

# The January 2021 Very 2021

#### NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

With 2020 now behind us, I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and Holiday Season with your loved ones and comrades on the snow.

I also want to thank you all for your generosity in helping to fulfill our end-of-year fundraiser. We achieved and even exceeded our goal. Your generosity is so much appreciated!!

I do have one official update from the Council to bring to your attention. For reasons beyond anyone's control, MHSP Secretary Alan Harvey's work within the legal system has made it impossible for him to fulfill his obligations to the Secretary position.



The Council decided to have the President appoint an interim replacement until the next general election takes place. Courtney Walsh was asked and has graciously accepted the position. Over the past two weeks she has worked diligently and has proven to be a very capable and effective addition to our Council. Thank you, Courtney, for stepping up!

Looking over the events of the past year, it's hard not to be discouraged. We've been through so much turmoil in our communities and society.

Economies and lives have been destroyed in this pandemic. Virtually every aspect of our lives has been affected and there is nothing to compare it to.

I honestly thought this pandemic would be controlled by this time and we'd be back to our normal operations on the mountain. However, there is still hope on the horizon. There are now treatments and vaccines coming on scene that should help turn the tide.

While our training has been difficult, we've overcome all obstacles and made our services available at all of the ski areas we serve.

Someone reminded me of when we were learning to ski. We're told that as we transition out of our turns, wherever we focus our vision, our skis follow. The body gets into the rhythm and it all comes together. Maybe new hope for the coming year can be as simple as going back to basics.

The simple truth is that whether we joined this organization because we "wanted to give back to the mountain," "wanted to help our community," or "wanted to ski for free," we're here together at this point.

My original vision has not changed from the day I first volunteered, and I believe that most of us can say the same. It's been an interesting ride, so to speak but, as we transition out of this last year, we need to follow our vision and continue in our new direction.

I wish you all the very best in this coming year and hope to soon see you all on the mountain!!

James Schuler, MHSP Council President

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Pg.</u>
Area Operating Hours	2
General Meeting times	2
Mtn Operations Update	3
Associate Operations	4
Nordic Operations	5
Mtn Host Operations	6
Avy Program Update	
Committees	
Clothing	9
Governance	
Fundraising	9
BLS/CPR Wrap Up	10
Events Calendar	

**Editor:** John Mark Ripkey, AS 1658 **Asst Editor:** Courtney Walsh, HP 1833



Affiliated with the National Ski Patrol

The Sweep is a MHSP Newsletter published monthly by Mt. Hood Ski Patrol Inc. a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit.

Patrolling Area Operations/Showtimes:					
<u>Skibowl</u> : Open Contact team leads	<u>Timberline</u> : Open Contact team leads	<u>Meadows</u> : Open Contact Team Leads	Summit: Open Contact Terry Niedermeyer	Teacup: Open Showtime: 0900 booted up Done by 1600 Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun. Contact Steve Potter	

#### **JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Joel Stevens, MHSP Council Junior Trustee, T/GP 736

The General Membership (the second Monday) Meeting will be held virtually during its normal time and date:

- Monday, January 11th, 2021
- 1900-2100

**Virtual Meeting Link:** 

meet.google.com/tzo-seoy-jdm

or

Join by Phone:

(US) +1 401-594-2091 PIN: 867 296 013#

Connection information will also be relayed to all members via email. If you have not received connection information by Saturday January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, please contact your director or team lead for information on how to attend. Hope to see you virtually then.

Be prepared with your questions for the Council.

#### **MOUNTAIN OPERATIONS UPDATE**

Dave Winterling, Patrol Chief, HP 1806

Fellow members,

We're now a full month into 20/21 winter patrol operations. Our members are doing a great job on the hill, enjoying their patrol days while also adapting well to the many changes this year.



All areas are now in full operation and, as of this writing, the forecast is showing heavy snowfall through the first week of January, on top of an already solid snowpack - nice!

Our local ski areas are limiting guest counts this year (using different processes), but with less carpooling that is <u>not</u> translating to fewer vehicles uphill. In fact, with the increased popularity of outdoor recreation, the parking lots are now filling <u>early</u>. As a result, our teams have had to adjust morning schedules to show up earlier, to ensure finding a place to park. Be sure to check hill captain communications re: starting time, prior to a patrol day.

Our sled coaching team is planning on a busy January - finishing the training and final testing for last year's OET apprentice class, while starting training for both the new apprentice class and the OET Senior program, along with a solid program of clinics. Many thanks for the great commitment from our sled coaches.

