



Chapter 10 AWARDS PROGRAM

10.1 NSP Awards

The NSP has a system of awards designed to recognize and reward its patrollers for outstanding service in individual events and for extended service to the association. The national awards program may be supplemented on the Division, Region, Section, or NSP patrol level. Many of the awards can be made at any time during the year. NSP officers are reminded that for all awards, except the national outstanding awards, a minimum of 45 days, from receipt in the national office, is needed to process the award.

10.2 Appointments (National and Leadership Commendation)

Intent: A Patroller with an Appointment is an individual who has demonstrated leadership, good character, diplomacy, a positive attitude, good judgment, exemplary qualities of patrolling ability, a genuine desire to serve the skiing public, and extraordinary service to the NSP.

Receiving an Appointment is not something for which a Patroller—volunteer or paid—can work or plan. A Patroller does not apply for an Appointment. The Appointment should be overdue rather than premature, but tenure alone is never an adequate criterion. To obtain this classification, a Patroller must be nominated. An Appointment is not intended to be a retirement award.

10.2.1 Common Qualifications

A patroller who is nominated for an Appointment must meet the following qualifications:

- A. Must have served a minimum of eight ski seasons as an active patroller of the National Ski Patrol.
- B. A minimum of 12 months must have elapsed since completing all requirements for NSP Senior or NSP Certified classification.
- C. Must have demonstrated leadership that benefits the NSP. Address all that apply:
 1. by serving at Section, Region, Division or national levels, OR

2. by serving two or more ski seasons as an instructor in a program that is beneficial to the NSP, OR
3. by exceptional performance as an NSP Patrol Representative.

- D. Should have demonstrated leadership abilities in working with the skiing public as related to skier safety education.
- E. A patroller may receive only one Appointment.

10.2.2 Leadership Commendation Appointment Qualifications

- A. Nominees for the Leadership Commendation who are registered as Auxiliary must have been an active Senior Auxiliary Patroller for at least one year before nomination.
- B. Nominees for the Leadership Commendation Appointment who are registered as Patrollers must have completed Senior Scene Management and four additional options from the Senior elective list at least one year before nomination.

10.2.3 National Appointment Qualifications

- A. Nominees for the National Appointment must have been an active Senior Alpine or Nordic Patroller or Certified Patroller for at least one year before nomination.

10.2.4 Nomination Procedure Requirements

- A. The Appointment nominee must be nominated on an Appointment Award Form accompanied by a letter of recommendation that is submitted by an active NSP patroller with an Appointment.
- B. The Appointment of a Patroller registered through the Professional Division may be submitted or processed through either the Professional Division or a geographic Division in the system.



- C. The Appointment nominee must be approved by the nominee's NSP Patrol Representative, Section Chief, Region Director, Division Director, and a review board as applicable. Professional patroller nominations submitted through the geographic division require the approval of both the geographic and Professional Division Directors. In lieu of the Professional Division Director approval, approval may alternately be obtained from the respective volunteer Patrol Representative. (The Division Director may delegate the authority, for overseeing the procedure, to a Division awards advisor; however, this does not relieve the Division Director of the final responsibility for approving fully qualified and deserving nominees.)
 - D. Each officer must sign his or her approval on the nomination form, except in those cases where the officer is the nominee. All signatures on the form should be from different individuals.
 - E. 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 all in the review chain below, as well as one step above the rejecting party. (See Section 10.13, *Award Rejection/Appeal Process (except Outstanding Awards) for appeal process*).
 - F. Professional ski patrols that certify skill levels in-house, versus participation in a formal NSP course or evaluation, must provide a training checklist or job description certifying those skill levels and describing them in detail. The professional patrol delegate must be satisfied, and stipulate in a letter of support, that the nominee's skill standards meet or exceed the Senior Patroller skill level in that geographic Division and that the nominee meets the Appointment criteria in all other ways.
 - G. The nomination of a patroller for Appointment must occur without the nominee's knowledge.
- 10.2.5 The nomination review board must consist of at least three active patrollers with Appointments who have been appointed to the board according to Division policy. The term of membership on a review board should be two years, subject to reappointment for successive terms, and terms should be staggered to assure continuity.
 - 10.2.6 When the nomination has been approved at the Division level, the original nomination form and the letter of recommendation from the sponsor must be forwarded by the Division Director or the Division awards advisor to the National Awards Coordinator, who reviews and forwards to the national office for processing.
 - 10.2.7 The national office then sends the Appointment certificate, card, pin, and acknowledgment card to the Division Director, Division awards advisor, or to the appropriate designated individual according to each Division's custom for presentation.
 - 10.2.8 Presentation of an Appointment must be made at a special occasion by the highest officer in attendance (a Region Director or higher officer or designee).
 - 10.2.9 The recipient must mail the signed card to the national office for the Appointment and number to become valid.
 - 10.2.10 The Appointment is for life; however, if a patroller with an Appointment discredits the honor of the NSP, the Appointment will be revoked and the individual will be asked to relinquish the Appointment insignia.
 - 10.2.11 The Appointment number is not transferable.
- ### 10.3 Distinguished Service Award
- Intent: The Distinguished Service Award may be given to individuals who have performed extraordinary service to the National Ski Patrol and the skiing public over a long period of time (minimum is 20 years). This is distinguished by exceptional devotion to duty and outstanding performance.
- 10.3.1 The Distinguished Service Award may be used to recognize patrollers who have made excellent contributions to the system regardless of whether or not they have an Appointment. A patroller is the recipient of this award only once.
 - 10.3.2 The Distinguished Service Award also may be presented to individuals or an organization, not affiliated with the



