

# NORTHWEST REGION

## AWARDS PROGRAM GUIDEBOOK 2009-2010



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# **NORTHWEST REGION AWARDS PROGRAM GUIDEBOOK 2009-2010**

This document is a compilation of information found in other Northwest (NW) Region, Pacific Northwest Division (PNW Division), Central Division & National Ski Patrol (NSP) documents and is meant not to replace those but to combine important and pertinent pieces of information. The purpose of this document is to clarify the awards processes of the NW Region, PNW Division and the NSP, and should provide NW Region patrollers with the information needed to understand, sponsor, write, submit and process NSP Awards for qualified applicants.

It is through our awards program that we can recognize the dedication and efforts of our members, which is often extraordinary in scope.

Compiled by Nick Garson  
NW Region Awards Coordinator  
November 25, 2009

## **EVERY YEAR MANY AWARDS SUBMITTALS ARE INCORRECTLY COMPLETED.**

Every year since the beginning of the awards process, incomplete submissions have been sent to the NW Region and PNW Division. An incomplete submission is automatically rejected. Common errors include awards being submitted on outdated forms, forms submitted with missing information and incomplete NSP Member Profiles and/or training records. These errors can easily be avoided by using this guidance document to gain the deserved recognition and express appreciation for the award recipient.

The major recommendations below will help you immeasurably.

**RECOMMENDATION #1 - NW Region, PNW Division and NSP will accept nominations on the current year's forms only.** These forms are easily downloaded from the NSP website – [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org) . To navigate through the website, scroll through the following links: Member Services, Member Links, My Bookshelf, Policies and Procedures, Downloads

**RECOMMENDATION #2 - Carefully follow the rules and suggestions detailed in this guidance document, your submission forms, and the NSP Policies and Procedures.**

**RECOMMENDATION #3 - Start early in the season- the sooner, the better.**

**RECOMMENDATION #4 - You have a NW Region Awards Advisor and a PNW Division Awards Advisor. Use their expertise. Call or e-mail them if you have any questions.**

**RECOMMENDATION #5 - Information obtained in the awards process is confidential. It is important that the nominee (especially those being considered for National Appointment or LCA) not be aware that they are under consideration.**

## SUBMISSION SUGGESTIONS FOR ALL AWARDS

Awards can be submitted to your Region Awards Advisor at any time of year. The NW Region Awards Advisor may elect to establish a schedule for reviewing certain award submissions. In general, the NW Region Awards Committee meets monthly from November to April.

An early submission will allow your NW Region Awards Advisor and the Awards Committee the time to work with you to improve and polish your submissions.

We strongly encourage all patrols to electronically “pre-submit” all NSP and NW Region Awards to the NW Region Awards Advisor for all submissions from Appointments to Outstandings. Forms must be signed by the sponsor and patrol representative (i.e. Patrol Director) in advance and include the nominee’s current NSP Member Profile. Patrol Directors have access to Member Profiles for every patroller on their patrol. Request that the Patrol Director download a current Member Profile for every nomination submitted from your patrol.

E-mailed submissions can be readily examined, and if they need to be changed or they do not quite meet NSP guidelines, the NW Region Awards Advisor can work with the sponsor. Pre-submittals are also necessary so that the NW Region Awards Advisor can prepare agendas for upcoming meetings and make more efficient use of the NW Region Awards Committee’s time. Some submissions just need to be clarified, some need to be discussed during the monthly Awards Committee meetings, some need to be placed in another category, and some just do not fit NSP’s awards criteria. **For submissions to be discussed at the NW Region Awards Committee, the sponsor is requested to provide 10 completed, fully signed copies for the committee’s review.**

The NW Region Awards Advisor is encouraged to electronically send any of his/her Region Awards, upon committee and NW Director approval to the PNW Division Awards Advisor, before the hand signed submissions are sent on to the PNW Division Advisor by mail. This technique works well. It may seem time consuming, but electronic communications do greatly speed up the process and assure greater accuracy, and ultimately acceptance by NSP. Those Regions and Patrols who have consistently used the above suggestions have experienced excellent success in getting their awards accepted at Division and NSP levels.

## AWARDS JUDGING

**There is always a question about how awards are judged. There are 4 tiers- 1. Local, 2. Region, 3. Division, and 4. National.**

**The instructions below detail all information given to Region Awards Advisors and judging committees and all information sent to our PNW Division Awards Advisor and Committee.**

**\*\*\*\*\*Consider the rules\*\*\*\*\***

### 1. Local For all Submitters

If you think any of your fellow patrollers meet the criteria for any of the many NSP awards from Merit Stars to National Appointment nominations, review and /or download the appropriate forms from the NSP website – [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org) . To navigate through the website, scroll through the following links: Member Services, Member Links, My Bookshelf, Policies and Procedures, Downloads.

**Carefully read** the information as detailed in the award description of the current National Ski Patrol Policies and Procedures

**Carefully read** the submission form for the current year

**Carefully examine** the supporting information for each award you submit

Remember, as will be stressed many places in this awards guide, any submission on a non-current form is automatically considered ineligible. If you need questions answered, feel free to contact your NW Region Awards Advisor for clarification.

Pay attention to the details on the forms:

- If a form says only consider the past 4 years in section X, then DO NOT use any information beyond the past 4 years.
- Patroller means Auxiliary, Nordic, or Alpine patroller. AT THIS TIME MOUNTAIN HOST PATROLLERS, CANDIDATES and ALUMNI ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS. The patroller classification must match the nominee's NSP registration status. If respective patroller is registered as an Alpine patroller, he/she cannot be written up for an Auxiliary award etc...
- Use your letter of recommendation if you need to augment any information on the applicable forms. Accomplishments prior to the past 4 years can be mentioned in the nomination letter but NOT on the form.
- When you are listing awards received, classes taught or taken, etc. always include only the dates allowed on the form. If a patroller performing an applicable function is ongoing over the 4 years use something like “---- to 2008” This date format will indicate ongoing service.
- If there can be any question of what was done by your nominee- EXPLAIN. Awards Committee Members need to see accurate documentation on the applicable form which is also supported by concise explanatory text in the accompanying letter. An example is if a person has taught a class of 200 people, state it in your letter
- Never assume the respective Awards Committee intuitively knows applicable and/or related information. Make sure all the blanks on the awards forms are completed.
- Make sure your statements are truthful. For example, if your nominee was a co-chair , use that term, not “chair”.
- Network: If there are any questions, all sponsors are strongly encouraged to contact the NW Region Awards Advisor for guidance.

## **2. Region For NW Region Awards Committee**

As in the above:

- Make sure you have a copy of the current year's NSP Policies and Procedures.
- Make sure you have a copy of the current year's appropriate submission forms.
- As for the local submitter- Pay attention: read the instructions on the forms
  - If a form says only consider the past 4 years in section X, then ignore and discard anything beyond the past 4 years.
  - If you have a submission that looks good, make sure the sponsor has put in dates.
  - Make sure the sponsor has supplied accurate information
  - Sponsors are strongly encouraged to attend the region awards meeting and to present their nomination in person.
  - Make sure all the blanks on the awards forms are completed.
  - And as has been stated many times before, any submission on a non-current form is automatically considered ineligible.
- Make sure all signatures are written by hand in the appropriate place and are dated
- If there are any questions do not hesitate to ask for help.
- Finally, it is very important that no member of the awards committee be present if he or she is being considered for an award and equally important that no extraneous patrollers be in attendance at awards committee meetings- it is distracting and easily leads to duress and inappropriate submissions.

## **3. Division PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION**

**For Outstanding Submissions: see section 10.7.12 below**

The information for Outstanding NSP Awards is highly detailed in Section 10.7.12 as to qualifications and judging techniques.

For all other awards submissions, the PNW Division Awards Advisor reviews material sent by the NW Region Awards Advisor and forwards them on to NSP, if they meet NSP award standards.

## **4. National NATIONAL OFFICE**

The information for NSP Awards is highly detailed in Sections 10.7 and 10.8 as to qualifications and judging techniques.

For National awards submissions, the PNW Division Awards Advisor reviews material sent by the NW Region Awards Advisor and forwards them on to NSP, if they meet NSP award standards.

# **NW REGION EXPLANATION OF INTENT NATIONAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES CHAPTER 10 AWARDS PROGRAM**

The Awards Chapter 10 of the NSP Policies and Procedures can be found by on the NSP website – [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org) . To navigate through the website, scroll through the following links: Member Services, Member Links, My Bookshelf, Policies and Procedures.

The Awards chapter is broken down into the following major sections:

- 10.1 General overview
- 10.2 Appointments- National and Leadership Commendation
- 10.3 Distinguished Service Award
- 10.4 Meritorious Service
- 10.5 Merit Stars
- 10.6 Patroller's Cross
- 10.7 National Outstanding Awards
- 10.8 National Recognition Awards
- 10.9 Service Recognition Awards
- 10.10 Honorary Awards
- 10.12 Awards Forms
- 10.13 Awards Rejection Process

Each of these sections has a description of the award and a brief definition.

To help clarify the intent and current NSP interpretation of each section of the Awards Chapter, the information in this manual should be examined alongside the National Policies and Procedures and the current year's Awards Forms.

The best way to assure that any deserving patroller receives an award is to carefully follow this oft repeated advice:

**First**, carefully examine the appropriate section of the Policies and Procedures for the awards you think your nominee is best suited.

