



# NATIONAL SKI PATROL EASTERN SIERRA REGION South Lake Tahoe, CA

## Minutes for Saturday, November 21, 2015

**Called to order 9:03am**

### **In attendance, proxies**

Katie DuMont, ESR Director; Brian Haena, ESR AD; Tim Stephens ESR AD; Steve Costello, ESR Treasurer; Al Mortensen, Alpine Meadows PR; Keith Neergaard, Heavenly PR; Loretta O'Brien, Homewood PR; Nancy Stromswold, Kirkwood PR; Mike Fanelli, Northstar PR; Todd Sprague, Sierra Ski Patrol PR; Brian Berry, Squaw Valley PR; Jerry Milana, Tahoe Donner Nordic PR; Tom Sherry, NSP Board member and ESR ID Advisor, ; Dave Stromswold, ESR OET Advisor; Dave Pinsky, ESR Senior Advisor; Tammie Hoedeman, ESR Women's Program Advisor; Leilani Connolly, ESR Awards Advisor; Loretta Barranger, Equipment Advisor

**Additions to Agenda under New Business:** none

**Motion to Accept Agenda:** Jerry Millina motion, Loretta O'Brien 2<sup>nd</sup>; passed

**Minutes from July 18, 2015 meeting** previously approved and will be posted to ESR website

**Presenters listed in gray submitted report by email and were not in attendance**

### **Patrol Representative Reports**

#### **Alpine Meadows: Al Mortensen**

- IOR for your toboggan refresher: Al Mortensen
- IOR for your Patrolling 101 course (Candidate training): Clair Milligan
- Recruiting Advisor, and contact information: None / Everyone recruiting is a big need as patrol is aging / shrinking
- What are your Instructor Development/ID needs this season?
- Anything new at your resort?
- What can ESR do for you?
- No awards advisor or active senior program

#### **Diamond Peak: Drew Oliphant**

- IOR for your toboggan refresher Pending
- IOR for your Patrolling 101 course (Candidate training) Gordon Meyer
- Recruiting Advisor, and contact information Pending
- What are your Instructor Development/ID needs this season? None
- Anything new at your resort? New General Manager, Opening December 3
- What can ESR do for you? Nothing

**Heavenly Patrol: Keith Neergaard**

- IOR for your toboggan refresher: Tom Taylor
- IOR for your Patrolling 101 course (Candidate training): Keith
- Recruiting Advisor, and contact information: Self Select - Keith
- What are your Instructor Development/ID needs this season? None
- Anything new at your resort?
- What can ESR do for you? 1) email events on a regular fashion versus relying on the website calendar, 2) SEM and senior ski and toboggan – more demand – could use a second SEM

**Homewood: Loretta O'Brien**

- IOR for your toboggan refresher: Eric Crawford
- IOR for your Patrolling 101 course (Candidate training): Chris Johanson
- Recruiting Advisor, and contact information: Chris Johanson and Garret Horley; Ski With A Patroller Program, family / teamwork aspect attracts recruits / social events during season in conjunction with SWAPP, business cards with sign up info – how to join patrol
- What are your Instructor Development/ID needs this season? None
- Anything new at your resort?
- What can ESR do for you? Looking for an SEM in late April (willing to host) 8 people limit 4 potential open spaces

**Kirkwood: Nancy Stromswold**

- 6 paid staff – all attended Sierra At Tahoe refresher
- No NSP volunteer patrol planned for this season. The future is still unknown at this time. The current culture is not conducive to a program at this time.

**Mt. Rose: Jeff Redmond**

We don't have any new candidates this year. We have two transfers from the region and they have joined our patrol. We are at 17 volunteer patrollers.

