Ski/Snowboard/Bike Patrol Prospective Candidate Information

Thank you for your interest in joining Powder Ridge Mountain's Ski Patrol. Below is some general information for you to review and decide if you would like to join.

Prerequisites for Consideration of Becoming a Member of Ski Patrol

- Advanced skiing as assessed by Ski Patrol during an introduction and ski evaluation. You will be evaluated for personality fit and skiing/snowboarding ability.
- Good interpersonal and other skills beneficial to ski patrollers.
- Must be at least 15 years old at the time of the ski introduction/evaluation.
- There are abbreviated certification options for currently licensed medical professionals.

Becoming a Patroller

There are several steps to becoming a patroller:

1. Register with National Ski Patrol. Become affiliated with a Patrol.
2. Pay your annual dues (+/- $130)
3. Complete the Outdoor Emergency Care Course (+/-5 months)
4. Complete Outdoor Emergency Transport Course (2+ months)
5. Complete CPR Certification (3 hour in-person class)
6. Complete FEMA ICS 100 (2 hours online)
7. Complete Youth Protection training (1-3 hours depending on provider)
8. Total course commitment is approximately 8 months and 170-200 hours.

Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) Course (Part 1)

Please review and consider this carefully. This course is very time-consuming and a large commitment.

- This course is taught by National Ski Patrol (NSP) trained OEC Instructors and taught to NSP standards.
- Location: Powder Ridge Mountain Ski Lodge and/or Ski Patrol Room (may be held in additional locations with advance notice).
- Course Materials: Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) 6th Edition book
- Self-paced study: Read all chapters and complete online chapter review quizzes. You must read each chapter in its entirety and complete the Chapter quizzes prior to that week's class with a minimum 80% passing grade. Individual help will be available for anyone requiring it.
- In-Person Classes and Training:
    - Time Commitment is approximately 150 hours of training *(combined online, classroom and on-hill practical training)*.

    - Classes consist of chapter review and practical training.
    - Attendance is expected at all meetings and classes.
    - Classes are held Wednesday from 6:00pm – 9:00pm, beginning in late July and typically completed before the end of the year.
    - Every other Saturdays from 9:00am – 1:00pm beginning in early October. *We will finish early on every possible occasion*.
    - Students can miss no more than 2 Wednesdays and 1 Saturday *(without previous accommodations agreed to with Class Instructor)*.
    - Practical skills and scenario-based training on the hill in realistic conditions
- Written Exam: Passing grade is 80% for the final written exam. Usually held prior to Thanksgiving so we can spend the rest of the course honing skills for the practical exam.
- Final practical exam: A pass/fail exam usually scheduled for mid to late December.

Outdoor Emergency Transport (OET) Course (Part 2)

- Time commitment is 30-50 hours
- Typically begins the first Wednesday evening following the 1st of January from 5:30pm to 9:00pm to the end of the season.
- Mandatory for all candidates to pass by the end of the second season.
- Learn skiing skills (this will improve your skiing) and tobogganing skills specific to skiing/riding as it pertains to ski patrol and how to manage a toboggan.
- Final exam at end of February/Beginning of March.

CPR

- There will be a one-day class for American Heart Association healthcare provider level CPR with AED that will be required if you are not already certified at this level. There is no additional cost for this course and certification. Date is announced in the fall. If you are unable to attend this date, then you will be responsible for finding proper certification course. These are being held regularly around the community.

Outdoor Emergency Care for Medical Professionals

- EMS Professionals (EMT, AEMT, Paramedic) abbreviated certification.
    - Candidates must attend classes to receive information on specific ski-patrol skills as well as how to apply what you already know to a different environment.
    - Abbreviated course: Once a candidate can show that he/she has mastered all the necessary skills, they will meet the criteria for OEC certification.
- Medical Professionals (MD, DO, PA, APRN, RN) challenge.
    - Candidates must attend classes to receive information on specific ski-patrol skills as well as how to apply what you already know to a different environment.
    - Candidates must successfully demonstrate all skills from the Skill Guides and complete the same final written and practical exams as the course students.
- Must still take Outdoor Emergency Transport (OET) in full and pass.
- Must hold current Healthcare Provider level CPR with AED certification.

Split Option
For people showing interest after the start of Fall OEC class.

- Begin by taking OET immediately and then OEC in the Fall.
- Your level of skiing will be evaluated, and a determination will be made whether you are ready to join the OET class immediately.
- For those coming in at odd times of the year: allows for people to get involved mid-season rather than waiting until the next class starts in the summer. This option may be beneficial to some people's schedules.

Candidate Year
The candidate year is set up for training, so you will be learning something every shift you participate in at the mountain. We ask you to pick up as many shifts as possible. You will be assigned a mentor who you can patrol with and who is to become your one-on-one guide for this process. You will have access to them via phone, text, and email, and at the mountain. Of course, the instructors are always available, and you can lean on them/us as well. If you have a problem with your mentor or an instructor, you can consult the opposite. In addition to all the Patient and Toboggan skills, you will be taught to:

1. Represent National Ski Patrol and the Powder Ridge Mountain Resort.
2. Be a positive role model.
3. Interact with the public.
4. Promote safety in all activities and ensure and enforce safety for the entire resort.
5. Occasionally intervene in unwanted behavior.
6. Open and close chair lifts.
7. Check trails.
8. Open and close trails.
9. Put up/move snow fences and people fences.
10. Put up signs and barriers to obstacles.
11. Learn the mountain and the trails.
12. Sweep the mountain for closing.
13. Did I mention skiing and most importantly, getting first and last tracks?