**Second**, carefully examine the NW Region explanations for the award you think may be best.

**Third**, check with your patrol awards advisor to verify that your nominee is suited for the award you have in mind

**Fourth**, carefully examine the Awards Form to make sure you complete all applicable parts of the form.

CHAPTER 10  
Policies and Procedures:  
Awards Program  
NW Region Explanation and Interpretation of Intent

**Section 10.1**

Important Points

1. Most awards can be sent in at any time during the season
2. It takes time- Expect the average time to be 45 days to process submittals, from the time the National Office receives the application

**Section 10.2**

**APPOINTMENTS (NATIONAL AND LEADERSHIP COMMENDATION)**

**Intent:**

**Demonstrates leadership, good character, diplomacy, positive attitude, judgment, quality patrolling ability, and desire to serve the public and extraordinary service to the National Ski Patrol.**

There have been some questions surrounding qualifications for an Appointment being awarded. The primary area of confusion is that every Region and every Region Director has different criteria as to what constitutes either a “National Appointment” or “Leadership Commendation Appointment”. In some cases, certain Patrols and Region Awards Committees do not seem to be aware of section 10.2.4 E of the Policies and Procedures and section 7 of the nominating form (see below).

**Years of Service Definition**

First, all appointment sponsors must understand that their nominee must be a registered member of NSP for a minimum of eight years and a senior or certified Alpine or Nordic for a minimum of at least a full year prior to being nominated. The individual must have completed 8 years of membership prior to nomination. The season in which the nominee is nominated cannot be counted as part of the 8 year requirement...nor can the year in which the nominee was a patrol candidate.

**Appointment Nomination Form - Section 6**

Over the years, the main area of contention seems to be Section 6 of the nomination form:

Must have demonstrated leadership that benefits the NSP

- A-** Beyond the patrol level. This usually implies that the nominee served as a region, division or national advisor. Merely working on a region or division committee or function does not suffice.
- B- OR** by serving two or more ski seasons as a certified instructor in a program beneficial to the NSP- this must be exceptional, not just ordinary
- C- OR** exceptional service as an NSP Patrol Representative (Director)

Notice the **OR-** and emphasize this in your letter of recommendation. **LEADERSHIP IS THE KEY WORD**  
Show how this person is exceptional in any of these areas.

**Section 10.2.4 E**  
**NOMINATION PROCEDURE REQUIREMENTS**

If the nomination is rejected at any step, the nomination, along with the reason for rejection, must be returned to the sponsor within 30 days, with a copy sent to the NW Region Awards Advisor. See section 10.13 for appeals process.

Section 10.2-4 G: The nomination of a member for Appointment must occur without the nominee's knowledge.

**PLEASE REMEMBER...**

- **THE APPOINTMENT, WHETHER NATIONAL OR LEADERSHIP COMMENDATION, SHOULD BE OVERDUE RATHER THAN PREMATURE.**
- **NOMINATING SOMEONE WITH MINIMAL CREDENTIALS UNLESS THAT PATROLLER IS ABSOLUTELY "GREAT" IS DEFINITELY NOT IN THE SPIRIT OF WHAT THESE APPOINTMENTS REPRESENT.**
- **EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE MUST HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE NSP (not merely time to the local patrol).**
- **A GUIDING PRINCIPLE IS THAT THE NOMINEE'S QUALIFYING ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE NSP ADDS HONOR TO THE NATIONAL APPOINTMENT OR LEADERSHIP COMMENDATION AWARD.**

**Section 10.3**  
**DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

**Intent:**

**The DSA is awarded to individuals who have performed ~~outstanding~~ extraordinary service to the National Ski Patrol and the skiing public over a long period of time, distinguished by exceptional devotion to duty and outstanding performance. National recommends a minimum of 20 years service and the NW Region will insist on meeting this minimum standard.**

There have been some questions regarding the Distinguished Service Award.

Remember, there is a distinction between outstanding service and devotion to a local patrol and outstanding service and devotion to the vision and mission of the NSP.

The NW Region's interpretation of the Distinguished Service Award. It is for patrollers who are dedicated to the NSP's vision and mission and are model patrollers. This award is to recognize appreciation for many years of dedicated, passionate and exceptional service to the NSP system.

This is not just based on years of seniority. Once again, this award should be given to those patrollers who have given years of OUTSTANDING SERVICE to the NSP. They should have been leaders and demonstrate values that others can follow.

So... When you have a submission for a DSA in your committee, think of what this person has done. Has this person done just one or two things that deserve recognition? Is this a feel good award? Have you considered a Certificate of Appreciation? (They can come from the Patrol, Region, Division or National.) How about a Yellow Merit Star (YMS)? The YMS is "...for ANY outstanding act or service to the

NSP". Please do not think that we are trying to limit the presentation of DSA's. Just don't be too quick to approve a DSA, as it can be given only once. Ask yourself how you will recognize true outstanding service if you present a DSA to every patroller with longevity. Are you compromising your standards? How about your fellow patrollers' standards? This should be a special award and a highlight of a patroller's career. It definitely should also be meaningful and special.

#### **Section 10.4** **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD**

**Intent:**

**Given to active members who have completed extraordinary service as region or division staff members.** An MSA award must be sponsored by a Region Director or Division Director. A letter of recommendation must accompany the nomination.

Only those patrollers who have served as region or division advisors, coordinators or in other core administrative positions (secretary, controller, etc) are eligible. Nominees for the MSA award must have served a minimum of three continuous years of service in the region or division staff position.

All Meritorious Service Award nominees (MSA) must be verified on the NW Region or PNW Division roster (which we check.) Please remember: the MSA should not be considered unless the nominee's service and resulting contribution has been significant and outstanding and like the YMS, can only be given once for a particular position or type of function.

A patroller who has been given a Yellow Merit Star for Service is not eligible for a Meritorious Service Award for the same period of service for the same.

#### **Section 10.5** **MERIT STARS**

Merit Stars are probably the most confusing award in the National Ski Patrol System. The NSP has 6 types of merit stars: Gold, Silver, Purple, Green, Blue, and Yellow. Each star is detailed below.

- The Gold and Silver merit stars are only given to recipients of Outstanding Patroller awards at the National level.
- The Green Merit Star is awarded for rescues under arduous or hazardous conditions.
- The Purple Merit Star is awarded to the primary patroller who provided medical lifesaving care.
- The Blue Merit Star is awarded for providing medical lifesaving care in which the patient did not survive or for providing a crucial support roles in medical lifesaving care.
- The Yellow Merit Stars are awarded for medical lifesaving situations and in special non medical service to the NSP.

**SAMPLES OF MERIT STAR SUPPORTING LETTERS ARE LOCATED AT THE END OF THE GUIDEBOOK**

**General Information for lifesaving-related merit star consideration:**

If more than one person involved in an accident situation is being nominated for merit stars, each individual must have his/her separate write-up. Always!

All write-ups should be consistent. The biggest roadblock delaying Blue and Purple Merit Stars at Division and National is consistency. Three different patrollers typically do not administer the initial primary care that leads to saving a patient's life at the same accident at the same time. Remember, most of the time one person is responsible for actually saving the life unless two person CPR has been performed and both patrollers arrive on the scene simultaneously.

Awards documentation support letters should be as free from extraneous information as possible. Some letters explain how long a patroller has been a member of his patrol and other accomplishments. These types of information have nothing to do with the lifesaving and should be avoided. Give the appropriate information. Less is sometimes better than more, but do provide enough detail to show the nominee is deserving of the respective award. For examples, if the terrain, temperature, distance from additional help is pertinent, provide that information.

Purple Merit Stars require medical documentation (usually a statement signed by an MD) that the patient would likely not have survived without the lifesaving efforts of the nominated patroller. If you have a medical situation and no documentation, you must have your local patrol medical advisor, region medical advisor or other designated medical expert compose a letter stating that "in my opinion the patroller saved or was instrumental in saving..." If you cannot get this, contact and send the write-up to the PNW Division Medical Advisor. He/she may be willing to examine the submission and the circumstances and present the required documentation.

**Do not** have a medical person sign any submission for Purple or Blue Merit Stars if this was not a lifesaving scenario as exactly defined in the NW Region Awards Manual 10.5.4 below. Division and National still reserve the right to reject a medical merit star scenario, (even if a medically knowledgeable practitioner signs a letter recommending the nominees) if the PNW Division Medical Advisor, the National Awards Coordinator and/or National Medical Advisor deem the scenario not to be lifesaving according to the NSP guidelines. Please do not put your medical advisor in an embarrassing situation.

Finally, every situation varies, so if there is a question of just what type of star should be awarded, please contact either your Region Awards Advisor or the PNW Division Awards Advisor.

The National Awards Coordinator does not know your nominee and cannot guess details. State a compelling case for the merit star to be awarded to your nominee that is truthful and does not contain unnecessary embellishment.

### **Section 10.5.2** **Gold Merit Stars**

Awarded each year to winners of each National Outstanding category.

### **Section 10.5.3** **Silver Merit Star**

Awarded each year to winners of each National FIRST RUNNER-UP Outstanding category.

**Section 10.5.4**  
**Purple Merit Stars (PMS)**

**Intent:**

**Awarded to the individual who is primarily responsible for saving a life using emergency care. In this sense “save” means that without the emergency care provided by the nominated patroller this patient would have died - not this patient could have died. This is described in greater detail below.**

The first sentence of the attached letter of recommendation should say “I am submitting this patroller for a Purple Merit Star because this patroller was **primarily responsible** for directly saving a human life at xxxx

Mountain Ski Area on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_” The letter should then go on to detail the situation and why this patroller was primarily responsible. Since the PMS is for life saving using awareness and judgment that a lifesaving situation exists and responding to it with the appropriate care, the lifesaving must be accomplished by recognition of a lifesaving situation and utilization of OEC skills rather than luck!

Once again, this award is not for working in an accident situation where there could have been a life threatening problem. Many scenarios can potentially be life threatening.