We're all looking forward to a great 2021 - starting with slowing and eventually ending this pandemic. At this point the forecast looks good, the only question is "how long will it take?"

Keep a positive outlook, and enjoy your time on the mountain, you deserve it!

Best wishes and stay healthy,

DW

#### **ASSOCIATE OPERATIONS**

John Howard, Associate Director, AS 90227

Greetings everyone.

Winter has arrived and I hope you all had a wonderful and safe Holiday Season.

All the areas are open, and operations are going well. There is a bit of "make it up as we go along" this year, so please be flexible.

Everyone is trying to enjoy the outdoors and the wonderful skiing, while at the same time adhering to COVID-19 restrictions.

Please remember to do Doorway Triage. We are attempting to treat as many patients as possible in the hallway at Timberline and in the tunnel at Skibowl in the West First-Aid Room (though this is not practical on the East side of Skibowl).

If you have a patient who enters the First-Aid Room on Skibowl's East Side, only the patient and the necessary patrollers should be in the room, unless the patient is a child (and then only one parent or guardian is allowed). Everything needs to be disinfected after the patient leaves.

There are openings for both Hill and Associate Patrollers throughout the year. Please feel free to sign up for those openings, if you feel comfortable patrolling this year.



#### **NORDIC OPERATIONS**

Steve Potter, Nordic Director, NP/AP 1630

### What's happening at Teacup Lake?

Things are happening at Teacup Lake this season. We did have a race on December 12, 2020 and there are things in the planning stages for the rest of this season. Please check their website (<a href="https://teacupnordic.org">https://teacupnordic.org</a>) for the current status and upcoming events. If you want to shadow to check out our awesome opportunities, please contact me at <a href="mailto:spotter67@frontier.com">spotter67@frontier.com</a>.

TEACUP NORDIC
TRAIL SYSTEM
IN THE MT. HOOD River - 28 miles

SNOLVENE MEADOW

MEADOW

MEADOW

MEADOW

To Mod River - 28 miles

NOCATES DIRECTION FOR WAY THAIL

NOCATES DIRECTION FOR WAY THAIL THA

# SEVERAL EVENTS IN THE PLANNING PHASE COME ON OUT AND SKI TEACUP LAKE









#### **MOUNTAIN HOST OPERATIONS**

Jan Silagi, Mountain Host Director, HS 60054

#### **Timberline**

The Mountain Hosts launched their 2020-2021 season at Timberline on the day after Thanksgiving.

Following in the footsteps of our MHSP colleagues who had already been patrolling for several weeks, we implemented our new COVID-19 protocols and procedures. All went well for a great start to the season!



Working with the Timberline COVID employee group, whose responsibility is to attend to the ticket and rental shop lines, manage crowds in the building and be the front-line individuals who interact with guests regarding daily services, we reworked our duty stations over the initial three-day weekend.

In the best example of teamwork, our Hosts rallied to new requests and showed great flexibility to modify what we do, while continuing to serve Timberline with the highest standard of customer service. We have a stellar group to say the least!

My personal thanks to all the Host Supervisors who really stepped up to learn new procedures on the fly and implement changing requests over those initial weeks of the season.

They have all done an exemplary job of receiving new information, sometimes the evening before they were on the hill, educating the team of Hosts who were in their charge for the day, and working with me at the end of the day to evaluate what we were doing and modify where needed. I am very proud of this leadership group and grateful for their efforts! Thank you!



Timberline Morning Meeting opening day, November 27th, 2020 Left to right: Bob Trombi, Bill Hof, John Silagi, Michael Zevely, Bill Johnson, Karl Haugen, Marianne Haluska, Lorely French, Harry Chaivoe (behind Lorely) Photo by Jan Silagi

(continued next page)

#### Skibowl / Summit

Our support to Skibowl and Summit is now in full operation as well. Building on our adjustments at Timberline, our integration into these resorts has been virtually seamless and we are engaging lots of guests, happy to be playing on the snow!

We have been relying heavily on our Host Supervisors and Host Director Assistants (HDA) at these resorts as well, and my thanks go out to them!

As with Timberline, everyone has shown great flexibility and willingness to work within our COVID-19 Guidelines and still be the best customer service ambassadors that MHSP (and the resorts) could ask for!