The candidate year is very time-consuming and worth every minute of it. Please carefully consider your ability to fully participate in this course. Subsequent years will be less demanding, but we still expect a moderate level of involvement as outlined below in "Your Commitment to Ski Patrol" and "Maintaining Your Status as Member in Good Standing."

All candidates will remain candidates for the entirety of the candidate year. Candidates will not be full Patrollers until the candidate season is completed with both the didactic (OEC) and on-hill (OET) portions of the class satisfactorily completed as well as your mentor signing off on your retention of knowledge and your capability to function as a valued member of Patrol.

Your Commitment to Ski Patrol
Powder Ridge Ski Patrol has minimum hours of service to complete each year and required certification "refreshers" to retain "good standing" with NSP and Powder Ridge Ski Patrol

as laid out below in “Maintaining Your Status as a Member in Good Standing.”

Our Commitment to You

- We provide a welcoming and encouraging environment where everyone can thrive.
- We prioritize safety in all aspects of our programs and activities.
- We support continuous training, learning, and personal growth.
- We foster camaraderie, teamwork, and mutual respect.
- We create meaningful connections within our community.
- We promote a fun, positive atmosphere centered around skiing, snowboarding, and shared experiences.
- Leadership Available for any concerns, comments, and suggestions.

Maintaining Your Status as Member in Good Standing

Once you have attained your OEC/OET Certifications and become a full member of patrol, it is your responsibility to remain in good standing.

- Annual OEC refreshers are held on the last 2 Sundays of October (at current, it is held at Camp Sloper, Southington).
    - You are required to attend one of the refreshers every year to maintain the OEC certification.
- Must participate in 1 of the 3 lift evacuations held annually.
    - Beginning of Mountain Bike Season
    - Beginning of Ski Season
    - Beginning of The Haunt held in October.
- Must attend annual Powder Ridge Refresher and orientation held in late November.
- You must hold Healthcare Provider level CPR with AED. You must recertify every other year, and you must show your skills each year at the Powder Ridge Mountain specific refresher.
    - CPR Refreshers and renewals are paid for by Powder Ridge.
- If over the age of 18, you must keep current with certification for Youth Protection. Our mountain is full of young children, and we require every member to stay current with these certifications.

Benefits of NSP Membership

- See http://www.nsp.org/about/benefits.aspx
- “You are part of a dynamic, respected group of individuals whose love for skiing, snowboarding and all things fun in the snow is matched only by your commitment to helping others.” – NSP
- Receive Ski Patrol Magazine.
- Participate in educational programs for small or no fee (skier/boarder enhancement, senior program, toboggan enhancement, OEC enhancement, avalanche, mountain travel & rescue…).
- Participate in member purchase programs (amazing discounts with 30+ major companies) for your equipment direct from the NSP Pro page.
- Qualify for Pro-Purchase programs for ski/snowboard equipment and boots with many companies for which you can apply.
- Discounts at many mountains and resorts around the country and internationally.

- The best friends you will ever want to call family.
- The satisfaction of knowing you have been effective every time you help someone through a tough moment or simply interact with the skiing public.

Powder Ridge Specific Benefits to Becoming a Patroller

Patrollers must work for one season and meet the minimum hour requirements to obtain benefits for the following season. Primary and Secondary membership both qualify if they meet the hours. Paid hours do not count toward annual requirement.

All Members (Starts year 1)

- 20% Employee Mountain Discount (excluding alcohol)
- $25 Food Gift Card for Every 15 Hours of Volunteer Hours

36 Hours

- Retain Membership/Employment to Patrol / Powder Ridge

50 Hours

- 5 - 8 hour Pass Vouchers

75 Hours

- NSP Dues Reimbursements ($127.00 or whatever dues are for the season)
- Employee Season Pass (Starting Year 2)

100 Hours – Benefits (Immediate Family Only)

- Year One – No Passes
- Year Two – 1 Family Season Pass or 5 Vouchers
- Year Three – 2 Family Season Passes or 10 Vouchers
- Year Four – 3 Family Season Passes or 15 Vouchers
- Year Five – 4 Family Season Passes or 20 Vouchers
- Year Six – 5 Family Season Passes or 25 Vouchers (Max Benefit)

Volunteer Hours will Consist of the following:

- Shift Work during the Winter Season
- Work Details authorized by the Patrol Director
- Local Area Required Training (Lift Evacs, Fall Area Refresher, Mt Orientation)
- On Hill OET Training

Powder Ridge Patrol Specific Uniform

Powder Ridge Patrol requires black pants and red top with white cross. Top can be a jacket or vest as long as it is red with white cross. Any apparel with a cross on it is to be worn only when acting in the capacity of a patroller and only after you have attained full certification.

Candidate Year Cost:

NSP Dues	~$130
Local Parol Dues	~$35
OEC 6th Edition Book	~$95
Course – Outdoor Emergency Care	$150
Course – Outdoor Emergency Transport	$0
Health Provider CPR with AED Course	$0 (Paid for by the Mountain - $60)
Misc. Medical Supplies	~$100

Post Candidate Year Cost:

Vest, Backpack or Fanny Pack	$150 +/-
Patrol Jacket	$250 +

**Any further questions please reach out to our Directors:

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