Because we are dealing with lifesaving for this award, the management of the ABCs of a serious trauma or catastrophic medical emergency is the foundation of a Purple Merit star. The other details such as number and severity of broken bones, lacerations etc. need to be described in detail and the technique of care, but it is the management of the ABCs throughout the entire incident that determines whether the criteria for a Purple Merit Star are met. This means- If a patroller stopped performing tasks that maintained the ABCs, that patient would die on the spot.

In addition to the narrative letter describing the events of the incident, we need to see a simple assessment sheet and the actions that the patroller(s) took, along with the outcomes of their actions. We need to see changes in the patient’s outcome in which the patroller(s) had to adapt. Provide enough information to give a good impression of “the scene”. What was the mechanism of injury or presentation of the illness? Estimated rate of speed? Slope steepness and difficulty? Weather? Damage to vehicle? Etc. Provide any details that potentially complicated the rescue attempt.

The information immediately below will help give us a clinical picture of the accident.

**1. AIRWAY**

Was the airway open? If not, how did the patroller(s) treat this? Did they need to maintain the airway in order to keep it patent? Give detailed description of what the care providers did.

**2. BREATHING**

If the person was breathing, describe the breathing and approximate rate. Give details- who assisted with respirations? Was lung expansion equal? Discuss pulse oximetry if the ski area uses this. Give detailed description of what the care providers did.

**3. CIRCULATION**

Did the person have a pulse? If not, what did the patrollers do and for how long? What was the outcome of CPR? If person had a pulse, provide approximate pulse rate and blood pressure. Describe the skin color, skin temperature and capillary refill time. Describe the level of consciousness. Discuss any other findings and treatments such as serious bleeding. Give detailed description of what the care providers did.

If you are nominating multiple patrollers for Merit Stars, consider using a timeline format to aid in describing what each member of the team did as a member of that team.

Once again it bears repeating- **have your Region Medical Advisor, Division Medical Advisor, or a knowledgeable medical authority send in a letter stating that he or she believes the actions taken saved the life.** Life save means this patient would have died on the spot: not this patient could have died later. Section 10.5.4 states that the patient must survive for approximately 24 hours after EMS takes over responsibility and emergency care was accomplished under the sole responsibility of patrollers.

#### **Merit Star Submission Form Section 4**

This is very frequently completed incorrectly. The submission must say something like: “in recognition and acknowledgement of saving a life at xxx Mountain Ski Area on \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_.”  
DO NOT LEAVE THIS AREA BLANK. Do not use the injured party’s name. In some states and in some courts of law, this may be considered a HIPPA violation. Please do this right. Your awards committee should not be responsible for cleaning up your submission.

#### **Section 10.5.4 A** **Purple Merit Star**

CAREFULLY read section 10.5.4 A. This seems to be ignored by many submitters.

The life saving must be initiated under the sole direction of a patroller using OEC skills; not a patroller acting as a member of any medical person. Individuals who perform lifesaving acts while on duty (“on the clock”) in the course of their normal occupations (physicians, nurses, firefighters) are not eligible. Individuals who perform lifesaving acts while under immediate direction of another medical group (volunteer firefighters, military, search and rescue) are also not eligible.

#### **Section 10.5.5** **Blue Merit Stars (BMS)**

##### **Intent:**

**Primarily responsible for providing outstanding support role in saving a life, or for a patroller who attempts to save a life, but does not meet the Purple Merit Star criteria.**

The BMS is given in situations where the patroller definitely helped save a life but information or documentation required for a PMS was not available.

The BMS is also awarded for situations where the life saving attempt does not keep the patient alive for 24 hours. The BMS may be awarded to a team member who provides outstanding lifesaving support at the scene of well documented PMS.

The attached letter of recommendation should say “I am submitting this patroller for a Blue Merit Star because of his/her heroic efforts in attempting to save a human life at xxx Mountain Ski Area on \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_.” (Such examples as unsuccessful CPR or a person surviving less than 24 hours)

OR

For another situation, “I am submitting this patroller for a Blue Merit Star because of his outstanding support role in helping save a human life at xxx Mountain Ski Area on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.”

Outstanding support role means primary outstanding support role, NOT directing traffic, calling EMS or providing routine toboggan transport. For these see Yellow Merit Stars below.

**Section 4** of submission form as indicated earlier with the purple merit stars should say something like: “in recognition and acknowledgement of her outstanding support in helping save a human life at xxx Mountain Ski Area on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ 2006”.

DO NOT LEAVE THIS SECTION BLANK and again consider HIPPA laws; do not use patients’ names.

### **Section 10.5.6** **Green Merit Stars (GMS)**

**Intent:**

**Given for heroic or hazardous rescue using ski patrol training, using ski patrol skills**

The attached letter should say something like: “I am submitting this patroller for a Green Merit Star for his/her outstanding act of heroism by using ski patrol skills to rescue a mountain climber at xxx Mountain on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.”

This must be for hazardous rescue, at ski areas, air crashes and mountain rescue situations, etc. and the act must be performed by using skills learned from the NSP.

**Section 4** of the submission form should say something like “in recognition and acknowledgement of heroic rescue of a mountain climber at xxx Mountain on December \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.”

DO NOT LEAVE BLANK and again- no patients’ names.

### **Section 10.5.7** **Yellow Merit Stars (YMS)**

**Intent:**

**Outstanding act or service to the National Ski Patrol**

**Outstanding secondary support of a Blue or Purple Merit Star lifesaving scenario.**

The attached letter should say something like “I am submitting this patroller for a Yellow Merit Star for retiring after twenty years of service as Patrol Representative of xxx Mountain Ski Patrol.”

OR

“I am submitting this patroller for a Yellow Merit Star for his work as X Region OEC Administrator from \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.”

OR

“I am submitting this patroller for a yellow merit star for her work in helping save the life of a skier at.....”

**Other Concerns About Yellow Merit Stars:**

There has been some confusion over what information is needed on non-medical Yellow Merit Star nominations. Yellow Merit Stars were once given only for work done ABOVE patrol level. The Division

and National agreed to accept some work at patrol level done over “a long period of time” that benefited the NSP or an NSP program. The importance of NSP must be emphasized. Things done to benefit the local

patrol or section, or even region if they are not NSP program related are not considered. Fund raisers are money making affairs and are not NSP programs. Chair evacuation is currently considered a local process and not an NSP program. Building, snowmobile, or radio maintenance is considered a local process and not an NSP program.

A YMS can only be awarded once for a particular service. Plan to be very SPECIFIC in the wording suggested for the Yellow Merit Star. If the YMS is presented for “years of service as an instructor”, that patroller can never again receive another YMS as an instructor.

The NW Region policy is outlined below for YMS other than those awarded for support of PMS or BMS:

1. Most Yellow Merit Stars are given for promoting an NSP program above and beyond the call of duty -- i.e. teaching or testing NSP sponsored programs at Section, Region or above. This is reaching out to other patrols to help everyone attain a higher level of achievement, regardless of his or her local affiliation.
2. The Yellow Merit Star can also be awarded to a Patrol Representative who is retiring after a "long" period of time. This should be a significant period. We need numbers. We need data.
3. The Yellow Merit Star can also be awarded to a patroller who has taught or supervised consistently locally in an NSP discipline for a "long" period of time. Once again this should be a significant period. Help us convince National. We need numbers. We need data; i.e. number of courses taught, instructor of record, primary instructor, number of students taught, hours spent teaching, hours spent preparing.

In general, all of our patrollers do an excellent job. They make us proud to be National Ski Patrollers. Our patrollers volunteer countless hours. But at the same time, according to the NSP Policies and Procedures and watched closely at National, the Yellow Merit Star "is not to be given out too freely." It is awarded for an outstanding act or service to the National Ski Patrol.

So, when a patrol sponsor submits someone for a Yellow Merit Star, they should not tell us what a great person this patroller is. They should not tell us how hard this patroller works. They should not tell us this is a patroller in good standing. They should detail to us the act or service this person has done which benefits the NSP and its programs.

If a sponsor submits a patroller who has done a great job, but the job does not fit in with the above, strongly consider a Certificate of Appreciation from the National office signed by the Division Director, Region Director, Section Chief, or Patrol Director. Patrol Representatives and above can order Certificates of Appreciation from the National office.

**Here is what we recommend in a nutshell to fit most scenarios:**

- 1) If you have a patroller who has worked hard for your patrol, but not at jobs of NSP testing or training significance, consider a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Patrol Rep or Section Chief.
- 2) If you have a patroller who works hard in NSP testing and training for your patrol, consider a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Section Chief or Region Director (very long period of time can get YMS for training and testing at an NSP program, but convince us with numbers as stated above).

- 3) If you have a patroller who is retiring from a Section position job, but has not had the position for a long time consider a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Section Chief, Region Awards Advisor or Region Director.
- 4) If you have a patroller who is retiring from a Region position and has had that position for a long period of time consider a YMS (but again spell it out).
- 5) If you have a patroller who is retiring from a Region position but has not held that position for a long time consider a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the Region Director or Division Director.
- 6) If you have a patroller who is retiring from Region work and done a great job at Region level for a long period of time, but is not an advisor or program administrator, consider a YMS.
- 7) If you have a long term Region advisor or program administrator who is retiring, he or she could be considered by the Region Director for a Meritorious Service Award at the discretion of the Region Director. The MSA is considered a higher level of recognition than the YMS.
- 8) Any long term patroller retiring should be submitted for a National Certificate of Appreciation signed by the National Director.

Carefully examine the template below to note how the form should be appropriately filled out.

