

Region PD's, Section Chief's, ARD's and Advisors,

First I'd like to announce some Region Staff Changes.

- ARD Pat Throop has taken a new job that requires him to work weekends and has stepped down ARD. I've asked Awards Advisor Virginia Rodeman to step up and fill this position.
- Section 2 Chief Peter Toundaian has been elected Patrol Director for the Otsego Ski Patrol. The Section 2 PD's have recommended Rick Clark be appointed to fill the remainder of Pete's term.
- Jerry Rodeman has agreed to take over as Award Advisor.
- Galen Fairchild volunteered to step down from the Senior Advisor Role so this position could be redefined in light of changes at Division and National. After some discussion, He has agreed to move into the Legal Advisor position and promised to tell me where to go in three weeks and not take three weeks.
- ROA Rod Kivell has appointed Megan Thompson to the OEC Senior Training Coordinator Position defined in the new OEC Module of the Senior Program.

We have had a very busy season with a lot of success and a few disappointments. I managed to visit eight of our eleven resorts this winter. During those visits, I had the opportunity to talk with many patrollers and several area managers. The good news is that without fail area management praised patrollers for the job they do for the resort and its customers. The bad news is that there are some misconceptions and some legitimate concerns about that relationship between the area, the area patrol and NSP Programs. In addition, most resorts are facing issues with coverage and recruiting new members.

Long ago and far away, our region meeting included more time to address these and other issues. I'm requesting that we reinstitute, at least for this year, an expanded format and have a patrol management PD's, APD's (if you like) and Section Chief's during the morning before the annual Board Meeting. The tentative agenda is attached.

I'm also asking our On-hill and OEC Teams to meet during the morning to evaluate these programs, evaluate potential improvements and define a plan for next year. These teams will present their plans in the afternoon meeting. Shanty Creek is providing two extra conference rooms for the morning to accommodate these meetings.

Thanks

Dick Jacques

Northern Michigan Region Director

Agenda for NMR Spring Meeting May 2, 2015.

	Event	Room
8:00 – 9:30	Instructor Development eClass Mini Presentations	AuSable
10:00 - Noon	Patrol Management Meeting	AuSable
	On-Hill Meeting	Cedar
	OEC Meeting	Platte
1:00 – 5:00	Board Meeting	AuSable
6:00	Cocktails	Boardman
7:00	Awards Banquet	Boardman

The goal for the OEC and On-hill teams is to:

Define each event including:

- Goal for event
- Target Audience
- Communication (who does it and when)
- Resources
- Timeline
  - o Announcing event and reminders (Who, when and how)
  - o Arranging venue
  - o Arranging staff
  - o Key communication dates
  - o Etc.

I'd also like the two groups to spend time together discussing common issues. This last year we scheduled events to avoid holidays and Division events did this help, hurt or make no difference? Since so many of our instructors have certification in both OEC and Ski/Toboggan disciplines can we combine some events? Would this help or hurt our programs and instructors? I'm concerned we are taking our instructor/evaluators away from their areas too much during the season. I don't know that there is any way to avoid this but think we need to look at it.

Some other areas I'd like to see addressed are ASE and getting evaluators lined up for that program, formalizing instructor mentoring guidelines so instructor candidates have an outline of the process. Virginia, I know much of the OEC time will be devoted revamping the fall refresher.

Finally, I'd like both of your teams to look at our organizational structure. Do we have the right positions defined correctly? Galen is stepping down as Senior Advisor at the end of the year. Do we need a "Senior Advisor" and if so what should that position do?

#### Patrol Management Meeting (PD's APD's and Section Chief's) Tentative Agenda

##### PD 101 – NSP, NSAA and Management issues

- Joint Statement
- Finances & equipment
- OEC/EMS Issues
- Patroller & Alpine Patroller vrs Senior
- New Senior Patroller Promotion Procedure
- OEC Module of the Senior Program
- 2015 OEC Class experiment
- Alumni Program

##### 2017 Central Division Meeting

- Hosting Proposals
- What do we want to do with it
  - Classes
  - Special Events
  - Friday Dinner
  - Tours
  - Golf
- Funding/Sponsors

##### Recruiting

- Region materials
- National Materials
- WEB Site
- What else can Region do to help

What can the Region do for you?