable in understanding how the process works and how hosts can be of assistance. Shifts have been made available for sign up on dispatch. Following the practice session, there will be a BBQ at the patrol building in Government Camp. Hosts are also able to dispatch to help with the BBQ.

Hosting @ Summit Ski Area

Hosting at Summit has been talked about for a number of years. Summit would love to have our help. We are in the planning stages of starting operations there this year. Please drop me an email and let me know if you are

interested in doing some shifts at Summit this year. This will help us evaluate how much of a commitment we can give to Summit.

Hosts @ Monthly MHSP General Meeting

Hosts are definitely welcome, invited and encouraged to attend the monthly general patrol meetings that begin in October and run through April. The details of each meeting location and time are published on the home page calendar of dispatch. The first meeting this year will be Monday, October 13, at Athey Creek Middle School, 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Feel free to arrive early around 6:30 PM for some socializing time with fellow patrollers.

OTHER NEWS

Portland to Coast Relay

By Kathy Lee, SS 90232

With a great crowd to cheer us on, the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol Hoodlums crossed the finish line at Seaside, still upright and with all body parts intact! The team placed 5th in the Masters Division, 45th overall out of 400 teams – way to go team!

A huge thank you to our team sponsors: Vancouver Spine & Orthopedic, 360 Physical Therapy, The Hobby Smith, Silverton Electrolysis and JH Contracting – their support helped make it possible for the team to represent the patrol in the relay. Terry Niedermeyer and Display Star generously donated banners, signage for the vehicles, and one of the vehicles, and Sheril Karstens provided the use of her SUV as the second vehicle. Thank you – your support of the team is very much appreciated!!

What makes this such a fun event is the team effort by everyone – volunteers, drivers and walkers. Congratulations to the walkers for a great effort pounding the pavement

in the 132 mile leap frog journey. A big shout out of thanks to Paul Wellner and Jaye Miller for stepping up to fill in and walk at the last minute. Great job to the rest of the walkers: Larry Cahill, Bill High, Sheril Karstens, Gayle Maize, Lori Neal, Diane Potter, Steve Potter, Craig Savage and Margaret Usher.

Our volunteers came through again - they are so important that without them, the team would be disqualified. Thank you to Dina Peganoff, Jeff Hall and Chuck Cahill. Our drivers, James Schuler and John 'Road Warrior' Howard, did another awesome job getting us safely to Seaside.

An outstanding team effort!



In Memorium

MHSP has lost two past presidents in the past two months.



John Garren, HC 401, died at the age of 87 on July 23. John serves as president of MHSP from 1965 to 1967. A professional bridge engineer, he was also a whitewater enthusiast well known for his guide book *Oregon River Tours*.



Norm Lilly, HC 479, passed away on September 11 at the age of 85. Norm served as president from 1973 to 1975 and was followed into patrolling by two of his children, Craig Lilly, HP 750, and Marcia Christianson, HP 786.

CALENDAR

For a complete listing see the official MSHP calendar at www.mhspdispatch.org.

October

2-5 Swap
6 Council Meeting
13 General Meeting
18 Chair Evac
19 Chair Evac
20 Snojob Deadline
23 AS/HC Meeting
25 OEC Refresher

November

2 OEC Refresher
3 Council Meeting
10 General Meeting
17 Snojob Deadline

December

1 Council Meeting
8 General Meeting
15 Snojob deadline

12th Annual Pro Night

Thursday Oct. 16th

From 5pm-9:30pm

Best prices of the year from all the top companies!

All products are on an order only basis to ensure the best possible prices



See you there, and PRAY FOR SNOW!

Have questions? 503-665-4455 ask for Dexter, Dave or Trent
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