

## Big Powderhorn Mountain Resort Ski Patrol

2019/2020 Season in review.

The '19/'20 season started out with cold and A LOT of SNOW! Early season cold temperatures and plentiful system and LES blessed out mountain with an abundance of the white stuff. BPMR was north of 90% open for our opening day! Christmas and New Year's did not disappoint with plenty of guests out skiing and good times had by all.

Mid-season seemed to have occasional light to moderate snow events with above-average temperatures. Results were fantastic with January/Feb skiing in the mid to upper 20's that are usually in teens to below zero. No complaints.

As far as personnel goes, we had some retirements from the previous season and welcomed some new faces to our group with new primary and secondary patrollers. We also added a Mountain Host Unit to BPM through NSP as we are trying to get some of our BPM Operations folks involved with patient care when needed.

Continuing education/training for the '19/'20 season focused on usual medical/trauma care, however included additional focus on lift evac training. Working with BPM Management, we are making the transition to the Petzl ID device starting for the '20/'21 season. Big thanks to everyone on BPM's Patrol for helping out with making this important transition go smoothly.

Unfortunately, as with everyone else in the NCR, BPMR closed early on March 16<sup>th</sup> due to the COVID19 pandemic. As of this writing and as far as I know, we have not had any patrollers or resort personnel effected by the virus. I'm hopeful that this continues and everyone remains happy and healthy. Our patrol did end of donating what little PPE we had to Aspirus Ironwood hospital including gloves, surgical masks, and a small supply of N95 masks.

Due to circumstances involving the State of Wisconsin and Michigan Stay-at-home orders, I never returned to BPM after working my scheduled shifts at my full time fire department job in the Milwaukee metro area. Therefor I'm not entirely sure who amongst our fantastic patrollers ended up with the Bravo Award. All I can say is I'm greatly appreciative of our volunteer patrollers, paid patrollers, BPM operations, management...everyone who made it a great (while abbreviated) season.

Special thanks goes out to Alex Young who became our de facto PR after I was unable to return in March.

Best wishes and looking forward to 2020/2021!

Dave Grospitz – PR

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