**Northstar: Mike Fanelli**

- IOR for your toboggan refresher: John Scarpa
- IOR for your Patrolling 101 course (Candidate training): Dave Rozzi
- Recruiting Advisor, and contact information: Dave Rozzi / Mike Fanelli 62 on roaster 39 active
- What are your Instructor Development/ID needs this season? 4 – 6 potential instructors interested
- Anything new at your resort? Opened 11/14. 17 new paid patrollers (over ½ of staff) Volunteers asked to step up to staff the mountain and assist in paid patroller training. 3 transfers moving over to Northstar and 4 or 5 new candidates. Dec 5<sup>th</sup> ski check will weed out the field. Vail requires and provides an equipment check twice per year for patrollers.
- What can ESR do for you? OEC final in March tent 3/19 need assistance

### **Sierra at Tahoe: Todd Sprague**

- IOR for your toboggan refresher: Jim Pratt
- IOR for your Patrolling 101 course (Candidate training): Steve Costello
- Recruiting Advisor, and contact information: Todd Sprague
- What are your Instructor Development/ID needs this season? 1 person looking for ID. Need to focus more on getting ID's mentored in a discipline.
- Anything new at your resort? Lift evac training took place in conjunction with paid staff – 12 volunteers participated. Working on a training program that is in "lock step" with paid staff. Paid staff looking to participate in OEC course on the hill – could be up to 10 people. APP announced clinic at Sierra.
- What can ESR do for you? 4 potential senior candidates – Jeff Young has volunteered to help with training.

### **Squaw Valley: Brian Berry**

- IOR for your toboggan refresher: TBD
- IOR for your Patrolling 101 course (Candidate training):
- Recruiting Advisor, and contact information: Brian Berry and Tom Werner
- What are your Instructor Development/ID needs this season? None
- Anything new at your resort? Skier safety / slow zone staffing has been pressed onto NSP patrol rotating in 1-1/2 hour sessions along with a group that staffs it for 3-1/2 hour period in the afternoon. Siberia express replaced with 6 person chair. Headwall had gasex system installed. Snowmaking capabilities upgraded. Headwall patrol shack was relocated. Permits issued for the resort to resort gondola from Squaw to Alpine. 73 on roaster this year. 3 candidates this season only 1 ski checked and 2 completed the OEC course. 1 transfer coming in from Mt. Hood
- What can ESR do for you? Nothing specific. More clarification on using hybrid OEC refresher. 3 senior candidates. Annual spring clinic.

### **Tahoe Backcountry: Chris Niggel**

Tahoe Backcountry Ski Patrol is looking forward to the 2015/2016 season with a strong candidate class. We will be starting our patrol season on December 12th (snow permitting) through April 10th. We have about 15 candidates and transfers this year. Chris Niggel is the new Patrol Director, for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 seasons. We are looking forward to continuing to work with the North Lake Tahoe patrols, and Search & Rescue.

As a backcountry patrol, we do not have a toboggan refresher. Our Introduction to Ski Patrol course is being taught by Chris Haagen. Our Recruiting coordinator is Tom Nelson: [tgnelson74@hotmail.com](mailto:tgnelson74@hotmail.com) or 916-532-1795

Currently, TBSP does not have any asks for ESR!

### **Tahoe Donner Alpine: Dave Low**

- No report submitted

### **Tahoe Donner Nordic: Jerry Milana**

- IOR for your toboggan refresher: Not applicable
- IOR for your Patrolling 101 course (Candidate training): TBD – 2 candidates
- Recruiting Advisor, and contact information:
- What are your Instructor Development/ID needs this season?
- Anything new at your resort? Held refresher at the new lodge which is now open
- What can ESR do for you?

## **Division and National Reports**

### **NSP Update – Tom Sherry**

- 12-18 month goals have been set
- Approved 5 – 10 strategic plan is in place
- IT system improvements underway and should be complete by the spring of 2016

## **Region Reports**

### **Treasure – Steve Costello**

- Current account balances:
  - Checking - \$21,500.27
  - Savings – 500.79
  - Total funds – \$22,001.06
- Account activity since last meeting
  - Expenses \$7312.79
    - Awards, Equipment purchase, OEC class expense, Summer meeting expense
  - Income \$6069
    - OEC Classes \$6047
    - Shirt Sales \$22
- Please note that Steve's email address is [stevcostello@gmail.com](mailto:stevcostello@gmail.com) (no 2<sup>nd</sup> e in Steve)
- Expense guidelines and expense report are being posted on the ESR website

### **Assistant Director, Parliamentarian & Calendar – Tim Stephens**

- Calendar items should be sent directly to Tim in order to be posted on the website as a specific request to post
- Questions were sent out ahead of the summer meeting. Tim requested feedback on that pre-meeting format. The idea of an online discussion forum came up.