National Ski Patrol, for outstanding contributions to the NSP. An example would be to recognize a ski area manager who has strongly supported the NSP for many years (no minimum specified) and has contributed significantly to the achievement of NSP goals.

- 10.3.3 The Distinguished Service Award Nomination Form must be used for this award. The nomination and approval procedures are the same as those for an Appointment.
- 10.3.4 Recipients of the Distinguished Service Award who are patrollers of the NSP will be given a plaque and a sweater pin engraved with the DSA insignia. Recipients outside the NSP will be given a certificate and a plaque engraved with the DSA insignia.
- 10.3.5 Presentation of the Distinguished Service Award must be made at a special occasion by the highest officer in attendance (a Region Director or higher officer or designee), and persons closely associated with the award recipient should be invited to attend.

10.4 Meritorious Service Award

Intent: The Meritorious Service Award is to be given to active patrollers of the National Ski Patrol who have completed extraordinary and outstanding service and leadership as a Region or Division staff member (Region Director or Division Director ineligible). A staff member is defined as a Region or Division program supervisor, advisor or coordinator or other core administrative positions (treasurer, legal counsel, registrar, alumni, etc.). This award is intended to fit between the Yellow Merit Star and the Distinguished Service Award in level of importance.

10.4.1 Qualification requirements

- A. This award can be presented only to Region and Division staff members.
- B. Must have served a minimum of three continuous years in a Region or Division staff position.
- C. Must have demonstrated leadership and outstanding performance while performing the staff position.
- D. An individual is normally the recipient of this award only once.

- E. This award is not intended for national-level staff.
- F. A Patroller who has already been given a Yellow Merit Star for Service is not eligible for a Meritorious Service Award for the same period of service.

10.4.2 Nomination requirements

- A. The request for this award must be on the approved form and requires a sponsoring letter.
- B. A nomination for the Meritorious Service Award must be sponsored by a Division or Region Director.
- C. Approvals required are Region or Division Director and Division awards advisors.

10.4.3 Presentation

- A. Recipients of the Meritorious Service Award will receive a certificate and a pin.
- B. A Region Director or higher officer or designee must make presentation of the Meritorious Service Award at a special occasion.

10.5 Merit Stars

10.5.1 Merit Star Nomination Procedure

- A. To nominate an NSP Patroller for a merit star award, the Nomination for NSP Merit Star Award Form must be filled out completely and appropriate support material attached. Gold and Silver Merit Stars are automatically issued to the individual recipients and runners-up of national outstanding awards.
- B. The national office will send the merit star certificate to the Division Director, Division awards advisor, or other person who has been designated to present the award.
- C. The National Awards Coordinator has the authority to change the type of merit star being applied for and the wording on the form after consultation with the Division Director or Division awards advisor.