**NATIONAL SKI PATROL**  
 133 South Van Gordon Suite 100  
 Lakewood, CO 80228-1706

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please refer to Chapter 10 of the current version of NSP Policies and Procedures for award guidelines before completing this form.**

**NOMINATION  
 MERIT STAR or NATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

PURPLE  BLUE  GREEN  YELLOW  NATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

1. Nominee's Name \_\_\_\_\_ NSP ID No. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

3. Registered with \_\_\_\_\_ Patrol \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_

**45 DAYS ARE REQUIRED BY THE NATIONAL OFFICE FOR PROCESSING AND MAILING OF AWARDS FROM DATE RECEIVED IN THE NATIONAL OFFICE**

**APPROVALS**

*Print*

*Sign*

Sponsor		Date Signed	
NSP Patrol Representative		Date Signed	
Section Chief/Region Director		Date Signed	
Review Board Chair		Date Signed	
Region Awards Advisor		Date Signed	
Division Awards Advisor		Date Signed	
Division Director/Designee		Date Signed	

**INSTRUCTIONS**

This form is used for the nomination of a patroller for a NSP Merit Star or National Certificate of Appreciation. It should be typewritten and include the date the form was prepared. Font size should not be smaller than 9 point.

**Section 1-3**

Sections are to be filled out accurately. Do not use nicknames.

**Section 4**

All nominations must include a letter of recommendation from the sponsor.

**Section 5**

The following support material is required:

- PURPLE MERIT STAR - a signed statement from an attending physician, or in his/her absence, a medically knowledgeable witness. Also letters from others in attendance would be helpful.
- BLUE MERIT STAR - same documents required as those for purple and green merit stars.
-

- GREEN MERIT STAR - newspaper clippings, statements from government officials, and any other knowledgeable persons of the incident indicating the nominee's involvement.
- YELLOW MERIT STAR - any appropriate material in accordance with your division policy.
- NATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION – letter of justification signed by the sponsor.

**Section 6**

Give reason, event, place, and dates, indicating exactly how the wording on the award certificate should appear. Be brief as space on the certificate is limited. The National Office reserves the right to change the wording thereof.

4. Letter of Recommendation is attached (as  YES required):

5. Supporting Documents are attached  YES

6. Wording on Certificate (event, **Make sure this is filled out** place, date):  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (limited space) \_\_\_\_\_

*To whom award should be sent: (To be completed by Division)*

Name Region awards advisor fills this out  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Needed Region Awards advisor uses this for banquet date

*Copies: 1 Patrol 1 Section (if required) 1 Region 2 Division (original to be sent by Division to National Office)*

**Make sure the form date is current.**

**SAMPLE LETTERS OF MEDICAL MERIT STAR SUBMISSIONS ARE LOCATED AT THE END OF THE GUIDEBOOK.**

**Section 10.6  
PATROLLER'S CROSS**

Intent:

The Patroller's Cross is for patrollers who are seriously injured in the course of duty. This usually involves hospitalization for a significant injury that requires intensive rehabilitation or surgery, or an injury that requires long term physician care and intervention and/or lost work time. This does not include mild injuries where the patroller is out at the resort the next day but confined to the patrol room for rest and rehabilitation. The Patroller's Cross is reserved for serious injuries. National will only honor requests dating back to the past two seasons.

**Section 10.7  
NATIONAL OUTSTANDING AWARDS**

**OVERVIEW OUTSTANDINGS**

**DO NOT REDUCE TYPE SIZE. NEITHER DIVISION NOR NATIONAL WILL TAKE SMALLER THAN 9 POINT TIMES NEW ROMAN**

Read. Read. Read the Policies and Procedures as well as the submission forms.

- A winner of a national outstanding award, either an individual or patrol, cannot reapply for any national outstanding award for the following four seasons.
- No one individual may be nominated for more than one outstanding award in any one year.
- No information dating back more than four years including the current season can be used on the form.

Contact your NW Region Awards Advisor to find out when your awards committee needs your submissions or if you need help. Because all submissions for Outstandings are graded on a point basis, do not leave out any areas and always use dates. A submission without dates or without explanation does not impress judges. They want to know when a nominee did his/her work. Use the letter of recommendation to enhance the write-up.

Fill in all the blanks; every point helps because in any category there may be submissions from any/all of the 9 patrols in the NW Region, up to 5 submissions from the 5 regions in the PNW Division and up to 10 submissions from the 10 divisions in the NSP system.

For Outstandings:

Please no references to name, gender, patrol, ski area, geography. For Outstandings, please submit just one supporting letter to bolster the presentation, but the entire material presented must be 4 pages or less.

## 10.7.2 OUTSTANDING SKI PATROL AWARDS

Please refer to Chapter 10 of the current version of *NSP Policies and Procedures* for award guidelines *before* completing this form.

### NOMINATION OUTSTANDING SKI PATROL

ALPINE  1 to 40 members      ALPINE  41 or more members       NORDIC

1 NSP  
 . patrol \_\_\_\_\_  
 NSP Patrol \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ski Area \_\_\_\_\_  
 Served \_\_\_\_\_  
 Regio \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_  
 n \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVALS**

*Print*

*Sign*

NSP Patrol Representative		Date Signed	
Section Chief/Region Awards Advisor		Date Signed	
Region Director		Date Signed	
Review Board Chair		Date Signed	
Division Awards Advisor		Date Signed	
Division Director/Designee		Date Signed	
National Awards Coordinator		Date Signed	

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**General**

This form is used to nominate a patrol for the National Outstanding Patrol. This form should be typewritten and include the date the form was prepared. Font size should not be smaller than 9.

**No information dating back more than four years, including the current season shall be written on this application.** Supporting information may be attached when space on the next page is insufficient, but it **must not exceed two single side 8 1/2 x 11 pages**. Be sure to cross reference the supplemental information to the pertinent section of this nomination form.

**Section 1**

Indicate the type of patrol being nominated -Alpine small, Alpine large, or Nordic. This section is the *only* place on this nomination that a patrol, region, or division may be identified. This page will be removed by the National Office before it is forwarded to the National Outstanding Award Judges. **It is imperative that all other sections of this nomination not refer to a specific name of a person, place, or thing to ensure fairness in the selection process. Failure to comply will result in rejection of the nomination.**

**Section 2**

Most questions are self explanatory. In **2e**, for those areas that run more than one shift per day, combine the number of patrollers and shifts for that day and consider it as a single day’s shift.

**Section 3**

Types of written operation procedures might include bylaws, management relations, snow safety, reckless skier, search and rescue, avalanche, etc. **Do not attach copies.**

**Section 4**

List NSP awards and citations received by the patrol and patrollers within the NSP showing dates. Awards and citations presented by a government or affiliated agency may also be included. National Appointments should not be included. News articles may be attached to substantiate the award, but they are not to be sent to the national office. **Do not include any information dating back more than four years.**

**Section 5**

Show offices currently held by patrol members with section, region or division as well as those of affiliated patrol members registered through an administrative patrol that currently hold offices at division or national level. Do not include names. **Show offices for only last four years**

**Section 6**

Indicate the patroller attendance and type of participation at region or division meetings. If your patrol hosted the meeting, give the number of patrollers who worked on setting up the meeting.

**Section 7**

Give the number of refresher training and other activities in excess of those required by NSP standards for registration each season. Describe in detail your candidate training and its results. List leadership training courses given. Outline the training programs hosted by your patrol. Describe the patrol’s involvement in testing. The foregoing should include not only skiing and Outdoor Emergency Care but other related areas such as avalanche, search and rescue, management training, etc. List the number of certified testers, instructors, and students.

**Section 8**

List safety lectures to schools and ski clubs, TV and radio spots, newspaper releases, etc., as well as any other information that shows the patrol’s contributions to the sport of skiing, such as direct involvement in a ski club or council of clubs, involvement in Special Olympics, ski shows, clinics, and allied organization (PSIA, NSAA, Boy Scouts, YMCA), etc.

**Section 9** Discuss in detail any unique or unusual hardships and problems overcome by the patrol during the past season. State specifically why this patrol is outstanding. Describe any newly developed equipment or procedures to make the sport of skiing easier, safer, etc. This could include new lift evacuation devices, transportation devices, new aid room equipment, etc. This section should also list any off-area rescues, including time and number of patrollers involved.

Date

**2. Statistics**

- a. Year patrol activated \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Type and number of lifts (for alpine) or miles of trails (for Nordic) \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Number of days area in operation:
 

This	Last
season	season

- d. Number of days patrol responsible: This season \_\_\_\_\_ Last season \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Average number of patrollers per day \_\_\_\_\_ Per night (if night shifts) \_\_\_\_\_
- f. Number of volunteer patrollers \_\_\_\_\_ Number of paid patrollers \_\_\_\_\_
- g. Number by Classification  
 Candidate \_\_\_\_\_ Patroller \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_  
 Senior \_\_\_\_\_ Certified \_\_\_\_\_ Total registered patrollers (including secondary registrants) \_\_\_\_\_  
 or \_\_\_\_\_
- h. Number of National Appointments registered with patrol \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Organization:**

- a. Officers: Elected \_\_\_\_\_ Appointed: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Types of written operation procedures, i.e., avalanche, triage, or major accidents \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Percentage of returning patrollers in the past four (4) years including current year \_\_\_\_\_

**Do not include any information dating back more than four years for any of the following categories.**

**4. Awards**

**5. Offices**

**6. Participation in NSP meetings**

**7. Training and testing**

**8. Public service**

**9. Why is this patrol outstanding?**

*Copies: 1 Patrol 1 Section (if required) 1 Region  
 2 Division (original to be sent by Division to National Office)*

**Make sure the form date is current.**

**10.7.2 A**  
**OUTSTANDING LARGE ALPINE SKI PATROL**  
(41 or more patrollers)

**Intent:** In determining the number of members registered with a ski patrol, all members who are registered as primary and secondary registrants shall be included in the total membership count for this award. One does not have to count those individuals registered secondary to that patrol as ALUMNI. But they must count any members who are registered secondary with them as Alpine, Nordic etc.... Also all registered members means both Active and Inactive registrations. Likely one might need to identify in the detail (not in the count) that they also have xxx NSP alumni members secondarily registered with their patrol. This is done for contact and camaraderie purposes only, these individuals do not do any patrol activities.