### **Assistant Director – Brian Haena**

- Discussed minute approval process.
  - Going forward the format will be a one week review period for comments, changes and amendments, followed by a one week voting period in which 50% of PR's need to respond affirmatively to approve the minutes.

## **Director – Katie DuMont**

- Polo shirts: 5 left: Men's 2 Lg; Women's 2 Med, 1 Lg (\$22 ea & \$25 if shipped)
- NEWS AND EVENTS
  - November 25, 2015 - FWD News and Views deadline; Tim Viall, at tviall@msn.com
  - December 1, 2015 - NSP Board Election closes at 4pm MST (3pm PST).
  - December 5, 2015 - Cycle A Make-up Refresher at Homewood, IOR Karl Barber
  - December 5-6, 2015 - Level 1 Avalanche course, Squaw Valley, contact Rob Morrow at esr.avalanche@gmail.com; 530-219-0823
  - December 5-6, 2015 - Level 2 Avalanche course, Squaw Valley, contact Rob Morrow at esr.avalanche@gmail.com; 530-219-0823
  - December 6, 2015 - Last Chance CE/Instructor Continuing Education/ICE in Davis; Hosted by MLR Tony Atkins, email tony\_atkins@comcast.net, 559-307-2377
  - December 12-13, 2015 - Far West Avalanche Instructors Continuing Education Clinic at Mammoth Mountain
  - January 24, 2016 - Senior OEC Trainer/Evaluator Certification/Re-certification Clinic at Squaw (Limit 16 people)
  - January 25, 2016 - FWD News and Views deadline; Tim Viall, at tviall@msn.com
  - January 30-31, 2016 - Level 1 Avalanche Field at Squaw Valley and Alpine
  - February 6-7, 2016 - Level 1 Avalanche in SLT with Don Shockey
  - February 20-21, 2016 - Level 1 Avalanche
  - February 27-28, 2016 - Level 2 Avalanche Field at Heavenly and Squaw Valley
  - March 12, 2016 - Senior S&T Clinic at Heavenly, IOR Keith Neergaard
  - March 13, 2016 - SEM, Senior OEC Clinic at Heavenly, IOR Dave Pinsky
  - March 16-18, 2016 - Spring S&T Clinic at Squaw, point of contact Dave Kornblith at DSKornblith@aol.com
  - March 16, 2016 - Alumni Day Heavenly
  - March 19-20, 2016 - Level 2 Avalanche Field at Alpine and a backcountry

## **Training Advisor Reports**

### **Avalanche – Bill Hummer, Phil Chernin**

#### **Avalanche Refreshers**

Most if not all of our ski areas in the ESR have avalanche terrain. Therefore, it is reasonable and logical for each patrol to conduct an avalanche refresher this season. Some areas split this effort between the on-the-hill OEC refresher (Sunday's usually) with added snow activities in January. The region or division avalanche program staffs can help register a course and provide refresher content. Contact us for assistance to help your patrol have fun digging in the snow.

Bill Hummer, Phil Chernin & Robert Morrow.

#### **Course Calendar**

Many course dates are known and others will be finalized in the near future. Please see the ESR & FWD websites for course updates and additional information.

Avalanche Awareness multiple dates are under discussion for scheduling in Truckee during December & January.

#### Level 1 for Rescue Personnel:

- ESR combined course December 5 & 6 classroom and January 30-31 field.
- Updates as available for Northstar/Tahoe Backcountry /Homewood/Sugar Bowl/Kirkwood/Alpine Meadows
- Heavenly Mtn – February & early March
- Bear Valley – late January & early February
- Pinecrest Nordic – early February
- Mt Shasta – early March

#### Level 2 for Rescue Personnel

- Tentative for Heavenly Mtn – February. 2 classroom days + 3 field days and a 4<sup>th</sup> class backcountry tour. No definitive dates are identified to date.
  - Contact Robert Morrow at [esr.avalanche@gmail.com](mailto:esr.avalanche@gmail.com).
- Avalanche Instructor CE
  - Mammoth Mountain Avalanche Workshop, December 12 & 13. Contact Jeff Pierce, So Cal Avalanche Program Administrator, Keith Church, SoCal Avalanche IT or Keith Church FWD Avalanche Program Supervisor [pierce\\_group@msn.com](mailto:pierce_group@msn.com); [keith\\_church@hotmail.com](mailto:keith_church@hotmail.com);
- Sierra Avalanche Center Avalanche and Snow Science Workshop, mid April. Avalanche Instructor CE credit

#### Candidate Instructors

The Eastern Sierra Region has a number of candidate avalanche instructors. These instructors need the support of their patrols & colleagues to learn the science and support their teaching opportunities. These candidate instructors will gain valuable feedback and oversight from ITs, mentors and other instructors.