- D. Presentation of merit star awards must be made at a special occasion by the highest NSP officer in attendance (a Region Director or higher officer or designee).
- E. All merit star nominations must be submitted within two years of the event or service being recognized.

10.5.2 Gold Merit Star

The Gold Merit Star is awarded annually to the National Outstanding Alpine Ski Patroller, National Outstanding Nordic Ski Patroller, National Outstanding Young Ski Patroller, National Outstanding Professional Ski Patroller, National Outstanding Auxiliary Patroller, National Outstanding Administrative Patroller, National Outstanding OEC Instructor, National Outstanding non-OEC Instructor and National Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative .

10.5.3 Silver Merit Star

The Silver Merit Star is awarded annually to the runner-up to the National Outstanding Alpine Ski Patroller, National Outstanding Nordic Ski Patroller, National Outstanding Young Ski Patroller, National Outstanding Professional Ski Patroller, National Outstanding Auxiliary Patroller, National Outstanding Administrative Patroller, National Outstanding OEC Instructor, National Outstanding non-OEC Instructor, and the National Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative.

10.5.4 Purple Merit Star

Intent: The Purple Merit Star is given for saving a human life through emergency care and the use of ski patrol skills. The Purple Merit Star is awarded to NSP Patrollers who individually save or are primarily responsible, in conjunction with others, for saving a human life. This may be accomplished by rendering emergency care to someone who has been stricken by a sudden illness or accident. The Purple Merit Star may be presented regardless of where the lifesaving act was performed, provided the patient lives for approximately 24 hours after EMS takes over responsibility and emergency care was accomplished under the sole responsibility of Patrollers.

- A. The Purple Merit Star may be presented regardless of where the lifesaving act was performed, provided the emergency care was accomplished under the sole direction and sole responsibility of Patroller(s). Patrollers who are under the direction of another group (e.g., search and rescue, American Red Cross, military) do not qualify for a Purple Merit Star, nor do individuals who perform the life saving act while on duty in the course of their normal occupations (e.g., ambulance crew, firefighter, etc.) unless that occupation is ski patrolling.
- B. The nomination must be accompanied by a signed statement from an attending physician or, in the physician's absence, any higher medical authority (preferably a paramedic or nurse) who can substantiate that the Patroller's actions primarily contributed to saving a life.
- C. In the event the nominator is unable to obtain the statements as required in 10.5.4 B, a letter from the nominee's Division Medical Advisor attesting that, in their professional opinion based on the existing documentation supporting the case, the Patroller's actions were primarily responsible for saving a life will suffice. All other documentation describing the event must also be included in the submission.

10.5.5 Blue Merit Star

Intent: The Blue Merit Star is awarded to NSP Patrollers for outstanding or crucial support roles using emergency care and ski patrol skills in an attempt to save a human life, but whose efforts have not met the Purple Merit Star criteria; that is, life was not sustained for the minimum 24 hours or the nominee is not individually or primarily responsible for the effort. The emergency care must be accomplished under the sole responsibility of the patrollers. This award also may be presented to NSP Patrollers for outstanding service in support roles associated with the Purple Merit Star.

- A. A Blue Merit Star in association with a Purple Merit Star requires the same merit star submission as a Purple Merit Star.



- B. The Blue Merit Star not associated with a Purple Merit Star requires its own letter of recommendation describing the incident but does not require medical documentation.
- C. Individuals who perform life saving acts while on duty in the course of their normal occupations (e.g. ambulance crew, firefighter) do not qualify for a Blue Merit Star unless that occupation is ski patrolling.

10.5.6 Green Merit Star

Intent: The Green Merit Star is awarded to NSP Patrollers for an outstanding act of heroism that does not meet the lifesaving requirements of the Purple Merit Star. It is given for arduous and/or hazardous rescue work in which the recipient uses ski patrol training (e.g., at ski areas, air crashes, and mountain rescue situations, etc.).

- A. A letter of recommendation must accompany the nomination from the NSP Patrol Representative or higher officer. Supporting material such as newspaper clippings and statements from government offices and from any person who can attest to the Patroller's actions also should be included.
- B. Individuals who perform a heroic rescue attempt while on duty in the course of their normal occupations (e.g., ambulance crew, firefighter, etc) are not eligible for this award unless that occupation is ski patrolling.