Nominations for Outstanding Patrol shall only be accepted from a single patrol registered with the NSP. If there are two or more separately registered patrols at the same area/resort (i.e., geographic division registrant, alpine or Nordic patrol registrant or Professional Division registrant), only the members and achievements of one patrol will be considered per nomination. In these cases, only the merits and accomplishments of those registered with that unit/patrol Alpine, Nordic etc... may be used in the nomination process. Meaning if an area has two separate patrols registered – 1) Alpine and 2) Nordic; and the Nordic patrol is being nominated for some award, then no mention of the Alpine patrollers or their activities can be used in the nomination.

No information can be used dating back past four years including the past season

**10.7.2B**  
**OUTSTANDING SMALL ALPINE SKI PATROL**  
(40 or fewer members)

**Intent:** In determining the number of members registered with a ski patrol, all members who are registered as primary and secondary registrants shall be included in the total membership count for this award.

Nominations for Outstanding Patrol shall only be accepted from a single patrol registered with the NSP. If there are two or more separately registered patrols at the same area/resort (i.e., geographic division registrant, alpine or Nordic patrol registrant or Professional Division registrant), only the members and achievements of one patrol will be considered per nomination.

Secondary patrollers are fantastic and judges consider them as a valuable adjunct to a patrol, but it is grossly unfair to use information from some secondaries and not include all secondaries in your patrol total “numbers”. It must be mentioned in the write-up that the positions held or awards earned by these patrollers are as secondaries. National and Division will find ineligible any patrol that uses information without including all secondaries in their numerical total as well as any patrol who does not explain the awards and positions held by secondaries.

**Circumvention of the rules is not the mark of an outstanding patrol.**

**10.7.2C**  
**OUTSTANDING NORDIC SKI PATROL**

As mentioned above all Nordic Patrols can submit information from primary and secondary patrollers. As with Small Alpine Patrols, secondary patrollers are very valuable and judges consider them as a valuable adjunct to a patrol, but - it is grossly unfair to use information from some secondaries and not include all secondaries in their patrol total “numbers”.

Nordic patrols can also use secondary patroller information as long as they are mentioned in the write-up as being secondaries. National and Division will find ineligible any patrol that uses secondary information without

including all secondaries in their numerical total as well as any patrol who does not explain the awards and positions held by secondaries.

**Circumvention of the rules is not the mark of an outstanding patrol.**

### **OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER PATROLLER AWARDS**

Intent: If a nominee has service as a volunteer and as paid patroller and is nominated for any award other than Outstanding Paid Patroller, the nomination must be considered on the merits of the volunteer service and experience alone, the nominee must be registered with a patrol and if the nomination is for a regional award, the individual must be a registered member of the region.



Sections are to be filled in accurately. Do not use nicknames. Make sure to mark (x) the type of patroller the person is being nominated for (Alpine, Nordic, Auxiliary, etc.) This section is the *only* place on this nomination that a patroller and his/her patrol, region or division may be identified. This page will be removed by the National Office before it is forwarded to the National Outstanding Award Judges. **It is imperative that all**

**other sections of this nomination not refer to a specific name of a person, place, or thing to ensure fairness in the selection process. Failure to comply with this request will result in the rejection of this nomination.**

If the nominee is one of the officers who are required to sign the form, the word *Nominee* should be written in that space and the form sent to the next officer on the list.

#### **Section 5a**

List dates and mark (x) in appropriate box. **Omit geographical references.**

#### **Section 5b**

Explain as needed any unusual circumstances that may not be reflected on above grid, i.e., nominee transferred to another patrol, changed discipline, dual membership, etc.

#### **Section 6**

Provide all required information. Be accurate.

#### **Section 7a**

Describe the ski patrol-related training courses taken and completed; include dates starting with the most recent. Examples: OEC, MTR, senior, etc.; non-NSP courses such as AED, CPR, etc.

#### **Section 7b**

Describe the ski patrol-related courses taught, including dates of classes (most recent listed first), number of students—local, region, or division level

#### **Section 8**

List the positions held, showing dates. Indicate offices, advisorships, committee chairmanships, etc., showing dates starting with the most recent.

#### **Section 9**

List all NSP Awards showing dates starting with the most recent.

#### **Section 10**

List the NSP programs the nominee was involved in showing dates starting with the most recent; specific ones being the following:

- Promotion of ski safety, accident prevention, and public relations
- Involvement in instruction and evaluation.
- Development of new equipment or procedures.
- Participation in section, region, division, and national committees or programs

#### **Section 11**

Show where the nominee has interacted with the community and has contributed as it relates to the skiing industry. This would include Special Olympics, ski clubs, church ski programs, Boy/Girl Scouts, etc.

#### **Section 12**

Specify how the nominee has supported and cooperated with agencies affiliated with the NSP.

Show cooperation with:

- Ski area management
- Government
- Ski instructors
- Allied agencies - NSAA, SIA, PSIA, etc.

#### **Section 13**

All nominations should include a letter of recommendation. State in detail why this nominee should receive the National Outstanding Award, listing specific accomplishments that led to the nomination. The letter should cross-reference supplemental data to the numbered sections on the nomination form as needed. **Do**

**not use any names or geographical references that might identify the nominee or include any information dating back more than 4 years.**

**Section 14**

Information for nomination of Outstanding Instructor award only..

Date

Ski Patrol Service

Dates		A	N	A	Y	V	P
		L	C	U	O	O	A
		P	R	X	U	L	I
		I	D	I	N	U	D
		N	I	L	G	N	
		E	C	I	A	T	
				A	A	E	
				R	D	E	
				Y	U	R	
					L		
					T		
-	Candidate						
-	Patroller						
-	Senior						
-	Certified						
-	Appointment (NA-LCA)						

- a. List dates and mark (x) appropriate box.
- b. Explain, as needed, any unusual circumstances that may not be reflected on above grid, i.e., nominee transferred to another patrol, changed discipline, dual membership, etc

**6. NSP Service Time:**

- a. Number of hours on hill duty this season \_\_\_\_\_ Days open \_\_\_\_\_ last season \_\_\_\_\_ Days open \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Number of hours off hill duty this season \_\_\_\_\_ last season: \_\_\_\_\_

**Do not include any information dating back more than four years for any of the following categories.**

**7. Ski patrol related training courses successfully completed and/or instructed**

- a. Completed
- b. Instructed

**8. NSP leadership positions held**

**9. NSP awards received**

**10. Support of NSP**

**Make sure the form date is current.**

**Section 10.7.3**  
**OUTSTANDING ALPINE PATROLLER**

This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Volunteer Alpine Patroller selected from among nominations sent by the NW Region to PNW Division. The PNW Division winner is then forwarded to national for consideration. Any active Volunteer Alpine Patroller is eligible except Young Patrollers, Candidates, Auxiliaries or those eligible for the Outstanding Administrative Awards or the Outstanding NSP Representative Award, or those who hold offices or positions at or above the NSP Patrol Representative level.

**Section 10.7.4**  
**OUTSTANDING NORDIC PATROLLER**

This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Volunteer Nordic Patroller selected from among nominations sent by the NW Region to PNW Division. The PNW Division winner is then forwarded to national for consideration. Any active Volunteer Nordic Patroller is eligible except Young Patrollers, Candidates, Auxiliaries or those eligible for the Outstanding Administrative Awards or the Outstanding NSP Representative Award, or those who hold offices or positions at or above the NSP Patrol Representative level.

**Section 10.7.5**  
**OUTSTANDING YOUNG ADULT PATROLLER AWARD**  
**(Previously Outstanding Student Patroller)**

This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Young Patroller volunteer selected from among nominations sent by the NW Region to PNW Division. The PNW Division winner is then forwarded to national for consideration.

Any volunteer NSP Patroller may be nominated if no greater than 19 years of age on June 1st in the year nominated. However, remember that NW Region winners go to the PNW Division the same summer but the national level is the next year. So say if a Young Adult Patroller's birthday occurs after May, and he/she joins the patrol at age 17, and in the following April at age 17 she is recognized by her patrol as Outstanding. Then in the next spring at age 18 if he/she were nominated and let's say wins at the Region level, then that summer his/her nomination goes to the division level - wins there (now age 19). By the time his/her nomination goes to the national level, he/she would not be eligible as a 20 year old.

**Section 10.7.6**  
**OUTSTANDING PAID SKI PATROLLER**

A Paid Patroller is a patroller who is registered as a paid patroller (10.7.6B).

Any paid patroller regardless of his or her position can be eligible for this award, but only information from that patroller's paid duty hours can be used in the submission

**Section 10.7.7**  
**OUTSTANDING AUXILIARY PATROLLER**

The 2008-2009 Policies and Procedures states that for any member to be eligible for Outstanding Alpine, Nordic, or Auxiliary Patroller, that patroller cannot have a position at or above the level of Patrol Representative.

