



CSPS RECRUIT NEWSLETTER



CANADIAN SKI PATROL SYSTEM

SUPERIOR ZONE

Dear New Patroller Candidate:

Welcome to the Canadian Ski Patrol System. We believe you have made a wise choice in considering this Organization. We wish you the best of luck in successfully completing the required skills to be an active member in our Organization.

Canadian Ski Patrol History:

In 1940, Dr. Douglas Firth, a young Toronto Doctor and skier, was asked by the Canadian Ski Association to organize and train a first aid rescue group to patrol ski hills. The initial members of the Canadian Ski Patrol System (CSPS) came from the Toronto Ski Club and they patrolled in and around the Toronto Area. In the late 1940's, the CSPS spread to other regions in Ontario, Québec and the West Coast.

In 1961, the CSPS was accredited as a National Charity and became independent of the Canadian Ski Association. Membership had grown to 600 patrollers. By 1962, we were incorporated as a National Non Profit Corporation and had

raised our registration to approximately 1,000 members. In 1965, with over 1,500 members, it was time to open a small office and hire a secretary to handle the mounting requirements of communication.

In 1973, the CSPS Logo was changed to a yellow and gold cross on a blue stylized maple leaf. It became the official trademark being registered by 1975. The Ski Patrol Members had increased to 5,200. During the Seventies Nordic Patrolling became a recognized part of the System.

The early nineties had seen the Snowboarding popularity become increasingly apparent. The CSPS has kept pace by setting Snowboard Standards thus certifying full members to the System.

Today, the Canadian Ski Patrol boasts Members of over 5,000 from regions all across Canada with new Patrols and Members constantly joining. Dr. Firth, a Life Member, continued to promote the System until his peaceful passing in the spring of 2001. He will be sadly missed by all.

What exactly does the Ski Patrol do?

The simplest answer to this question comes from the Letters Patent of the Canadian Ski Patrol System, which outlines four basic aims and objectives:

- 1) To assist in the reduction of Ski Accidents in Canada.
- 2) To provide remedial and First Aid Services in the event of Ski Accidents in Canada.
- 3) To promote and encourage the standardization of training, equipment and qualifications of Ski Patrollers in Canada.
- 4) To succeed to and to take over all the rights and property of the previously unincorporated Canadian Ski Patrol System.

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The Role of the Canadian Ski Patrol:

To express the role of a Ski Patroller in simple terms, one must imagine the activities required to meet the aims and objectives listed above.

Patrollers ensure that the Ski Trails and surrounding areas are free from danger, monitor the skiing behavior of the General Public, operate various safety programs and promote safe skiing both by skiing safely and through interactions with the Skiing Public.

All Patrollers are instructed in the C.S.P.S. first aid course and in subsequent On-Hill/On-Snow Toboggan Training, to be prepared to offer first aid on the ski trail or wherever their help is required. Every year, Patrollers are cited for their first aid activities both on and off the ski hills/trails, during the course of all four seasons.

Ski Patrol instructors train members in every facet of first aid and accident site management. All Patrollers are also qualified in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Level C – Health Care Provider, through the C.S.P.S. course.

All Ski Patrollers taking care of injured persons fill out an accident report form, which helps to provide statistics on ski accidents in Canada. Individual Patrols use this information to identify areas that will cut down on accidents. The Patrol will make recommendations to the Resort, if they feel steps can be taken to eliminate or reduce accidents.

Individual Patrollers are responsible for the promotion of safe skiing and for the rescue and transport of the injured. Patrollers accept these obligations to the Patrol and to the General Public, which generally affects the Patroller's ski experience very little, except for the strict rules that Patrollers neither drink while wearing their Patrol Jackets, nor ski in a style likely to endanger the General Public. While the Patrol obligations come first, Patrollers generally ski in a "stand by" situation and enjoy skiing from the first run of the day, until the lifts close, within a loosely structured program that leaves plenty of room for enjoyment of the sport.

Why Patrol?

Most Patrollers are first attracted to the Ski Patrol as a way to participate in a group skiing experience. The offer of free skiing, in exchange for first aid services, is important, and the extensive first aid training equips Patrollers for almost any situation they will ever encounter which requires fast and effective first aid.

The spirit of good fun exists within each Area's Patrol, with great pride taken in a job well done. Skiers have learned to respect the Canadian Ski Patroller, whose presence at ski areas across Canada is at the invitation of the Area Operators.

Ski Patrol Requirements:

Since the duty requirement varies widely by resort, it is difficult to say what your exact requirement will be. Most Resorts ask for 15 to 20 duty days per season. This once again, depending on the Resort, can be on weekends, weekdays, evenings or a mix of all.

It is important at registration to discuss the individual skiing requirements of each Resort with their representatives. This will ensure the duty requirements of your preferred Resort(s) will fit your schedule.

Most new Patrollers are assigned to one of their top three Resorts. Unfortunately, sometimes a new Patroller may not get a chance to ski at their first choice Resort in their first year. They are however; given preference in subsequent years should they wish to change Resorts.

You may be interested to know that once all your training is complete, your off days can be spent as a visiting Patroller at other Resorts within our System. There are steps necessary for visiting other Resorts. Provided you have made the proper arrangements it should be an eventful day meeting new people.

What's a Ski Patrol Day Like?

Great!! On the hill before the tow starts or first tracks on the Nordic Trails, next, sweep the slopes for dangers before the general public disturbs fresh powder. Patrol until lunch, then back on the slopes and trails for the afternoon sunshine.

Close the runs at the end of the day, sweep the area for stragglers and it's off to the chalet for the off-duty après-ski.

During the day, the Patrollers as assigned by the Patrol Leader take care of all accidents as well as incidents and events.

