



NEWS RELEASE

National Ski Patrol

Key Issues Addressed at Annual NSP Board Meeting

July 6, 2009—Lakewood, Colo.—Several key measures were passed at the National Ski Patrol’s Annual Board Meeting, held at the Sheraton Denver West in Lakewood, Colo., on June 26-27, 2009. At the gathering, the Board examined vital issues including the NSP’s 2009/10 budget, national recruitment and safety campaigns, new sources of revenue for the organization, and the 2010 Patroller Education Conference.

“The Annual Meeting was very intense, as there were many issues to be discussed and decided,” said National Board Chair Terry LaLiberte. “The task was not easy, as the Board must decide what’s best for the association and its members, yet Board members did their job of representing the membership very well. As a result, (the NSP is) improving its financial position, along with keeping programs intact and improving service to members.”

Many issues of importance to the NSP and its membership were examined at the Annual Meeting. Highlights that are of interest to all NSP members include:

Budget Approved: The Board unanimously passed the 2009/10 budget, which was presented by the NSP Finance Committee. The Committee spent several months modifying the budget in order to submit a surplus budget to the Board.

New and Increased Sources of Revenue: A new source of revenue for the NSP and an increase in fees for the Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) course were both approved. The increase will raise fees for new OEC course candidates from \$30 to \$60. The new revenue source is the addition of a \$10 processing fee for all NSP elective courses, including Avalanche and Mountain Travel and Rescue (MTR). These changes, effective July 1, 2009, will increase revenues by an estimated \$200,000 during the 2009/10 fiscal year and will be important in helping NSP rebuild its reserves.

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Patroller Education Conference 2010: After a successful 2009 event, the Board voted that the Patroller Education Conference (PEC) be held again in 2010. The conference will take place in Snowbird, Utah, in April. Dates are forthcoming. After 2010, the Board will vote on whether PEC will be held annual or bi-annually.

National Recruitment and Safety Campaigns: The Board approved two national campaigns that will be available to all NSP member patrols for the upcoming ski season. The first is a national recruitment campaign that's in development. The campaign will include a variety of materials, including posters, a brochure and PSAs. The second is a safety campaign for which NSP will partner with Subaru of America titled "NSP and Subaru—Drive for Safety." The NSP Safety Team is helping to develop messaging and materials for the campaign, and topics will include defensive skiing/snowboarding, preparing for a trip and what to do in an emergency situation. NSP will be working with the Subaru creative team to create collateral materials.

Bylaws Rewrite: The Board approved a rewrite of the NSP Bylaws, the governing document for the organization. The NSP Bylaws and Oversight Committee will complete language changes to the existing document with assistance from the Governance Committee. The rewrite will then be submitted to the NSP membership on the September ballot for ratification. A complete summary of Bylaws changes will be available to the membership in September.

The meeting was the last for three Board members who are retiring—Barb Dixon (Northwest Division), Mark Rees (Southern) and Chair Terry LaLiberte (Northwest). At the meeting, Terry LaLiberte was presented with a parting gift—a rocking chair—for his exemplary work.

Complete minutes from the Annual Board Meeting are available in the member login area of nsp.org. The next Board meeting will take place via conference call on Aug. 19, 2009.

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