



LETTER FROM PSIA-AASI NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN PRESIDENT

The winter of 2013-2014 was very good to PSIA-AASI NRM. We were blessed with early and abundant snowfall, and for some of us who had forgotten, some great subzero weather. Fortunately we have a great place to live and play.

PSIA-AASI NRM is pleased to announce that due to hard work by our discipline chairs, the board of directors and the various committee chairs we had a productive and profitable year.

Because we established a finance committee and revamped our budget forecasting and monthly reporting, we were able to shut off projects or events that would have lost money, resulting in a disciplined and executed financial plan. Of course none of this would have been possible without the diligence of our executive director Meghan Larson, who kept everyone informed and engaged with good communication and timely prods. THANK YOU MEGHAN.

As we move forward into FYE 2015, we will continue to practice good management and cost control efforts will be scrutinized for more savings and value enhancement for our members. We will be asking all of our discipline chairs to look at ways to cut travel costs with efficient scheduling and use creative thinking to come up with clinics and events that are interesting and can draw attendance at rates that allow us to be more profitable.

I attended the Presidents Council meeting in Denver on October 4 and 5, and am sorry to report that we are still operating with three of the nine divisions having not signed the Governance agreement. However, the team from National and the Presidents are meeting this month to try to hammer out the last sticking points that will allow us to become united again. While this has been going on, PSIA-AASI has made a lot of forward progress in membership

services and financial planning that will solidify PSIA-AASI as a leader in Snow Sport teaching and assure that we will have another 50 years of progress.

One of the facts I found interesting and encouraging is, that while, the number of ski areas operating in the U.S.A. has gone from 569 in 1991 to 486 in 2014, PSIA-AASI has grown from 19,775 to 31,744. I interpret this to mean that we are providing services that are important and meaningful to the Snow Sport business.

On another positive note, PSIA-AASI conducted a membership survey where the services provided by the Divisions was measured and quantified. I am happy to report that PSIA-AASI NRM ranked NUMBER 1 amongst the Divisions and we had the largest improvement in score from the last survey. I want thank all the discipline chairs and committee chairs and the board of directors and most especially our executive director Meghan Larson for all their hard work.

I am looking forward to the ski season and want everyone to know that we want to hear from the members if and when you have concerns about direction of PSIA-AASI NRM. I hope to see you at Fall Fest.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Ewing
PSIA-AASI
NRM President



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The Northern Rocky News is published twice a year by PSIA-AASI NRM and the PSIA-AASI NRM Education Foundation. Members are encouraged to submit articles and photos. Educational articles earn three credits. Letters to the editor and response to

articles are also encouraged. Content can be sent to turi@psia-nrm.org

EDITORIAL POLICY: All submissions will be edited for content, clarity, accuracy and to fit available spaces. Not all submissions are guaranteed inclusion. Ad rates are based on \$200/page.

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50



HAPPY GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY NORTHERN ROCKY MTN!



NRM GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY FALL FEST

Big Sky, Montana Dec 12-14, 2014

By Jill Imsand-Chumbley

Light and fluffy, firm and icy, chalky and forgiving, slushy and sloppy all these, and more, are types of snow I love. That's right, even the rock hard icy days. I don't need to convince you all, **I love snow!**

"Loving snow" seems a foreign concept to those who don't come from a world where winter is paramount. But I know you all understand because you are all a part of Northern Rocky Mountain Division where **we all love snow**, even the more challenging kind!

We don't need perfectly groomed cruisers to enjoy ourselves (not that we'd complain about skiing them). But we are from tougher stuff, us Northern Rocky folks. We ski in sub-zero temps. We like the challenge of not impaling ourselves on our native andesite rocks. We can scale the one-foot divide left by the snowcat when it groomed the slush last night and the chunks of ice on either side. We appreciate the finer things in life like a cold (insert favorite) beer after skiing or a pair of coaches bibs from 1990 that are still are our favorite pair of ski attire.

And, not to toot our horn too much, but we've been doing this and being who we are for 50 years! Which is why.....**WE NEED YOU!** To truly celebrate the essence of what and who NRM is we need every one of us, from 50-year members to new members, to really gather the group necessary to faithfully honor what being a member of Northern Rocky Mountain is all about.

Come celebrate 50 great years of Northern Rocky Mountain Division at Fall Festival Friday - Sunday, December 12- 14.