Why We Need You:

If you are thinking that the Canadian Ski Patrol System can get along without you for another year, please think again. Our Patrollers are competent and highly trained skiers, with first aid and CPR qualifications recognized by the Workplace Safety & Insurance Board of Ontario. They are not, however, capable of being everywhere at the same time. Every Patrol in the Zone will need new recruits for next winter. If you are interested in Patrolling, now is the time to step forward and sign up.

You are a skier yourself. How would you feel if you fell on a quiet trail and suffered an injury too severe to allow you to ski to the bottom of the hill?

You've always felt safe because the familiar Ski Patrol members were in view, patrolling all the trails. Now it's your turn to make other skiers feel safe.

How is the C.S.P.S. Funded?

As a non-profit organization, the Canadian Ski Patrol System relies heavily on the dues collected from Patrollers and the donations of the General Public; to purchase the first aid supplies, equipment, and miscellaneous items required by a large Volunteer Organization.

Patrollers pay annual membership fees and in their first year are required to purchase their first aid manual and first aid kit. Volunteer Patrollers lease their jackets. (*Details available at registration night*).

Since the Canadian Ski Patrol System does not supply any other equipment, each Patroller is responsible for providing the basic skis, boots, poles and miscellaneous equipment necessary to partake of the sport. While a limited number of discounts are available for Patrollers, generally through the ski equipment manufacturers, as well as Ski Swaps you

should pretty well consider yourself on your own for the purpose of obtaining equipment.

While the daily tow ticket is provided to you free of charge, your transportation to and from the ski area to which you are assigned, and your food and lodging are all your own responsibility. Many Patrollers find that car pooling to the slopes helps save money and the aggravation of winter traffic.

Membership Fees:

The current registration fees for a ski patroller is \$200.00 (all inclusive). This covers Membership and Insurance Fees (National, and Division); Your Bum Bag and its contents; First Aid Manual (CD Rom version) and learning package; And CPR Pocket Face Shield (mandatory).

Be prepared to pay for all of the above fees at the registration nights or pre-registration. Payments should be made to the Canadian Ski Patrol System Superior Zone or CSPS Superior Zone.

On-Hill/On-Snow Training:

On-Hill/On-Snow training is a portion of Patroller's training, which addresses the activities, skills and procedures necessary to develop a first aider into a Ski Patroller. As a condition of membership in the Canadian Ski Patrol System, each member will be trained for the following:

- 1) Each Patroller will be certified as able to complete all runs/trails of his/her ski area. You will be evaluated on your ski/snowboard ability at the beginning of the season and you should be at an intermediate level or better.
- 2) Each Patroller after training must competently handle an empty and loaded toboggan used to evacuate an injured person safely from the hill/trail. You will also learn to transport a toboggan up hill on lifts and carry a backboard properly down the hill. As part of toboggan training you will learn how to place people in and out of the toboggan. In the case of Nordic resorts, several transportation and

evacuation techniques are examined, as well as emergency shelters and other survival skills.

3) Accident Site Management is also a part of this training. This is the procedure on how to manage an accident at the ski area.

4) Area Procedures. Each Patroller will be instructed and prove a competent understanding of all Patrol Systems and procedures at the area where he/she patrols.

All this is part of your On-Hill/On-Snow training course that will start on the first day of your assigned area's opening.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. **QUESTION:** How old do I have to be to Patrol?

ANSWER: You must be eighteen (18) years of age at the time the first aid certificate is issued to become a Certified Patroller. *(Under special circumstances, recruits aged 17 may be eligible to become a Superior Zone patroller and certain restrictions will apply)*

2. **QUESTION:** How much First Aid do I have to know?

ANSWER: None! We will teach you. The First Aid course starts in September and continues for 12 sessions, two evening per week for 6 weeks and two Field Days later in the course. We are one of the finest First Aid organizations in North America in First Aid and CPR Instruction. Our training is practical for everyday situations as well; we are specialized in skiing incidents. The CSPA Training course is recognized and approved by the Workplace Safety & Insurance Board of Ontario.

3. **QUESTION:** Can I take the First Aid Course only?

ANSWER: Yes you can however full membership fees apply.

4. **QUESTION:** How do I get my C.S.P.S. Jacket?

ANSWER: Jackets will be handed out after successful completion of the On-Hill Test. Jackets are distributed on a loan arrangement.

5. **QUESTION:** What benefits will I derive from my membership fee?

ANSWER: You will become a member of a National

National member will include. First Aid, Artificial Resuscitation (AR) and Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training and Accident Site Management. You will be given the opportunity to take advantage of some of the pro deals that are offered to the CSPA as well as subscriptions to Zone, Division and National newsletters.

6. **QUESTION:** What are the ski ability requirements?

ANSWER: The minimum requirement is an intermediate skiing ability. Your skiing level will improve dramatically just by the amount of time spent skiing with us. We will teach you how to handle a toboggan. *(If you doubt your ability please talk to the Resort representative of your choice at registration night or the Patrol Leader of the Resort).*

Superior Zone:

First Aid courses are held in Thunder Bay and Dryden. Please visit www.superiorzone.ca for more information and to pre register. We will be in touch and mail out an invitation package to you.

The resorts covered by Superior Zone are:

Dryden Ski Club

Loch Lomond Ski Area

Mount Baldy Ski Area

Kamview Nordic (Thunder Bay Nordic Trails)

Lappe Nordic Ski Club

If you wish to ski at any of these resorts, follow the information in this letter for registration or visit our Web Site at our Internet address;

www.superiorzone.ca

superiorzone@hotmail.com

We are pleased that you have taken the time to read this letter.

Be Aware Ski and Board with Care!