10.5.7 Yellow Merit Star

Intent: The Yellow Merit Star is awarded to NSP Patrollers for any outstanding act or service to the National Ski Patrol. This award also may be presented to NSP Patrollers for outstanding service in significant support roles associated with the Purple, Blue, or Green Merit Star.

- A. To maintain the value of the Yellow Merit Star, it should not be given too freely. The Yellow Merit Star is not awarded for local services or functions (e.g., bake sales, ski swaps, t-shirt sales, repairing toboggans, painting aid rooms, etc.). These examples can be recognized with the National, Division or local Certificate of Appreciation.

- B. A letter of recommendation and any appropriate supporting material should accompany the nomination.
- C. An NSP Patroller may receive more than one Yellow Merit Star, but each act or administrative duty must be unrelated to any prior receipt of the award and must have relevance to the National Ski Patrol.

10.6 Patroller's Cross

10.6.1 The Patroller's Cross may be awarded, upon approval of the Division Director or Division awards advisor, to a patroller who is seriously injured in one of the following categories:

- A. During training and/or scheduled on-the-hill duty under the direction of area management.
- B. While performing search and rescue activities under the direction of a recognized authority.
- C. While performing avalanche control work under the direction of area management.
- D. While performing lift evacuation under the direction of area management.

10.6.2 The definition of a serious injury is an injury requiring physician care over a long period of time, surgery, extended rehabilitation, and/or lost work time.

10.6.3 The request for this award must be on the approved form with the required documentation. A patroller can receive this award more than once.

10.7 National Outstanding Awards

Intent: Annually, the National Ski Patrol may award the following awards to NSP patrols and individual NSP patrollers whose nominations have been submitted by a Division Director or designee. A Division may submit only one nomination for each award. All national outstanding awards will be called by their descriptive names, and only the trophy will carry the name of an individual who has made significant contributions to the NSP (i.e., a National Chair) for whom it is named. The national trophies are kept on display at the national office with the winners names attached. The winners will also receive a trophy and



appropriate certificate. A winner of a national outstanding award, either an individual or patrol, cannot reapply for any outstanding award for the following four seasons. No one individual may be nominated for more than one outstanding award in any one year.

10.7.1 Nomination Procedures for National Outstanding Awards

- A. Nominees for national outstanding awards may be winners in Division selection procedures and must be sponsored by a Division Director.
- B. No information dating back more than four years, including the current season, may be used in the nomination.
- C. If a nominee has service as a dually registered volunteer and 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.
- D. Nominations are prepared by completing the appropriate forms. The completed form with all required signatures and any attachments must be received in the national office by June 1 each year unless a different date is set by agreement of a majority of the National Awards Committee.
- E. The National Outstanding Awards Judges are responsible for determining the winners of the national outstanding awards. The national office sends each judge all the nominations received in a single category as assigned. Each judge then sends his or her summary of point totals for each nominee to the national office; the National Awards Coordinator will tally the results. The National Awards Coordinator then will release the winners' names to all the Division awards advisors. How and when each winner is notified is left to the decision of each Division.

- F. The winner of an individual outstanding award is awarded a Gold Merit Star certificate and is authorized to have a Gold Merit Star engraved on the NSP name bar. The runner-up receives a Silver Merit Star certificate and may have a Silver Merit Star engraved on the NSP name bar. All other nominees will receive a Yellow Merit Star certificate and may have a Yellow Merit Star engraved on the NSP name bar.
- G. All registered (primary and secondary) patrollers of an outstanding ski patrol award shall receive a pin.
- H. Refer to Division policy and procedures for submission schedule for awards at the Division level.

10.7.2 Outstanding Ski Patrol Awards

Intent: In determining the number of patrollers registered with a ski patrol, all patrollers 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.

A. Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol

This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Large Alpine Ski Patrol (41 or more members). It is selected from among nominations sent by Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator. The Friends of Minnie Dole Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.

B. Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol

This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Small Alpine Ski Patrol (40 or fewer members). It is selected from among nominations sent by Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator. The Friends of Minnie Dole Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.

C. Outstanding Nordic Ski Patrol



This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Nordic Ski Patrol selected from among nominations sent by Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator. The Ronald Ricketts Outstanding Nordic Ski Patrol Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.