**Section 10.7.8**  
**OUTSTANDING OEC INSTRUCTOR AWARD**

- A.** This award is presented each year to a member who is an NSP certified instructor in Outdoor Emergency Care.
- B.** For the NW Region, this is called the Lyle St, Lewis Award. Lyle St. Lewis was one of the first instructors in the NW Region. A teacher by profession, Lyle helped teach the early first aid classes available through the Red Cross and was responsible for helping to start ski patrols at Snoqualmie, Chinook and Steven Passes, as well as at Mt. Rainier.
- C.** Nominations are submitted to the NW Region Awards Advisor and voted upon by the Awards Committee. The NW Region Awards Advisor cannot cast a vote (except in the case of a tie). The winner at the region level is submitted to Division for further consideration.
- D.** The PNW Division nominations are sent by the division directors or designees to the national office and selected by the National Awards Coordinator. The Warren Bowman Outstanding OEC Instructor Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.
- E.** The intent of this award is to cover the OEC education discipline only.
- F.** The recipient must have been a certified OEC instructor for at least three ski seasons and actively instructed for the last two seasons.
- G.** Any NSP member is eligible to receive this award.
- H.** Approval of the nomination by the NW Region OEC Administrator must also be obtained. The OEC administrator can confirm that course records were submitted in a timely manner and verify instructor status.  
Patrols may wish to verify the “instructor in good standing” status with the program administrator before working up the application.

Only information dealing with OEC is to be submitted. All mention of other instructing is to be omitted. This nominee is to be judged on OEC only.

**Section 10.7.9**  
**OUTSTANDING INSTRUCTOR**  
(Non-OEC designation)

- A.** This award has been designed to be presented to a member who has been an NSP certified instructor in any of the NSP educational programs, other than OEC. For the NW Region, this is called the Johnny Hight Award
- B.** The recipient must have been a certified instructor for at least three ski seasons and actively instructed for the last two seasons. Only information dealing with non- OEC related instruction is to be submitted. All mention of OEC instructing is to be omitted. This nominee is to be judged on non-OEC instruction only.
- C.** Nominations are submitted to the NW Region Advisor and voted upon by the Awards Committee.

The NW Region Awards Advisor cannot cast a vote (except in the case of a tie). The winner at the region level is submitted to PNW Division for further consideration. The PNW Division nominations are

sent by the division directors or designees to the national office and selected by the National Awards Coordinator. The Bowman Outstanding OEC Instructor Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.

**D.** Approval of the nomination by the Region Administrator of the discipline for which the instructor is being nominated must also be obtained. The program advisor for that discipline can confirm that course records were submitted in a timely manner and verify instructor status. Patrols may wish to verify the “instructor in good standing” status with the program administrator before working up the application.

**Section 10.7.10**  
**OUTSTANDING PATROL REPRESENTATIVE**

Eligibility for this award includes any active NSP patrol representative **or** one who has served in the position during the immediate preceding season.

**Section 10.7.11**  
**OUTSTANDING ADMINISTRATIVE PATROLLER**

This can be any administrator from section chief to region director to various supervisors from section to division level. But if the individual is eligible for the Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative Award, that patroller is considered ineligible for this award.

**Section 10.7.12**  
**Rating System for Outstanding Awards**

This is integral to judging by our  
**PNW DIVISION JUDGES FOR OUTSTANDINGS**

For National Appointments and Leadership Commendation Awards, only patrollers who already hold those appointments may consider and vote for the nominees presented.

As needed, Division judges are chosen and use the Rating System 10.7.12 to evaluate and choose the winning Division Outstanding Award nominations.

Each Outstanding category Award Form has 11 sections to put information about the nominee ranging from awards and offices held to testing and training courses taken or taught. Those sections have a specific maximum number of points that can be awarded for that particular function- some sections may be worth 5 points and others worth 20 points. The most total points that can be given (adding up all sections) are 100 points.

Judges are instructed to look at all submissions in the category they are judging (such as Outstanding Instructor), give each section points based on the information given, and total those points. The submission awarded the most points by the judges will be the winner in that category.

**Important pointers:**

- All sections are important because any blank areas are zero points.
- Dates are very important- do not just put this nominee has been an OEC IT. **WHEN WAS THIS PATROLLER AN OEC IT?**
- If a form says last 4 years –only use information from the last four years.
- Even a couple of extra points can mean the difference in winning.
- Supporting information must not exceed two pages (4 pages total submitted paperwork)

Type print can be no smaller than 9 point Times New Roman.

An Outstanding submission must be an outstanding presentation. Judges are to carefully examine the information and can deduct points for rules violations or if they deem any information misleading or false

In the event of only one nomination being sent to PNW Division for consideration of Outstanding in any category, the submission is sent to judges with the instruction to examine that nomination, decide if the submission is worthy of being considered PNW Division Outstanding, and if so, it should be sent on for National consideration.

### 10.7.12 - Rating System for Outstanding Awards

Award Form Section	Patroller <i>Alpine, Nordic, Auxiliary</i>	Patroller <i>Paid</i>	Young Patroller	Admin. Patroller	Instructor (both)	NSP Patrol Represent ative	Patrol
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
6	15	15	20	15	20	15	15
7	a5/b5	a5/b5	a5/b5	a5/b5	a5/b10	a5/b5	15
8	10	5	5	5	5	10	15
9	5	5	5	10	5	5	25
10	15	15	15	15	15	15	0
11	10	15	15	10	5	10	0
12	10	10	5	10	10	10	0
13	25	25	25	25	25	25	0
14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**Section 10.8**  
**NATIONAL RECOGNITION AWARDS**

**Section 10.8.1**  
**Unit Citation Award**

This award is given to each ski patrol- Small Alpine, Large Alpine, and Nordic, nominated by its Division for National Outstanding. This award can also be submitted by each region for any patrol that has been in existence for 50 years. Check with the NW Region Awards Advisor or the PNW Division Awards Advisor if you have any questions about this.

**Sections 10.8.2, 10.8.3, 10.8.4**  
**NATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

This is especially applicable to retiring patrollers who have served for at least 25 years. The submission is on the merit star form and must progress through the awards chain from patrol through region through division levels.

**Section 10.8.5**  
**AVALANCHE AWARD**

Currently, this is an award given only at National level.

**Section 10.8.6**  
**National Chair's Outstanding Administrative Patroller Award**

Currently, this is an award given only at National level.

**Section 10.8.8**  
**NATIONAL SKI PATROL MEMORIAL**

This is a new memorial that is being completed recognizing the need to fill a void in our system. The NSP Awards Committee is working to design an appropriate medallion and determine the most appropriate method of verbiage and delivery of this memorial.

Intent: The National Ski Patrol Memorial is to be given to the family of any member of the National Ski Patrol who has lost his or her life in the line of ski patrol duties.

- A.** The request for this memorial will be on an approved form and will require a sponsoring letter.
- B.** Approvals are required by region and/or division director and division awards advisor.
- C.** The member's family will receive a certificate plaque and medallion.
- D.** A region director or higher officer must make presentation of the NSP Memorial at a special occasion. Persons closely associated with the member should be invited to attend.
- E.** The member's name will be permanently engraved on the memorial and housed at the national office, recognizing the member's devotion to duty.
- F.** Members who die while not on duty may be recognized at the division level and may include a letter of recognition from the National Chair.

**Section 10.8.9**  
**Charles Minot “Minnie” Dole Award**

Many changes have been made to this award.

**A.** This extremely rare award recognizes those exceptional few members who, over the years, have closely exemplified the long-term dedication, devotion, and self-sacrifice of the founder of the NSP, Charles Minot "Minnie" Dole.

**B.** The winner of this award must be an NSP member who has at least 30 years of active patrolling service, is registered as an active member at the time of nomination, has provided continuous leadership for more than 15 years, served in a variety of offices/advisorships from NSP patrol representative through division and/or national levels, and has designed and implemented programs, projects, and procedures that have had an overall positive impact on the entire National Ski Patrol. All must be documented with dates.

**C.** A nomination must be made in the form of a letter that has been signed by 10 or more currently registered NSP members with Appointments. The letter should be forwarded to the National Awards Coordinator.

**D.** Upon three quarters vote of support of the National Awards Committee, the nomination for this award will be sent to the National Board of Directors. By a vote of the National Board of Directors, the award will be approved by a super majority, or three-fourths of the Board in support.

**E.** This award may not be presented to the person who receives an outstanding patroller award in that year. The Minnie Dole Award may be given only upon nomination and approval. The Minnie Dole Award may not be presented at all if no one is eligible in a given year, or may be presented to more than one recipient per year.

**F.** The Minnie Dole Award will be presented to the recipient at the annual meeting of the NSP Board of Directors. Announcements may be withheld if the award is to be made at another occasion.

**Section 10.13**  
**AWARD REJECTION/ APPEAL PROCESS**  
**(EXCEPT OUTSTANDING AWARDS)**

- 10.13.1 If the nomination is rejected at any step, the nomination, along with the reason for rejection, must be returned (in writing) to the sponsor within 30 days, with a copy sent to those who signed the nomination form at the lower levels and one step above the rejecting party.
- 10.13.2 The rejection of the nomination may be appealed by the sponsor within 30 days of receipt of the rejection notification.
- 10.13.3 The appeal by the sponsor must be filed within 30 days to the next level higher than the party who initially rejected the nomination.
- 10.13.4 A second rejection shall follow the same process defined in 10.13.1 and no further appeal may be pursued by the sponsor.
- 10.13.5 The nomination may not be resubmitted for 12 months from the date of final rejection.
- 10.13.6 In the event an awards request is denied for the first time by the National Awards Coordinator, the sponsor who submitted the award can request that the submission, along with

the reason for the rejection be sent to the National Awards Committee for a final appeal. Within 30 days of this request for appeal, the National Awards Coordinator will be required to forward the submission, along with the reasons for denial to all members of the National Awards Committee but excluding the Division Awards Advisor of the nominee's division and excluding the National Awards Coordinator. Each polled National Awards Committee member will analyze the rejected submission and return a decision to the National office within 2 weeks indicating their acceptance or denial of the submission along with a brief synopsis of the reasons for their decision. The final disposition of the appeal will be based upon a simple majority vote of the polled National Awards Committee.