This is the email sent out to our prospective students. It has some good information for all to see and great links to instructional items.

#### **Certified – Keith Tatsukawa**

The new APP board is making a big push toward increased delivery of their education and training at all Far West ski resorts this season. We are aligning ourselves with NSAA members across the western region.

This is a great opportunity to continue your education, training and skills beyond the Senior level. There are nine components for education and skills to become a full Certified patroller. Less than 1% of all NSP members are able to achieve these high standards in their patrol careers.

Tentative dates for upcoming clinics:

Educational Clinic at Sierra-at-Tahoe in California January 26, 27, 28  
 Educational Clinic in the works for Schweitzer in Idaho Jan 29, 30, and 31  
 Blasting Clinic - Location to be determined - February 24-25  
 Educational clinic at Big Bear, Southern CA for March 11,12 and 13

**Instructor Development – Tom Sherry**

- ESR ID Instructors
  - Tom Sherry
  - Doug Coatney
  - Karl Barber
  - Loretta O’Brien
  - Dave Rozzi
  - Joe Shaefer
- Last chance ID being offered in Davis by the MLR on 12/6/15

**OEC – David Stepner**

1. OEC Classes

Final for Truckee Intensive (18) and Sacramento Challenge (3) was held on Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. All 18 of the Truckee Intensive passed both the written and practical exams (thanks to the enormous number of volunteers) and 3 of the Challenge passed the practical and 2 passed the written. The one that did not would be given a retest of the written exam.

Interestingly the Intensive class was ½ paid patrollers and ½ volunteers, the largest ratio ever. And the number of people on the waiting list was ½ last years’. So the decline in Ski Patrol “interest” was seen in this class as well. Clearly a subject to be discussed.

Final for the Bay Area OEC Class (12) was held on Nov 14<sup>th</sup>. 11 of the students passed and 1 was incomplete and will finish with his home patrol.

2. OEC Refreshers – My thanks to all the ITs that volunteered to be IT for a refresher. The CCRs seem to be coming in on time. We will follow up when they are all complete.

3. OEC Instructor ReCertification – 42 OEC instructor’s certification expire in 2015. As of 11/5 I had received input from all but one patrol, and these were sent on to Kevin. I will close this out when I return from South America. I have proposed to Kevin that all existing OEC ITs be appointed for another year. And the number of ITs seems about correct – though we need to watch for retirements, etc.

4. OEC Delinquencies – We ended the marathon effort with 3 patrollers still on the delinquency list.

Tracy	Michael	Northstar
Kaisel	David	TBSP
McKone	Justin	TBSP

### **OET – Dave Stromswold**

- Reminded everyone that they are not covered by NSP for toboggan training until the course is registered with NSP
- IT is in place to evaluate the IOR – the IT and IOR cannot be one in the same
- Dave is available to travel to your resort if needed. Please contact him in advance to schedule.

### **Senior – Dave Pinsky**

The attached list (marked exhibit 1) is current list of those who have taken the Senior OEC Trainer/Evaluator Course. Certification is good for three years from the date of the class. So those who show up on the list as have taken the course in 2013 expire at the end of 2016. If a name is not on the attached list, we have no record of that person having taken the Senior OEC T/E Course. In order to lead, teach and/or judge in the Senior OEC Training Program one must have satisfactorily completed this course.

A Senior OEC T/E Certification Class is being offered on Jan 24, 2016 at Squaw or Tahoe Donner (TBD) Dave Pinsky is IOR and David Stepmner will do the actual instructing. This class will satisfy the initial cert and re-cert requirement. Contact Dave Pinsky at [davepskier@gmail.com](mailto:davepskier@gmail.com) to sign up. Max enrollment is 16.