10.7.3 Outstanding Alpine Patroller Award

- A. This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Volunteer Alpine Patroller selected from among nominations sent by the Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator. The William R. Judd Outstanding Alpine Ski Patroller Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.
- B. Any active volunteer Alpine Patroller is eligible, except Young Patrollers (see 10.7.6), Auxiliary Patrollers, or those eligible for the Outstanding Administrative Awards or the Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative Award, or those who hold offices or positions at or above the NSP Patrol Representative level.

10.7.4 Outstanding Nordic Ski Patroller Award

- A. This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Volunteer Nordic Ski Patroller selected from among nominations sent by the Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator. The Donald C. Williams Outstanding Nordic Ski Patroller Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.
- B. Any active volunteer Nordic Patroller is eligible, except Young Patrollers, Auxiliary Patrollers, or those eligible for the Outstanding Administrative Awards or the Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative Award, or those who hold offices at or above the NSP Patrol Representative level.

10.7.5 Outstanding Young Patroller Award

- A. This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Young Patroller volunteer selected from among nominations sent by the Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator. The Edward F. Taylor Outstanding Student Ski Patroller Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.
- B. Any volunteer NSP Patroller may be nominated if no greater than 19 years of age on June 1st in the year nominated.

10.7.6 Outstanding Paid Ski Patroller Award

- A. This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Paid Ski Patroller selected from nominations sent by the Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator. The Harry G. Pollard Outstanding Paid Ski Patroller Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.
- B. Any patroller who is registered as a Paid Patroller is eligible for this award

10.7.7 Outstanding Auxiliary Patroller Award

- A. This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Auxiliary Patroller volunteer selected from among nominations sent by the Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator. The Charles C. Haskins Outstanding Auxiliary Patroller Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.
- B. Any active Auxiliary Patroller volunteer is eligible for this award, except those who are eligible for the Outstanding Administrative Awards, the Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative Award, or who hold a position or office at or above the level of NSP Patrol Representative.

10.7.8 Outstanding OEC Instructor Award



- A. This award is presented each year to a volunteer patroller who has been an NSP instructor in Outdoor Emergency Care. The nominations are sent by the Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved 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.
- B. The intent of this award is to cover the OEC education discipline only.
- C. The recipient must have been a volunteer certified OEC instructor for at least three ski seasons and actively instructed for the last two seasons.
- D. Any volunteer NSP patroller is eligible to receive this award.

10.7.9 Outstanding non-OEC Instructor Award

- A. This award is presented each year to a volunteer patroller who has been an NSP instructor in any of the NSP educational programs, other than OEC. The nominations are sent by the Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator. The Roger Langley Outstanding Non-OEC Instructor Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.
- B. This award is given to cover all NSP education disciplines other than OEC.
- C. The recipient must have been a volunteer certified instructor in a non-OEC discipline for at least three ski seasons and actively instructed for the last two seasons.
- D. Any volunteer NSP patroller is eligible to receive the award.

10.7.10 Outstanding Patrol Representative Award

- A. This award is presented each year to the Outstanding Volunteer NSP Patrol Representative selected from among those nominations sent by the Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator.

- B. Any active volunteer NSP Patrol Representative or one who has served in the position during the immediately preceding season is eligible.

10.7.11 Outstanding Administrative Patroller Award

- A. This award is presented each year to a volunteer patroller who has made an outstanding administrative contribution to the NSP beyond the patrol level. The winner is selected from nominations sent by the Division Directors or designees to the national office and approved by the National Awards Coordinator. The Outstanding Administrative Patroller Award is inscribed on the trophy that is kept on display at the national office.
- B. The nominee may be a Section Chief, Region Director, and Region or Division supervisor/advisor. If the individual is eligible for the Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative Award, the person cannot be considered for this award.



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)	Patrol Representative	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

10.8 National Recognition Awards

10.8.1 Unit Citation Award

- A. A Unit Citation Award certificate may be presented by the National Chair, upon the recommendation of a Division Director, to any NSP patrol that has performed in any outstanding manner in the NSP, the ski industry, winter recreation, or rescue, and when it is not possible to single out specific individuals.
- B. Nominations for unit citations are made in letters to the National Awards Coordinator through appropriate local and Division channels.
- C. The Unit Citation Award Certificate is given automatically to each NSP patrol nominated by its Division for the National Outstanding Ski Patrol Award.
- D. A Gold Unit Citation certificate is awarded to the recipients (large, small and nordic patrol) of the National Outstanding Ski Patrol Award.