## **SAMPLE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR NON MEDICAL YELLOW MERIT STARS**

I am submitting John Doe for a Yellow Merit Star in OEC Training.

John has been extremely active in training for the Pacific Northwest Division, Northwest Region, Avalanche Mountain Ski Area Patrol for over ten years. He has attended Division clinics for both toboggan and OEC training, assisted in organizing toboggan enhancement seminars and region OEC events as well as being highly active in our local patrol training. During the past eight years, his efforts have helped to revitalize a languishing region OEC program, and have ensured consistent training for approximately 10 instructors and 20 senior candidates. As a Patrol Representative for the 120 member Avalanche Mountain Ski Patrol, he has actively promoted and emphasized the necessity and importance of training. John has also been the instructor of record for OEC for the past five years at Avalanche Mountain, with approximately 10 students per class for a total of 50 students taught. As Section Chief, John teaches Instructor Training courses to approximately 20 patrollers per season in our region. Add to his list of awards in our region including two Region Special Recognition Awards, each for testing and training.

I am proud to nominate John Doe for a yellow merit star in acknowledgement of his commitment to OEC training in the Northwest Region, Pacific Northwest Division of the National Ski Patrol.

Suggested wording on the YMS certificate – “In appreciation of outstanding work and dedication to the OEC program in the NW Region”

XXXXXX

Patrol Representative

Avalanche Mountain Ski Patrol

## **PURPLE MERIT STAR SAMPLE LETTER #1**

January 20, 2006

Northwest Region Awards Committee – National Ski Patrol

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to nominate John Doe for a Purple Merit Star Award.

John monitored a radio call requesting a patroller to respond to Long Run at Scary Mountain Resort on January 3, 2006 at 14:15. John requested that another patroller stand by with O2 when another call came in stating that someone was attempting CPR on the patient. John quickly jumped on the snowmobile/toboggan and drove to the scene. He found a 50 year old male laying supine on the trail. The patient was unresponsive, had no pulse, was very pale, and was exhibiting agonal breathing (death rattle). John got his CPR face mask together, opened the patient's airway with the head tilt-chin lift maneuver and proceeded to rescue breathe for the patient. Another patroller arrived and then started chest compressions. The two of them worked together until a 3<sup>rd</sup> patroller arrived with the O2 and airway management pack, and assembled the bag valve mask. John then assumed C- spine stabilization and monitored the patient while continued CPR was being applied by other patrollers. An AED arrived on scene with a fourth patroller. The pads were applied; a shock was prompted and delivered. The patient's pulse was re-checked and a weak pulse and shallow respirations were detected. The patient was still unresponsive. Chest compressions were discontinued; breathing was monitored and assisted with oxygen via a bag valve mask. John then directed the application of the stiff collar, a log roll, and the securing of the patient to the back board for transport. John drove the snowmobile/toboggan while another patroller rode in the toboggan and continued to administer O2 via the bag valve mask. At the patrol building, John assisted in the insertion of an oral airway which caused the patient to gag. It was replaced by a nasal airway which was better tolerated by the patient.

In the patrol room, John coached, cajoled, and demanded that the patient should breathe with him. Although the patient remained unconscious and another patroller continued with assisted breathing, he responded to John's requests and continued to breathe in unison with John. The patient's level of responsiveness (LOR) gradually improved and he became mildly combative fighting his restraints while still unconscious. The patient was turned over to responding ambulance personnel for transport to the nearest hospital. From there, the patient was transported by helicopter to a more advanced emergency care 'trauma center' hospital. Fortunately, the patient survived his injuries after spending several weeks in the hospital.

As confirmed by Scary Mountain's Ski Patrol Physician, Jane Physician, MD, John's actions, presence, and direction acted as a catalyst for a cohesive, effective and successful rescue event, involving resuscitation of a patient suffering cardiac arrest. John's actions are in the best tradition of the National Ski Patrol and reflect great credit upon himself, his NSP training, and the Scary Mountain Ski Patrol.

Respectively submitted

## **PURPLE MERIT STAR SAMPLE LETTER #2**

January 20, 2006

Northwest Region Awards Committee – National Ski Patrol

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to sponsor Tom Smith for a Purple Merit Star Award.

On January 3, 2006 at approximately 14:15, while patrolling at Scary Mountain Ski resort, Tom monitored a radio call requesting patrollers to respond to an injured skier on Long Run. The patient was a 50 year old male lying supine on the trail. The patient was unresponsive, had no pulse, was very pale, and was exhibiting agonal breathing (death rattle).

Before arriving on the scene, Tom monitored a second call stating that CPR was being performed on the patient. Upon arrival at the scene, Tom noted that another patroller was applying a CPR mask to a man lying in a supine position. Tom immediately assumed a position to perform chest compressions and in conjunction with the first patroller on the scene, began performing CPR on the patient. An O2 pack quickly arrived on the scene and a Bag valve mask was employed while Tom continued chest compressions. Another patroller brought an AED to the scene and applied the pads to patient. A shock was delivered, and the AED indicated that the heart had assumed a normal heart rhythm. A pulse and shallow respirations were detected. Tom assisted in back boarding the patient and loading him into the toboggan for transport. Tom then skied down to the patrol building where he arrived in time to assist in loading the patient into the ambulance.

The patient was transported to the patrol building and transferred to ALS ambulance personnel. He was flown from the local hospital where he was first taken to a more advanced emergency care facility. Fortunately, the patient survived his injuries after spending several weeks in the hospital. As noted on the attached statement by Scary Mountain Ski Patrol's Physician (Jane Physician, MD), Tom's actions, presence, and direction acted as a catalyst for a cohesive, effective and successful rescue event, involving resuscitation of a patient suffering cardiac arrest.

Tom Smith's actions were an essential part of a cohesive team effort to save this gravely effected man's life. His actions were in the best traditions of the National Ski Patrol and bestow great credit upon himself, his NSP training, and the Scary Mountain Ski Patrol

Respectively submitted

## **BLUE MERIT STAR SAMPLE LETTER #1**

January 20, 2006

Northwest Region Awards Committee – National Ski Patrol

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to sponsor Robert Jones for a Blue Merit Star Award.

On January 3, 2006 at approximately 14:15, while patrolling at Scary Mountain Ski resort, Bob monitored a radio call requesting patrollers to respond to an injured skier on Long Run. The patient was a 50 year old male lying supine on the trail. The patient was unresponsive, had no pulse, was very pale, and was exhibiting agonal breathing (death rattle).

Before leaving for the scene, Bob monitored a second call stating that patrollers were performing CPR on the patient. Bob grabbed an AED, rapidly skied to the scene and observed three patrollers: two performing CPR and one assembling a bag valve to O2.

With the help of others, Bob opened the patient's jacket, cut his shirt, and applied the patches for the AED. The AED analyzed the heart rhythms and recommended a shock. Bob cleared the scene and applied a shock to the patient. The patient's heart resumed a normal rhythm, and a pulse and shallow respirations were detected. Bob then assisted helping backboard and load the patient into the toboggan.

Operating the bag valve mask, he then rode with the patient to the patrol building. Bob assisted the other patrollers in attempting to insert an oral airway which was rejected by gag reflex. A nasal airway was inserted and tolerated. Bob and another patroller then took turns assisting breathing with the BVM.

The patient was transported via ambulance to the closest medical facility where he was then airlifted to a major emergency care hospital. Fortunately, the patient survived his injuries after spending several weeks in the hospital.

Bob's actions were an essential part of the cohesive team effort to save this gravely effected man's life. Application of the AED returned the man's heart to a normal rhythm which had not been achieved by standard CPR efforts. His actions were in the best traditions of the National Ski Patrol and reflect great credit upon himself, his NSP training, and the Scary Mountain Ski Patrol.

Respectively submitted

## **BLUE MERIT STAR SAMPLE LETTER #2**

January 20, 2006

Northwest Region Awards Committee – National Ski Patrol

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to sponsor Jane Perkins for a Blue Merit Star Award.

On January 3, 2006 at approximately 14:15, while patrolling at Scary Mountain Ski resort, Jane monitored a radio call requesting patrollers to respond to an injured skier on Long Run. The patient was a 50 year old male lying supine on the trail. The patient was unresponsive, had no pulse, was very pale, and was exhibiting agonal breathing (death rattle)

Another patroller who was immediately prepping to respond via snowmobile, asked Jane to assist. When a 2nd report came in stating that patrollers were attempting to perform CPR on the same stricken man, Jane immediately prepared the O2 pack and proceeded rapidly to the scene. Jane assembled the O2 regulator on a full tank and insured all required equipment was present and then skied to the scene. She found two patrollers performing CPR on a 50 year old man exhibiting agonal respirations and no pulse.

Jane assembled the Bag Valve to the O2 tank, set the flow rate and applied it to the patient, timing her pumps with the chest compressions. An AED arrived on scene with another patroller and was applied. The AED analyzed and prompted a shock. With the initial shock, the patient's heart resumed a normal rhythm, and a pulse and shallow respirations were detected. Jane continued to operate the bag mask while the patient was back boarded and loaded for transport. Another patroller then took over breaths and rode on the toboggan continuing to provide O2 through the Bag valve mask, thus ending Jane's direct involvement in the rescue event.

The patient was transported to the patrol building and then transferred to ALS ambulance care and was transported to the hospital nearby. He was then transported by helicopter to a more advanced emergency medical care hospital. Fortunately, the patient survived his injuries after spending several weeks in the hospital.

