



NEWS RELEASE

National Ski Patrol

NSP Leadership Changes Approved at Mid-Winter Meeting

January 13, 2010—Lakewood, Colorado—Several key changes to NSP leadership, including a new national chair of the Board of Directors and a new assistant national chair, were approved at the organization's Mid-Winter Meeting, held Jan. 7-9, 2010, in Lakewood, Colo.

At the meeting, the NSP Board elected Bela Musits its national chair. Musits, a 40-year NSP member, a four-year Board member, and a patroller at New York's Gore Mountain in the Eastern Division, brings a mix of experience in Board operations, patrolling and business. He replaces Terry LaLiberte, who served three years and was ineligible for re-election.

"I want to personally thank Terry LaLiberte, who became national chair at a very critical time and has helped bring stability to the NSP," said Musits. "Now is the time for us to look towards the future, to identify the key major issues we will face in the next five years. Many challenges are ahead, and we must continue to work together as a team; discussing and debating the issues, building consensus, and helping each other."

David Ginley, of the Loveland Ski Patrol in the Rocky Mountain Division, was named assistant national chair. As former chair of the NSP Planning Committee, Ginley was integral to the development of the organization's strategic plan. In his new role, he'll help to ensure the implementation of that plan.

New and re-appointed NSP committee chairs include: Board member Burt Mitchell (new chair of the Finance Committee); Board member Scott Marland (new chair of the Planning Committee); Board member Clark Noble (re-appointed chair of the Governance Committee); and Board member Larry Bost (re-appointed chair of the Education Committee). All sitting NSP program directors, advisors and national volunteer staff will continue to serve in their current capacities.

Also at the meeting, 30-year NSP National Historian Dr. Gretchen R. Besser officially stepped down from her position. NSP Eastern Division Director Rick Hamlin has been named Besser's replacement. Besser was honored by the NSP Board at the meeting for her decades of service.

Four out of 13 NSP Board members were elected or re-elected in the 2009 election that closed on Dec. 1. With that election and the recent leadership changes, the NSP Board is poised to work together to remain a member-drive organization and continue NSP's mission of service and safety.

All leadership changes approved at the Mid-Winter Meeting became effective immediately. For more information contact Tim White, Executive Director, at the National Ski Patrol (timw@nsp.org).

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About the National Ski Patrol

The National Ski Patrol is a Federally Chartered nonprofit membership association dedicated to serving the public and the mountain recreation industry. Since 1938, the NSP has been at the forefront of safety and emergency care education programs. The association's 27,000 members represent 98 percent of the nation's patrollers. For more information visit www.nsp.org.

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