That means together we have been loving snow, passing it on, sharing it with friends, making new ones, learning more, pushing ourselves to improve as riders and overall as people for **50 YEARS!** It is time to celebrate and we want to do it with you!



So what's in store for this golden anniversary shindig?

ON SNOW

This year we will again have core groups in the morning and electives in the afternoon. For those of you who haven't been to Fall Festival in the last couple of years this means you ride with the same (core) group in the morning all three days Friday - Sunday and then choose a different (elective) clinic in the afternoon each day. This format allows you to tailor your experience to be as diverse or focused as you want.

If you can't devote three whole days to coming to Fall Festival you can always do the two-day option on Saturday and Sunday. If you come for the two days you will still be joining a core group in the morning and electives in the afternoon so don't worry you won't miss out.

The standard core groups focus on improving both riding and teaching skills. These groups are discipline specific, so if you enroll in a Snowboard Core group you will be focused on that specific discipline for both riding and teaching.

MORNING CORE GROUPS:

Discipline Cores:

Focus on *improving both riding and teaching skills.*

- Alpine
- Snowboard
- Children's
- Nordic

New this season this clinic is designed with ski school trainers in mind. As with all chil-

dren's clinics any discipline is welcome with the understanding that this clinic is focused toward information and dispersion of this information at a staff training level.

- Freestyle
- Adaptive

Credential Cores:

There are two options: all-day Saturday and Sunday, OR all-day Friday and half-day (mornings) Saturday and Sunday. Last year our CS1 group was busting at the seams because of late enrollment so please enroll early! With the second option, you will have afternoons available on Saturday and Sunday for electives.

- Freestyle Specialist 1 (FS1)
- Children's Specialist 1 (CS1)
- Children's Specialist 2 (CS2)

Certification Cores:

All-day Saturday and Sunday

- Alpine Level 1 (A1)
- Snowboard Level 1 (S1)

Prep Clinic Cores:

The Alpine Preps will be three days all-day with video and extra sessions after the ski day. The Snowboard Preps will be two days all-day. This is a great opportunity to really start your season off if your goal is to go toward higher certification this season!

- Alpine Level 2 or 3 (A2 or A3 prep)
- Snowboard Level 2 or 3 (S2 or S3 prep)

AFTERNOON ELECTIVES:

If you are not in a credential, certification or prep clinic you will select an elective from an array of options. I can't list them all here, so please check the Fall Festival clinic descriptions online. Following are a few highlights from each discipline:

- **Freestyle: Guinea Pig**
Have you been the guinea? Train with an Iron Team Coach to get back to where you were at the end of last season. Be challenged by broadening your bag of tricks and progressing your skills. The Iron Team has been working with new concepts and would like to share them with you in this elective.

- **Adaptive: Stand-Up Adaptive: Autism and ADD/ADHD**
This clinic will focus on these intellectual disabilities in depth. We will cover a comprehensive definition and diagnosis, red flags, and more. And then move into how to teach lessons accordingly. Should time allow, we will cover more intellectual disabilities of interest.

- **Alpine: New Moves for a New Season**
One of our most popular clinics at last year's Fall Fest gets even better. Do you consistently hear the same feedback? Find new moves to start this season off in style. Your trainers will develop new movement patterns and solidify them so they can be taught to your clients.

- **Snowboard: Steeps & Bumps Camp**
Focus on riding off-piste and how to more effectively teach in this terrain.

- **Cross Country: XC Ski Big Sky**
With excellent conditions last season and an amazing group we are ready to take on the green runs of Adrian's Way and Mr. K with XC equipment. Use your skate equipment or classic equipment. This clinic will give you the basics of how to move down hill on your XC gear. This clinic will be a hoot again.

- **Kids: Terrain Trap**
Just because you want to ski there doesn't mean you are ready for it.... yet.... This clinic will ski off piste and black terrain and will focus on how to get your students to where they want to be on the hill and how to keep them engaged and excited while they are gaining the skills to get there safely.

This is just a glimpse at some of the awesome new offerings that you can choose from this season. Please check out the Fall Festival Clinic descriptions online for more specific information and other new clinic topics. Of course, we still included some old favorites that are popular topics every year. That's the greatest thing about skiing and riding, you can never know it all! So each year, even with the same clinic topic, you're bound to learn a few new tricks.