Jane's actions were an essential part of a cohesive team effort to save this gravely ill man's life, were in the best tradition of the National Ski Patrol, and bestow great credit on herself, her NSP training and the Scary Mountain Ski Patrol.

Respectively submitted

## **YELLOW MERIT STAR SAMPLE LETTER**

January 20, 2006

Northwest Region Awards Committee – National Ski Patrol

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to sponsor Sally Johnson for a Yellow Merit Star Award.

On January 3, 2006 at approximately 14:15, while patrolling at Scary Mountain Ski resort, Sally monitored a radio call requesting patrollers to respond to an injured skier on Long Run. The patient was a 50 year old male lying supine on the trail. The patient was unresponsive, had no pulse, was very pale, and was exhibiting agonal breathing (death rattle).

Sally immediately responded to the call. Upon arrival she found patrollers performing CPR on a man lying supine on the hill. Another patroller arrived with O<sub>2</sub> which was applied. Moments later, yet another patroller, arrived with an AED unit which was also applied. After a shock was administered, a pulse was detected. Sally assisted in applying a stiff neck (C-Collar), rolling the man onto a backboard, and securing him in the toboggan. Sally took the lead handles of the toboggan and drove patient to a waiting snowmobile.

The patient was further transported via snowmobile/toboggan to the patrol building and delivered to ALS ambulance personnel. From the local medical hospital, he was transported to another larger medical facility.

Sally's support actions were an essential part of a cohesive team effort to save this gravely ill man's life. They are in the best tradition of the National Ski Patrol and bestow great credit on herself, her NSP training and the Scary Mountain Ski Patrol. Fortunately, the patient survived his injuries after spending several weeks in the hospital.

Respectively submitted

## **NATIONAL APPOINTMENT SAMPLE LETTER**

January 20, 2008

Northwest Region Awards Committee  
Patrick Troller – National Appointment Nomination

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with honor and great pleasure that I have this opportunity to recommend Pat Troller for a National Appointment. Since becoming a member of the National Ski Patrol over 35 years ago, I have patrolled with many different patrollers. Pat is in the top 5 for enthusiasm, dedication and commitment to the National Ski Patrol. His enthusiasm is contagious and those of us patrollers at the Stormy Mountain Ski Resort have benefitted from his leadership, dedication and performance.

Pat joined the Stormy Mountain Ski Patrol in 1986 and obtained his Senior Status in 2001. During this time he has supported Stormy Mountain Management through his professional expertise as a civil engineer with the City of Seattle, advising Stormy Mountain with their snow making capability and reviewing/commenting on their Master Plan submittal to the National Park Service.

In 2002, Pat completed an Instructor Development course and in the same year, took over the Alpine Tobogganing Instruction Program. Since 2002, he has instructed over 50 patrol candidates and overseen 2-3 assistant instructors. Also, in 2002, he took over as lead instructor for the Senior Skiing and Tobogganing Program, instructing 2-12 senior candidates per season. In addition to training, Pat became an on-the-hill assistant patrol leader in 2007; responsible for coordinating hill set up, speed control, accident response and end-of-day closing procedures for approximately 1,000 acres of skiing terrain and 20 patrollers (both Volunteer and Paid).

Off the hill, in 2004 Pat became a CPR/AED instructor, instructing CPR/AED during the annual region CPR refreshers to approximately 20-40 patrollers. Also, off the hill he has had the opportunity since 1997 to discuss skier safety (“bus talks”) with hundreds of children in youth ski school programs. Since 1986, Pat has been a regular at the Stormy Mountain Patrol Annual Ski Swap fundraiser working set up, tear down, and security. Pat regularly puts in 10-20 hours per year for this event which directly supports funding the patrol’s operations.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity, to enthusiastically and without any reservations, recommend Patrick Troller for a National Appointment.

Respectively submitted,

## **NORTHWEST REGION SPECIAL AWARDS**

### **Alex P. Kartess Award**

This award is given each year by the NW Region Director to a patrol that exhibits exemplary commitment to training. The award is named for Alex Kartess who died in a small plane crash. Alex was involved as a trainer in the region toboggan program, referred to then as the Skiing and Tobogganing Training and Testing Program.

Eligibility for this award is limited to currently registered NW Region patrols. Nominations may be made by any two patrollers within the NW Region who are currently active and registered, and by a supporting letter accompanied by a completed awards form (obtained from the NW Region Awards Advisor). Selection for this award is made by the Region Director.

### **Robert Bauermesister Award**

This award is given each year to recognize outstanding ski patrol service by a patroller in the NW Region not currently serving in a leadership role.

Robert Bauermeister, who died of a brain tumor in 1974, handled the Northwest Region's first aid supply procurement. In those days, the region was the main source for first aid supplies and cardboard splints. Bob maintained the first aid warehouse in his basement providing supplies for 12 patrols in the region. Despite his crippling fatal ailment, he courageously continued this highly demanding, unrewarding task until he could no longer physically function.

Eligibility for this award is limited to currently registered NW Region patrols. Nominations may be made by any two patrollers within the NW Region who are currently active and registered, and by a supporting letter accompanied by a completed awards form (obtained from the NW Region Awards Advisor). Selection for this award is made by the Region Director.

### **Robert Charles Miller Memorial Award**

Bob (Pinky) Miller was Section Chief at Paradise Valley, Mt Rainier, from 1944 until 1948. His whole life revolved around ski patrol activities, not just in his area on weekends, but on mid-week projects that took a tremendous amount of his time. He was head of the Regional Finance Committee, the Regional Recruiting Program and involved in special fund raising projects. In the spring of 1948, the annual Silver Skis Race was held at Paradise Valley. The sub-zero weather and poor visibility caused numerous problems for the racers and race officials. Members of the ski patrol had been stationed at various points along the racecourse from Camp Muir to Edith Creek Basin. As the weather turned from bad to worse, many of the racers and patrollers gave up. Not Pinky Miller, because there were still racers and race officials on the mountain. He stayed at his post to make sure everyone was off the mountain. Unfortunately, the over-exposure to the weather ultimately caused his untimely death.

Pinky Miller was an inspiration to all of us, because of his outstanding leadership at a time when the Ski Patrol was in its infancy and not recognized as it is today. Pinky Miller contributed greatly to its growth in this region. This award has been established as a memorial to Robert Charles Miller, in recognition of the life he gave in upholding the "Service and Safety" goals of the Ski Patrol that he so strongly believed in.

The Award is given each year to a NW Region patroller who:

1. Has contributed more of himself/herself unselfishly to the National Ski Patrol;
2. Has shown leadership that is outstanding;
3. Has contributed to Regional and Divisional projects on and beyond the normal requirements and functions;
4. Has proven by his or her actions to be the outstanding patroller in the NW Region.
5. Holds a National Appointment

Eligibility for this award is limited to currently registered Northwest Region patrollers. Nominations are usually made by past recipients but may be made by any two patrollers within the Northwest Region who are currently active and registered. Nominations must be made by letter accompanied by a completed awards form (obtained from the NW Region Awards Advisor) and a copy of the NSP Member Profile. The prior Miller Award recipients review the nominations and make the award selection by a vote.

### **Lyle St. Lewis Award**

This is the NW Region Outstanding OEC Instructor Award. Lyle St Lewis was one of the first instructors in NW Region. A teacher by profession, Lyle helped teach the early first aid classes available through Red Cross and was responsible for helping to start ski patrols at Snoqualmie, Chinook and Stevens Passes as well as at Mt Rainier.

Same eligibility and nomination requirements as outstanding awards.

- A. This award is presented each year to a member who is an NSP certified instructor in Outdoor Emergency Care. Nominations are submitted to the NW Region Awards Advisor and voted upon by the Awards Committee.
- B. The intent of this award is to cover the OEC education discipline only.
- C. The recipient must have been a certified OEC instructor for at least three ski seasons and actively instructed for the last two seasons.
- D. Any NSP member is eligible to receive this award
- E. Only information dealing with OEC is to be submitted. All mention of other instructing is to be omitted. This nominee is to be judged on OEC only.

### **Johnny Hight Award**

This is the NW Region Outstanding Instructor Award (non-OEC).

- A. This award is presented each year to a member who is a certified instructor in one of the NSP educational programs OTHER than OEC. Nominations are submitted to the NW Region Awards Advisor and voted upon by the Awards Committee.
- B. The intent of this award is to cover only the discipline for which the nominee is being considered. If the nominee is an instructor in multiple disciplines, include only information for the discipline specific to the nomination.
- C. The recipient must have been a certified instructor in that discipline for at least three ski seasons and actively instructed for the last two seasons.
- D. Any NSP member is eligible to receive this award

Based on the winners of the NW Region Outstanding Awards (Skiing & Tobogganing, Nordic, Auxiliary, etc), the NW Region Awards Committee votes on the Outstanding Non-OEC Instructor. Each sponsor is allowed 5-10 minutes for an oral supporting statement. After all statements are read, the committee votes. Only 1 vote per committee member is allowed (representing one patrol). The NW Region Awards Advisor does not vote unless there is a tie.

The successful nomination is then forwarded by the NW Region Awards Advisor for consideration at the Division and possibly National level.

## **ANGEL AWARDS**

The NSP Angel Pin may be awarded, upon approval of the division director or designate, to non-members of NSP (such as spouses, significant others or family members of registered patrollers) who have provided valuable contributions to NSP.

## **REFERENCES**

Central Division, 2008-2009 Awards Manual

National Ski Patrol, The Ski Patroller's Manual, 14<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1997

National Ski Patrol, Policies & Procedures, Chapter 10 Awards Program (June 2009 update)

Northwest Region, Policies & Procedures (in progress)

Pacific Northwest Division Policies & Procedures (in progress of re-write)