



January 2020 Revelstoke Resort, B.C., Canada

2020 National Ski Patrol, Central Division, North Central Region Awards, Spring Report

Good evening NSP NCR Board of directors,

I hope you all are health and enjoying the bright and sunny weather we are finally enjoying after a long and tedious spring without skiing and boarding. I have been working from home since March 18th and have been working through some of the most difficult challenges I have ever had in my professional career. I work in higher education and nobody wanted to learn or teach hands on skills in a virtual world but I can say I have made it through and I hope we come up with a pharmaceutical cure to this pandemic before fall semester starts. I can say I am thankful to have been spending this time at home with my family and nursing my leg back to health after tearing my gastric muscle in early March at Granite Peak where I am a primary patroller. I had a wonderful year assisting with the OEC and OET class as an instructor at Granite Peak and more so watching my 15-year-old daughter pass both this year. I also trained all year preparing for my senior evaluation held at Big Snow in February, and yes, I did pass. I would like to thank Daren Lukes for all the time he put in helping us all pass our exams this year.

This year I took on the awards position with the region with zero expectations and or idea of what it was I needed to do. I can thank Brenda Robinson for spending many hours working with me on what was required and when it needed to be done. It was honoring to be part of the process to review and submit awards for our fellow patrollers to be recognized for all their hard work they do each year. I have learned that the process can be very difficult and time consuming for all the people involved in writing awards because of the changing requirements and form revisions that can happen after an award is written. I would like to thank all of you that helped and wrote awards for your fellow patrollers at your home hills. In the future years please pass the word to others and encourage others to participate in the effort to recognize our great work.

This year I have received a total of 17 award nominations from the district with some of the 12 possible categories with zero nominations. I feel that we as the board need to promote the writing of awards by our patrols to better reward and recognize what we do for our communities and resorts. I would be happy to work with anyone that is interested in writing nominations at any time, just ask.

I did hear a bit of frustration from some of the writers because the forms changed very late in the year and some had to be rewritten on the new form. I also had some issue with submissions being sent to me in various ways, paper, Microsoft word, and PDF to name a few and it has made it clear to me that we all do things differently. This has made me think of some ideas; I need to work with our region patrols to show them how the process needs to be done and why it needs to be done certain way, why we have a firm time line for nominations just to name a few. I was a bit of a softy this year and it caused me some stress in the end when the process was being completed related to us all doing things are own way.

I would like to propose the creation of a way for the region members to enter an awards nomination through a form on a website that can be edited and saved by both me and the submitter to hurry up the process of revisions, signatures, and the communications needed to successfully submit an award nomination.

I look forward to working with all of you for many years to come, think snow!

Sincerely,

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