Important ESR Senior dates follow:

- January 24, 2016 - Senior OEC Trainer/Evaluator Certification/Re-certification Clinic at Squaw (Limit 16 people)
- March 12, 2016 - Senior S&T Clinic at Heavenly, IOR Keith Neergaard at [kneergaard@puc.edu](mailto:kneergaard@puc.edu)
- March 13, 2016 - SEM, Senior OEC Clinic at Heavenly, IOR Dave Pinsky at [davepskier@gmail.com](mailto:davepskier@gmail.com) (Limit 8 people, class full, waiting list started)
- March 16-18, 2016 - Spring S&T Clinic at Squaw, point of contact Dave Kornblith at [DSKornblith@aol.com](mailto:DSKornblith@aol.com)

As noted above, the only planned SEM in ESR is already fully subscribed. MLR is tentatively planning an SEM at Dodge Ridge but I don't have date or availability yet. Heavenly and Homewood have Senior candidates who would like to test at an SEM this season. I am talking with Homewood about their hosting an SEM on the weekend after their hill closes. More to follow.

In order to pass the SEM you need a copy of the 14<sup>th</sup> Edition Ski Patroller Manuel which is out of print. If you need one – send an email to Kevin Qualseth (sp?) to get a link to a download of the manual.

### **Women's Program – Tammie Hoedeman**

- Women's Clinic to be held March 6<sup>th</sup> at Heavenly
- Looking for a female contact from each patrol to interact with.
- Looking at a Women's Avalanche Beacon Weekend
- Putting on a toboggan clinic taught by female instructors open to both sexes to allow male patrollers to learn some of the finesse techniques



## **Administrative Advisor Reports**

### **Alumni – Armon Cooper**

There has been no activity to report since the meeting on July 18. I will report at the next meeting on the following pending matters, and any new matters that may arise:

1. Alumni ski days;
2. Alumni registration efforts and status; and
3. Alumni activities at the National level.

### **Awards – Leilani Connolly**

- 8 awards were given in the ESR
  - Nancy Stromswold – outstanding administrative patroller
  - Kathrine Rieger – outstanding paid patroller
  - Mark Kaminsky – outstanding alpine patroller
  - Drew Oliphant, Outstanding patrol representative
  - Diamond Peak Patrol – outstanding small patrol
  - Joseph Shaefer – outstanding OEC instructor
  - Heavenly Area Patrol – outstanding large patrol
  - Alan Whisler – distinguished service award

### **Equipment – Loretta Barranger**

- 3 vacuum splints have been purchased. One is in the Bay Area the other two in Tahoe
- Equipment list will be split between East Bay and Tahoe to show storage location
- We are in need of 2 new handle sets for training sleds. Loretta is going to look into the cost. It may come out of the equipment repair budget if possible. If it exceeds the budget she will create a proposal to submit to ESR board
- Requests have come in from refreshers to purchase scoops. Two patrols requested them and Loretta is looking for input on what other patrols might want this equipment.
  - Dave Stromswold is going to check with his patrol as they may be able to donate some
- A Sliselman Traction Splint was purchased and will be added to the ESR equipment list

### **Legal – Nate Garhart**

No Report

### **Medical – Jim Margolis**

No Report

### **Recruiting – Jim Margolis**

A major problem with recruitment is the high number of candidates who have completed their OEC classes and never get into a patrol or who start out and find it is not a good match and just quit. I plan to survey all OEC graduates from this year's class in mid-January and find out if they have successfully found and integrated into a

patrol and if not can I help them find a patrol or work out any other problems (e.g., they started a candidate class had to drop out and don't know that they need to re-certify their OEC annually and how to do this). I will follow up with a report in February.