Special guests this year from the PSIA National Alpine Team are Heidi Ettlinger, Nick Herrin, and Team Alumnus Chris Fellows! Heidi and Chris were at Fall Festival last season and are based out of the Lake Tahoe area.

Heidi spends her summers teaching in Australia and is in her third season with the National Team.

Chris is Co-founder and Codirector of the North American Ski Training Center (NASTC). Just in case you want to study up before skiing with Chris he is the author of two books *Tactics for All Mountain Skiing* and *Total Skiing*.

Nick needs no introduction to those who know him, working and living in the Bozeman area for nine seasons. Nick is on his third term on the National Team and when

you clinic with him you'll understand why! We are happy whenever Nick joins us at Fall Festival as we miss having him around.

I could go on for pages about each of these individuals but in the interest of time I'll let you read more on your own if you so choose. Regardless I highly recommend signing up for time with any and all of them if possible!

You can check out more on both Heidi and Nick at thesnowpros.org and more on Chris, as well as Heidi and Nick, at skinastc.com.

Of course the talented **DCE/L staff of NRM** will also be leading clinics. We have new staff, as well as our tried and true seasoned staff to ski and share everything they know and spread the "stoke" (I'm just not cool enough to pull that off but I tried). Just like you, they're all life long learners so every year they have new tricks to share!

Back by popular demand we will have **Morning Stretching/Yoga** both Saturday and Sunday morning. These sessions will be tailored to get us energized and in balanced so bring your unitard!

Friday night the National Alpine Team members will be presenting information on the new standards and what is happening nationally, followed by a welcome reception at Chet's with drink specials. This gathering will be your chance to catch up with those you didn't get to see your first day on the snow, as well as provides the opportunity to meet with your divisional representatives within the disciplines and board.

(Continued next page)



heidi ettlinger



nick herrin



chris fellows



fall fest 2014 continued...

When you meet with these folks be sure to let them know what you'd like them to do for the division/members.

Saturday after clinics there will be a presentation by the representatives who attended the **PSIA/AASI National Fall Conference**. Learn more about the importance of staying connected nationally and the general themes from each discipline's outcomes from the Fall Conference at Copper Mountain!

Saturday night join us for fun and games to **celebrate NRM's Golden Anniversary** (we look pretty good for 50!). Games will include a **locker room relay race** and **pin the equipment on the instructor** just to give you a taste of the fun! If competition isn't up your alley you can participate in the annual **Silent Auction or the 50/50**

Raffle to benefit the NRM Education Foundation that provides scholarships to members and member schools who need a bit of extra help to get the education our gifted staff provides. Thank you again to all the donors of last year's items. Your gifts are very appreciated! If you would like to donate an item, please contact me at jilljuliet@hotmail.com.

Saturday night is also the night we **award** the service of some of NRM's most talented and generous members. But before we can thank them we need to know who you think these folks are. That's where you come in. You can look up each award and its qualifications on page 18. Send your nominations to Meghan at info@psia-nrm.org

We are currently working on entertainment

for this night. If you are interested, or have ideas for music, please contact me at jilljuliet@hotmail.com.

Our host **Big Sky Resort** is a most convenient choice where you can stay in ski in ski out accommodations for the best deal around. This year Big Sky has included a **FREE SKY CARD**, with every three-night stay at Big Sky Resort during Fall Fest for every person in the room! With a Sky Card you not only get a discount on tickets during the season, you can also ski for free at Big Sky for two weeks at the beginning and end of the season. Check out bigskyresort.com for details.

ONE LAST THING!

If you've ever had a reason to come to Fall Festival **THIS IS IT! 50 YEARS OF NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISIONAL EXISTENCE**. You and NRM cumulatively have been spreading passion for the mountain environment for **50 YEARS**. That means together we have been on this wonderful journey for 50 YEARS! This is the time to celebrate and share it with people who understand the love of snowsports!

general overview

Three days of snowsports education and exams to get you geared up for the 2014-2015 season.

registration

Register online at www.psia-nrm.org
Three day event: Early bird rate \$180
Two-day event : Early bird rate \$130
After November 28, rates will increase by \$50 so register early!

extras

- Spouses' Clinics - sign up your significant other for a clinic with one of our ed staff because we all know that no matter how good of an instructor we are, it is always better to let someone else teach our "other half"! (\$75/day)
- Morning Wake-up & Warm-up! Get your body ready for the day with early morning yoga/stretching sessions Saturday and Sunday **morning**.

social events

Invite your friends and family to join the fun. Both night's events are open and free to the public. Saturday there is a \$5 cover charge for non-Fall Fest participants.