#### **Host Apprentices**

Our apprentice class will be on the hill for training at all three resorts on January 9<sup>th</sup>, after which they will be dispatching to work alongside Host mentors for the season. We are excited to finally have them join us on the front lines!

Even with all the adjustments we have embraced, the season is off to a good start for our membership group. The snow is deep, and it has never seemed fresher and invigorating! With all the changes in our daily lives, the mountain hasn't changed...it's still spectacular!

Cheers, Jan

#### **AVALANCHE PROGRAM**

Mike Levis, Avalanche Program Coordinator, AS 1742

Patrollers,

In December, we wrapped up our Avy Awareness course. Thanks to Eric Einspruch, Sam Carpenter, Ryan Flood, and Luke Levin, the class was a hit. There were many positive comments from all the attendees.

#### **Avalanche Level 1 (Full class)**

All new Hill and Nordic patrollers are required to take avalanche level 1 during their rookie year. The class will be restructured this year to meet COVID-19 guidelines. The class consists of both an online class and three days of field work.

Online sessions will be January 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th, 1830–2030.

#### PLEASE SIGN UP FOR ALL SESSIONS.

Field sessions will be the weekend of January  $30^{th}/31^{st}$  or March  $6^{th}/7^{th}$ . Sign up for ONE of these weekends.

In addition, you need to sign up for one of the avalanche level 1 refresher days (see below).

Please note there is a cost associated with this class - \$35 plus textbooks. There will be more on this in the class info that will go out to those who sign up.

#### **Avalanche Level 1 Refresher**

All Hill and Nordic patrollers are required to take a 1-day avalanche level 1 refresher once every three years. This season, refreshers are scheduled for:

January  $23^{rd}$ , February  $20^{th}$ , March  $14^{th}$ , March  $21^{st}$ , and April  $10^{th}$ .

If you are due for an Avy level 1 refresher this year, please go ahead and dispatch.

Be careful out there.



Slab Avalanche Dec, 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020. God's Wall, Mt. Hood Meadows. *Photo: Mike Levis* 

#### **CLOTHING COMMITTEE**

Matt Wood, Interim Committee Chairman, HP/BP 1768



I still have possession of all clothing, uniform items, and patches/insignia.

We have plenty of North Face coats, some new size L pants, a reloaded stock of patrol t-shirts and quarter-zip sweatshirts, and we have NEW bike patrol tees and jerseys, as well as the usual assortment of caps and beanies.

Sorry - I have just one, lonely 28L pack remaining and no replacements until late 2021...

I will be scheduling a January date or two in the greater Portland area to have a "Parking Lot Store" set up for anyone who wants to drop by.

If you want or need items and will be patrolling, I will be on the mountain one or both days most weekends between now and the end of season, and would be happy to meet in Govy before or after shift.

Contact <u>vicepresident@mthoodskipatrol.org</u> or call or text 360-921-8879. Major surcharges apply for calls between 2300-0500 .

I can now take credit cards via Square (surcharge applies for fees) or cash, check, and even VenMo or PayPal in a pinch.

#### **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

Matt Wood, MHSP Vice President, HC/AP 1768

As noted in a couple of patrol-wide emails, we were very blessed to have a couple of anonymous angel donors offer some 2:1 matching funds for a 2020 year-end fundraiser.

MHSP members contributed over \$3500 in donations to match the pledge from our angels and the net result at the time of writing this update was a total over \$10,500 to the MHSP general fund.

In a year during which our fundraising was nearly non-existent, this was a needed shot in the arm.

THANK YOU to all who contributed, and especially to our angels, if they're reading!

#### **GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

Matt Wood, MHSP Vice President, HC/AP 1768

Many thanks to all who voted on the amendments of the Articles of Incorporation.

This vote yielded 42.6% voter participation, amply satisfying our 25% quorum requirement, with 95% of voters in favor.

In January, your Council will review a new draft of our Bylaws and these will be submitted for an independent legal review.

In February, we plan to present the new Bylaws in the general meeting for discussion of amendments, and subsequently submit them to the membership for a vote.

(continued next page)

Our review of Policies & Procedures continues in good order, with chapter 3 (Admin) complete and chapters 8 (Insurance) and 12 (Awards) up for Council review in January. Chapter 6, Code of Conduct, looms in the near future.

Remember, any and all members are welcome to attend the Council meetings if you wish to sit in on any of these discussions. Just go to the MHSP Google Calendar on Troopiter and click on the Google Meet video link.