- E. A Silver Unit Citation certificate is awarded to runners up (large, small and nordic patrol) of the National Outstanding Ski Patrol Award.

10.8.2 National Certificate of Appreciation

Intent: The National Certificate of Appreciation is for national-level service that does not meet the level of the Yellow Merit Star. Examples would be area managers/owners, retiring ski Patrollers, and Patrollers who deserve national recognition.

- A. There are two levels of Certificates of Appreciation that may be used. A National Certificate of Appreciation is signed by the National Chair, has a gold seal affixed, and is awarded for national level service. This certificate requires the submission of a nomination form similar to that used for merit stars, and requires a letter of justification signed by the sponsor, NSP Patrol Representative, Region awards advisor, Division Director, and/or awards advisor.
- B. Members as well as non-NSP members or groups are eligible for either the National Certificate of Appreciation or the Standard Certificate of Appreciation.
- C. The National board may award a National Certificate of Appreciation directly to a deserving individual by nomination by a Board member and the concurrence of the Board (or a majority of the board members). The National Chairman may have the award issued immediately from the National office. The National Awards Coordinator should be notified of such awards for record purposes.

10.8.3 Standard Certificate of Appreciation

Intent: The standard Certificate of Appreciation is to be used for those situations that affect the National Ski Patrol at the local, Region, or Division level only.

- A. The Standard Certificate of Appreciation lower right hand corner reads, "for the National Ski Patrol" and may be signed by the Division Director or Region Director. This certificate is awarded for local service and may be obtained from the NSP Winter Catalog. (No form is necessary for this award.)

- B. Members as well as non-NSP members or groups are eligible for the Standard Certificate of Appreciation.

10.8.4 Division or Region Certificate of Appreciation

- A. The Division or Region Certificate of Appreciation may be awarded, upon the recommendation of an NSP officer, to individuals or groups that have provided service to or support of the NSP that does not fall within the scope of the other awards categories. This certificate should be designed by the Division, Region, or Patrol, as appropriate, and is not available through the NSP catalog.
- B. This certificate may be awarded to non-members or non-NSP patrol groups for valued contributions in furthering the goals of the NSP.
- C. The National Chair, Division or Region Directors, Section Chiefs, or NSP Patrol Representatives may present the certificates.

10.8.5 Avalanche Award

- A. The Montgomery M. Atwater Award is given periodically to recognize NSP members or non-members who have made outstanding and continuing superlative contributions to the Avalanche Program with national impact. Examples of such contributions might fall under management, curriculum development, publication, scientific discovery, or any combination thereof.
- B. Nominations for the award must be forwarded to the national avalanche program director, who will select a committee of three nationally respected avalanche specialists (including the avalanche program director) and at least one non-NSP member. The award recommendation goes to the NSP National Chair.

10.8.6 National Chair's Outstanding Administrative Patroller Award



- A. This award may be presented each year to the Outstanding Administrative Patroller selected from patrollers who are eligible and may or may not be registered with the U.S. Administrative Patrol.
- B. The nomination shall be submitted to the National Board of Directors for confirmation.

10.8.7 National Chair's Service Award

- A. This award can be presented only by the National Chair to a non-elected National staff member, e.g., National Program Director, National Treasurer, etc.
- B. The patroller must have served a minimum of two continuous years in a national staff position.
- C. The patroller must have demonstrated leadership and outstanding performance while fulfilling the staff position.
- D. An individual is normally the recipient of this award only once.
- E. A patroller who has already been given a Yellow Merit Star for service is not eligible for a National Chair's Service Award for the same period of service.
- F. The request for this award must be on the approved form and requires a sponsoring letter.
- G. Recipients of the National Chair's Service Award will receive a wall plaque and a pin.
- H. The National Chair or designee must make a presentation of the National Chair's Service Award at a special occasion.