Friday

- National Team presentation by PSIA Alpine Team members Heidi Ettlinger and Nick Herrin
- Meet and greet @ Chet's Bar & Grill

Saturday

- NRM Discipline Fundraiser
- Appetizers & Cash Bar
- Awards Presentation
- NRM Education Foundation Silent Auction
- 50/50 raffle & drawing of winner

ed staff

In addition to the talented NRM education staff, Heidi Ettlinger and Nick Herrin of the National Alpine Team and Alumni Team Member Chris Fellows will be joining us for three days of clinics.

lift tickets

The following discounted rates will be available:

- Free with MSAA Card and season pass from home resort.
- \$42.23/day
- Kids 10 and under ski for free

lodging

As a major sponsor of the event Big Sky Resort is offering discounted lodging AND throwing in a FREE SKY CARD to all attendees who book three or more nights lodging in the Huntley Lodge.

Call 800-548-4486 or 406-995-5000 for reservations. Ask for the PSIA Room Block.

PSIA-AASI NRM EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The PSIA-AASI NRM Education Foundation (NRM EF) was established in 1991 to serve the membership of NRM by providing financial assistance to those who are looking to further their careers/schools and enhance their growth in the snowsports instruction industry.

The Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) organization in good standing. NRM EF is governed by the Education Foundation Committee under the supervision of the PSIA-AASI NRM Board of Directors.

Every year, NRM EF awards scholarships/grants to individuals and schools wishing to further their education in alpine, adaptive, children's, snowboard, freestyle and nordic education. The training that members receive as a result of the scholarship program increases their productivity and value as a member and as an instructor in their particular snowsports school. Scholarships/grants are awarded based upon financial need, personal/professional goals, snowsports school experience, and ability and means to share the benefits of the scholarship/grant with other staff members and snowsports area guests.

Scholarships/grants are funded through donations from our members as well as outside grants and donations. Our primary fund raising event is the Fall Fest Silent Auction. To make a donation to the EF scholarship/grant fund or to donate goods or services to the silent auction please contact the NRM office.

This season we are happy to announce the receipt of a \$5,000 grant from the Yellowstone Club Community Foundation (YCCF). The YCCF funds will be added to the scholarship pool for the 2014-2015 season.

To apply for an Individual Scholarship:

- Provide a written statement about yourself, your personal and professional goals in relation to snowsports and snowsports teaching, how you plan to share the information gained from attending the event, plus any additional information you feel is relevant
- Obtain a letter of recommendation from your snowsport school director
- Complete the NRM EF Scholarship Application - MEMBER

To apply for a School Grant:

- Provide a written statement about your school, goals for your program and instructors in relation to snowsports and snowsports teaching, how you plan to share the information gained from the event, plus any additional information you feel is relevant.
- Please also include a letter of recommendation from your snowsports school director/resort manager.
- Complete the NRM EF Grant Application - MEMBER SCHOOL

Deadlines:

- Individual application materials must be received by December 1 to qualify for first consideration.
- School application materials must be received by January 7.
- Applications submitted by the second deadline of February 15 will be considered pending available funding.

Notes:

- NRM EF scholarship/grant award checks will be mailed to award recipients upon completion of the following:
 - Participation in event
 - Submission of an article/letter sharing the experience which was gained and how it will be applied to your personal/professional goals.
 - If receiving reimbursement for costs outside of event registration fees, receipts will need to be submitted to the NRM Office.
- Individuals should follow the standard registration process paying in full prior to the event.

Please submit application materials to:

PSIA-AASI Education Foundation
PO Box 11392
Bozeman, MT 59719
(406) 581-6139
info@psia-nrm.org

FIRST ANNUAL XC ACADEMY: NOV 30 - DEC 2, 2014

This year NRM will be hosting the first ever XC Academy at Rendezvous Ski Trails in West Yellowstone. The academy will feature three days of formal indoor and on-snow presentations sharing the best of ideas, topics and issues to get you geared-up for the 2014-2015 season, as well as time to socialize and hangout off snow with new and old friends. The XC Academy is a nationally advertised event so not only will NRM members be there but folks from all over the XC world, as it was planned to follow the Yellowstone Ski Festival (yellowstoneskifestival.com).