#### **BLS/CPR 2020 WRAP UP**

Ed Taylor, OEC Coordination, AS/AP 1830



A BIG THANK YOU goes out to all the members of MHSP for your great proactive communication and turn-out to recertify your BLS/CPR certification this past fall.

We are at the recertification completion point for 2020 and arrangements are in place with the small few who need to complete the hands-on portion to finish their recertification process.

Feedback from several Patrollers regarding the AHA online portion (respective to the platform analytics used in administering the questions) was unfavorable enough to warrant some upcoming research/review with AHA

and our Legacy System team mates to look at improving the engagement with the online portion.

Watch for an article in a spring edition of *The Sweep* for an update on this issue and our approach to BLS/CPR recertification (including Hosts) in summer/fall 2021.

A success of this year is that the expiration month/year of just about every patroller, active or inactive for this year, had been recorded. Going forward, this provides clear visibility of who will be up for full BLS/CPR recertification after April 2021, and who will be only required to participate in a Skills Demonstration (pending reactivation of the requirement by NSP). This will allow better focused email communication to Patrollers about what course of action each person will need to take to maintain their BLS/CPR compliance in 2021.

#### **Three Important Callouts**

- Per current MSHP COVID-19 guidelines, **compression-only CPR will be administered until a BVM arrives on scene.** Please refer to the current MHSP COVID-19 guidelines for additional information pertaining to a CPR situation, in addition to use of an N95 (or approved equivalent), as determined at the time of your mask fit-testing.
- Employ the AED immediately upon its arrival.
- Areas overall have been good about having an O2 supply tubing already connected to the BVM. If a supply tubing from the BVM to the O2 bottle is not immediately available just grab any adult or infant non-rebreather mask and pull the tubing off the mask. A nasal canula does not work as a substitute.

(continued next page)

Sincere appreciation goes out to John Howard for coming out to Willamette Park on weekend mornings this fall to help with the set-up and cleaning of the equipment, as this was the key success factor in making the covered outdoor setting a success.

I am so appreciative of the MHSP membership; there were no headaches or drama for me throughout the fall process.

Everyone was great about providing their current card expiration status or jumping onto the online platform, emailing your certification, and turning out to a hands-on session. I estimate there were many who cursed the online portion but got it done... and this is why I say **THANK YOU!** 



Willamette Park Shelter all set up for CPR Class, November  $8^{\rm th}$ , 2020 Photo by Ed Taylor

## **CALENDAR**

#### January

- 4 Council Meeting, virtual, 1900-2200; contact Matt Wood vicepresident@mthoodskipatrol.org
  - 6 Avalanche Level 1, virtual, 1830-2030, contact Mike Levis, mplevis@gmail.com
    - 11 General Membership Meeting, virtual, 1900-2200; meeting details sent via email
      - 13 Avalanche Level 1, virtual, 1830-2030; contact Mike Levis, <a href="mailto:mplevis@gmail.com">mplevis@gmail.com</a>
        - 16 The Sweep Newsletter Deadline, 1800
          - 20 Avalanche Level 1, virtual, 1830-2030; contact Mike Levis, <a href="mailto:mplevis@gmail.com">mplevis@gmail.com</a>
            - 27 Avalanche Level 1, virtual, 1830-2030; contact Mike Levis, mplevis@gmail.com
              - **30** TES, Mt. Hood Meadows; Meet at the Dog House @ 0800; arrive early to get parking.

#### February

- 1 Council Meeting, virtual, 1900-2200; contact Matt Wood <u>vicepresident@mthoodskipatrol.org</u> 7 TES, Skibowl; Meet outside the West FAR at 0830.
  - & General Membership Meeting, virtual, 1900-2100; meeting details sent via email
    - 20 The Sweep Newsletter Deadline, 1800
    - 20 350 TES (Day 1), Timberline, first of two days; Meet by the swimming pool top of Pucci, 0900
      - **21** 350 TES (Day 2), Mt. Hood Meadows, second of two days; Meet at the Dog House 0800; arrive early to get parking.

#### March

- 6 Women's Clinic, Mt. Hood Meadows; Meet at the Dog House, 0800; arrive early to get parking.
  - 7 Council Meeting, virtual, 1900-2200; contact Matt Wood vicepresident@mthoodskipatrol.org
  - 14 General Membership Meeting, virtual, 1900-2100; meeting details sent via email
    - 19 The Sweep Newsletter Deadline, 1800