10.8.8 National Ski Patrol Memorial

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

- A. The request for this award must be on the approved form, requires a sponsoring letter, and must be submitted within two years of loss of life.
- B. Approvals are required by Region and/or Division Director and Division awards advisor.
- C. The patroller's family will receive a 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 patroller should be invited to attend.
- E. The patroller's name will be permanently engraved on the memorial and housed at the national offices, recognizing the patroller's devotion to duty.
- F. The National Ski Patrol Memorial is available for recognition of loss of life occurring after 7/1/2007.
- G. Patrollers who die while not on duty may be recognized at the Division level and may include a letter of recognition from the National Chair.

10.8.9 Charles Minot "Minnie" Dole Award

- A. This extremely rare award recognizes those exceptional few patrollers 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 patroller who has at least 30 years of active patrolling service, is registered as an active patroller 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 a program, project, and procedure that have had an overall positive impact on the entire National Ski Patrol.
- C. A nomination must be made on the current nomination form in the Policies and Procedures and accompanied by a letter of support that has been signed by 10 currently registered NSP patrollers with Appointments. The form, with letter, should be forwarded to the National Awards Coordinator.



- D. After review by the National Awards Committee, if the nomination receives approval by at least three-fourths of the committee members, it will be sent to the National Board of Directors. If at least three-fourths of the members of the voting members of the National Board of Directors approve the nomination, the award will be made.
- 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 will be presented infrequently and it may be presented to more than one recipient in a year.
- F. The Minnie Dole Award will be presented to the recipient at the annual meeting of the NSP Board of Directors or at another appropriate occasion. Announcements may be withheld if the award is to be made at another occasion.
 - G. If the nomination is not approved by either the National Awards Committee of the National Board of Directors, the nomination, along with the reason(s) for rejection must be returned (in writing) to the sponsor within 30 days. The decision of the National Awards Committee or the National Board may not be appealed. A revised nomination may be submitted after 12 months from the date of the notification.
 - H. Nominations for this award will be retained at the National office to be available as a historical reference.

10.9 Service Recognition Award

- 10.9.1 The Service Recognition Award may be used to recognize patrollers who have served the NSP for 5 years or longer. (This award should be given when years of service add up to an increment of five years.)
- 10.9.2 NSP Patrol Representatives or awards advisors may order service recognition certificates from the national office.

- 10.9.3 The service of elected members of the NSP Board of Directors is recognized with an appropriately designed sweater pin, lapel pin and National Certificate of Appreciation.

10.10 Honorary Awards

10.10.1 Honorary National Appointment

- A. The Honorary National Appointment is awarded at rare intervals to individuals who have performed unusual or highly useful service of national significance to the National Ski Patrol. The recipient is not required to meet the skiing, emergency care, or other requirements of registered NSP patrollers, nor is the recipient required or expected to perform the duties of a patroller. The recipients of this award may not wear the official NSP uniform unless they become NSP patrollers.
- B. NSP patrollers or retired patrollers are not eligible to receive this award.
- C. This honorary award must be submitted to the National Awards Coordinator who will submit it to the National Awards Committee for review. The Committee will then make a recommendation to the National Chair for consideration of the award, with the concurrence of the NSP Board of Directors.
- D. The presentation of an Honorary National Appointment must be made at a special occasion by the highest officer in attendance (National Chair or designee).
- E. The awards rejection/appeals process described in 10.13 does not apply to this award.

10.10.2 Angel Pin

The NSP Angel Pin may be awarded, upon the approval of the Division Director or designate, to non-members of NSP who have provided valuable contributions to the NSP.

10.11 Awards Coordinator/Advisor Job Descriptions

10.11.1 Division Awards Advisor



(See Section 6.5.4, *Division Awards Coordinator*).

10.11.2 National Awards Coordinator

(See Section 6.3.2, *National Awards Coordinator*).

10.12 Awards Forms

Awards forms may be found in the Downloads section of every NSP patroller's online Bookshelf.

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 all in the review chain below, as well as 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 with 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 nomination 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 rejection be sent to the National Awards Committee for a final appeal. Within 30 days of the request for appeal, the National Awards Coordinator will forward the submission, along with the reason(s) for denial to all members of the National Awards Committee but excluding Division Awards Advisor of the nominee's division and the National Awards Coordinator. Each 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 reason(s) for their decision. The final disposition of the appeal will be based upon a simple majority vote of the polled National Awards Committee.