The event kicks off Saturday evening and continues through Tuesday afternoon. A detailed agenda and topics can be found at psia-nrm.org.

Leading the clinics will be PSIA Nordic Teams Members Scotty Mc-

Gee, David Lawrence, Ross Matlock, and Megan Spurkland as well as NRM Ed Team Herb Davis and Brenda Winkler. More on the clinicians and their credentials can be found at thesnowpros.org.

Start your season off with the best of the best in the nation for a total cost (for the three days of clinics plus reception, après and banquet) of \$290. What a deal! Additionally if you'd like to stay in West Yellowstone, two large cabins have been reserved at the Old Faithful Street Inn in West Yellowstone for a cost of \$292 total (this is the total cost whether you stay all four nights or just one).

This inaugural XC Academy is sure to be a fun, informative and popular event. Sign up today (at psia-nrm.org) as space is limited and we want all you XC NRM members to be able to benefit from this extraordinary opportunity!!



2014-2015 PSIA-AASI NRM Event Calendar

Dates and locations are subject to change. View NRM website www.psia-nrm.org for event details, prices and online registration. Please direct any questions or requests for clinic topics and/or locations to the NRM office at info@psia-nrm.org. We look forward to skiing and riding with you this season!

MULTI DISCIPLINE

Nov 30- Dec 2	XC Academy	W Yellowstone
Dec 13-15	NRM Fall Fest	Big Sky

- look for details in this newsletter and online!

ALPINE

Dec 8-10	DCE Examiner Training	Big Sky
Dec 9-11	DCE Clinician Training	Big Sky
Dec 10-12	DCE IT Training	Big Sky
Dec 11-12	Area Clinicians	Big Sky
Dec 12	Advanced Educator	Big Sky
Dec 12	Train the Trainers*	Big Sky
Dec 12-14	Fall Fest	Big Sky
Dec 12-14	Fall Fest Level 2/3 Prep Clinics	Big Sky
Dec 13-14	Fall Fest Level 1 Exam	Big Sky
Jan TBD	Level 1 Exam	Bridger
Jan 26	Mid-Season Training	TBD
Jan 27-29	Level 2/3 Prep Clinics	Bridger
Jan 30-Feb 1	Level 2/3 Prep Clinics	Red Lodge
Jan 30-Feb 1	Level 2/3 Prep Clinics	Garmisch
Feb 6-8	Level 2 Prep Clinic	Showdown
Feb 7-8	Level 2 Exam	Terry Peak
Feb 24-25	Ridge Tactics	Bridger
Feb 26-27	Level 2 Exam	Blacktail
Mar 4	Ski Like a Girl	Bridger
Mar 5-10	Level 2/3 Exams	Garmisch
Mar 11-13	Level 2/3 Prep Clinics	Discovery
Mar 14-15	Level 2/3 Exams	Discovery
Apr 2-3	Level 2/3 Exams	Big Sky
Apr 9-10	DCE Hiring Event	Big Sky
Jun TBD	Camping & Skiing Training	Beartooth Pass

SNOWBOARD

Dec 8-9	Pro Ed Staff Training	Big Sky
Dec 12	Train the Trainers*	Big Sky
Dec 12-14	Fall Fest	Big Sky
Dec 13-14	Fall Fest Level 1 Exam	Big Sky
Dec 13-14	Fall Fest Level 2/3 Prep Clinics	Big Sky
Jan 12-13	Level 2/3 Prep Clinics	Bridger
Feb 5-6	Level 2/3 Prep Clinics	Discovery

Feb 24-25	Ridge Tactics	Bridger
TBD	Level 2/3 Prep & Exams	Garmisch
Mar 30-31	Level 2/3 Exams	Big Sky

NORDIC

Dec 3	X-Country DCE Training	W Yellowstone
Dec 12-14	Fall Fest	Big Sky
Dec 14	Telemark DCE Training	Big Sky
Jan 3-4	X-Country Level 1 Exam	Whitefish
Jan 23	NES Training	Showdown
Jan 24	Nordic Celebration	Showdown
Feb 11-12	Telemark Level 1 Exam	Bridger
Mar 4-6	Telemark Level 2/3 Exam	Big Sky
Apr 1	Telemark Summit Tour	Big Sky

CHILDRENS (multi-discipline)