### **Website – Rye Livingston**

- New template will be applied to the website. It will include scrolling photos so Rye is looking for photos that can be included
- There are still a couple of pages that don't look so well. Advisors please update your pages.
- A budget item may be needed (\$10 - \$20) to cover a few plug-ins
- Katie is going to start to use ESR group email addresses
  - Any list subscriber can send to the list
    - ESR@mail-list.com
    - ESR\_patrolleaders@mail-list.com
    - ESR\_Advisors@mail-list.com

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Next meeting at Squaw Valley Public Service District Building – Community Room on Saturday February 27, 2016 at 9:00am

Motion to close by Keith Neergaard, meeting adjourned at 2:12p

Rev. 3/30/2015 Cross-referenced with CCR's njs

<b>Senior Trainer Evaluators</b>			
<b>EASTERN SIERRA REGION</b>			
<b>LAST</b>	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>PATROL</b>	<b>DATE CERTIFIED RECERTIFIED</b>
Barranger	Loretta	Northstar	3/2013
Boss	Don	Alpine	3/2014
Brossart	Mike	Squaw	2/2013 3/2014 R
Chun	Wayne	Sierra	3/2013
Coatney	Doug	Sierra	3/2013
Hastings	Beverle e	Northstar	3/2013
Hummer	Bill	Squaw	3/2014
Johnson	Jeb	Homewood	3/2014
Margolis	Jim	Homewood	3/2013 3/2014 R
Myong	Inho	Heavenly	9/2013
Neergaard	Keith	Heavenly	9/2013
O'Brien	Tim	Squaw	2/2013 3/2014 R
O'Brien	Loretta	Homewood	3/2014
Pinsky	Dave	Squaw	9/2012 3/2014 R
Pratt	Jim	Sierra	3/2013
Scarpa	Jon	Northstar	3/2013
Sherry	Tom	Northstar	9/2013
Sommer	Sandy	Squaw	2/2013 3/2014 R
Stepner	David	Squaw	2/2013
Stromswold	Nancy	Homewood	9/2013 3/2014 R
Tatsukawa	Keith	Northstar	9/2012 10/2013 R
Whisler	Alan	Homewood	3/2014
Yochum	Pat	Heavenly	3/2014
Young	Jeff	Heavenly	9/2013
*Sachtler	Kirk	Alpine	9/2014

\*Not an OEC Instr, but Senior Advisor.

<b>NORTHERN CALIFORNIA</b>			
Gibson	Bill	Mt. Shasta	3/2014

<b>Senior Trainer Evaluators</b>			
<b>MOTHER LODE REGION</b>			
<b>LAST</b>	<b>FIRST</b>	<b>PATROL</b>	<b>DATE CERTIFIED RECERTIFIED</b>
Atkins	Tony	China Peak	3/2014
Attix	Don	Sugar Bowl	6/2013 3/2014 R
Baerg	Randy	China Peak	6/2013
Bietz	Dore	Dodge Ridge	6/2013
Byas	Mike	China Peak	6/2013
Evenson	Ron	Donner SR	9/2013
Galson	David	Sugar Bowl	6/2013
Glenday	Jennifer	Bear Valley	6/2013
Harvey	John	Sugar Bowl	9/2013
Higginbotham	John	China Peak	6/2013
Hutchinson	Geoffery	Dodge Ridge	6/2013
Kukla	Mark	Snow Summit	3/2013
Larson	Dianna	Soda Spring	6/2013 3/2014 R
Masztakowski	Jon	Sugar Bowl	9/2013
McDonnell	Mike	Sugar Bowl	9 /2013
Murray	Karin	Dodge Ridge	6/2013 3/2014 R
Peterson	Chris	Dodge Ridge	6/2013
Qualseth	Kevin	China Peak	9/2012 10/2013R 3/2014 R
Richter	Carl	Dodge Ridge	6/2013
Romig	Keith	Donner SR	9/2013
Venables	Sean	Bear Valley	9/2013
Young	David	Bear Valley	6/2013

**SENIOR TE CLINICS IN THE FAR WEST DIVISION**

2/2013 @ Squaw Valley; IOR D. Pinsky; IT K. Qualseth  
 3/2013 @ Northstar; IOR K. Qualseth; IT K. Tatsukawa  
 6/2013 @ Madera; IOR K. Qualseth; IT K. Tatsukawa  
 9/2013 @ Davis; IOR K. Qualseth; IT K. Tatsukawa  
 10/2013 @ Glendora; IOR K. Qualseth; IT K. Tatsukawa  
 3/2014 @ Tahoe Donner; IOR D. Pinsky; IT K. Qualseth  
 8/2014 @ Seal Beach; IOR D. Hill; IT K. Qualseth