Dec 12-14	Fall Fest	Big Sky
Dec 12-14	Fall Fest Children's Specialist 1	Big Sky
Dec 12-14	Fall Fest Children's Specialist 2	Big Sky
Jan 31-Feb 1	Children's Specialist 2	Discovery
Feb 5-6	Children's Specialist 1	Blacktail

FREESTYLE (multi-discipline)

Dec 10-11	Iron Team Training	Big Sky
Dec 12-14	Fall Fest	Big Sky
Dec 12-14	Fall Fest Freestyle Specialist 1	Big Sky
Feb TBD	Freestyle Specialist 1	Lost Trail
Feb TBD	Freestyle Specialist 1	Red Lodge
Feb 24	MSAA Annual ProPark**	Great Divide
Feb 25-26	Freestyle Specialist 2/3	Jackson
Apr 9	Iron Team Selections	Big Sky

ADAPTIVE

Dec 12-14	Fall Fest	Big Sky
TBD	Education Clinic	TBD
Mar TBD	Alpine Level 1 Exam	TBD

Additional clinics may be held "in-house" at area snowsport schools. These clinics are held at member schools specifically for that school's staff. Check with your school's director for schedule and availability. Additional exams and clinics will be considered upon request.

*Train the Trainers is free to one alpine and/or snowboard trainer per NRM member school (lift ticket not included).

**MSAA's annual "ProPark": MSAA will once again be sponsoring the annual ProPark at Great Divide. This winter PSIA-AASI NRM's freestyle coaches - the Iron Team - will be teaming up with Great Divide Ski Area to put on the annual ProPark event. This one-day event is offered to ski area employees and/or snowsports shop employees in the state of Montana. The event combines NRM's professionally trained coaches and the Smart Style education program to promote freestyle/terrain park safety and personal rider improvement. The Smart Style www.terrainparksafety.org is a national freestyle safety program developed by Burton Snowboard and the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) to foster safe use of freestyle terrain by staff and the public alike. NOTE: This event is by invite only. Advanced registration is required.

Event Registration Policy

Registration is open up to two weeks prior to event start date. Payment is due two weeks prior to the event start date. A \$50 late fee applies to payments within two weeks of event start date. If payment is not received by the event start date, registration will be canceled and individual will not be allowed to attend event.

Registration within two weeks of the events start date is on a space available basis and will not be guaranteed. If participant numbers have not reached maximum, registration may be allowed and will incur a late registration fee (\$50).

Minimum and Maximum Participant Numbers and Policy:

The minimum number of participants for an event is six. If there are fewer

than six individuals registered for an event two weeks prior to the event, the event may be canceled or rescheduled.

The maximum number of participants is ten for educational clinics and eight for exams. If registration numbers exceed these maximum numbers an additional clinic/exam groups may be created provided the new group numbers meet minimum number requirements.

Cancellation & Refund Policy

Should cancellation become necessary seven days or more before the event, your registration fees will be refunded less a \$10 cancellation fee. Within seven days of the event half of the registration fee will be refunded. No refunds will be given if requested on the day of the event or later. All requests must be made directly to the NRM office.

NRM GOES ONLINE WITH WRITTEN TESTS!

This season PSIA-NRM is taking a step forward with technology. The disciplines are collaborating with the other divisions for written tests. Instead of taking the written exams at the prep clinics or on the day of the on snow exam you will now be able to take this test at home. The test bank is a collaborative effort with other divisions across the country and has been verified by NRM exam teams.

PSIA-AASI NRM is going to an online test format. Upon registering for your exam you will be sent an email internet link. Your first test is included in the price of your exam. Upon receiving this link you will be able to take the test whenever you want, up until 48 hours before the event. Each discipline will have different numbers of questions for the tests so please refer to the discipline specific web pages for information. You will have between 1-2 minutes time to answer

each question. At the end of your test you will automatically receive the results. At this point you will be able to review the questions you did not answer correctly.

For those who are not successful, do not worry! You will have up to two more opportunities to pass. Please call or email the NRM office to be sent another link for a new test. The questions you have on the second test will be picked randomly from the test bank so you may have some you have seen before and some you have not. Retake tests will cost \$25 each.

This is an exciting first step toward validating the exam process at PSIA-AASI. If you have questions or require special accommodations, please contact the NRM Office.

Fall Fest 2014 lodging deals

Special Fall Fest room rates are available Thursday, December 11 - Sunday, December 14, 2014. Contact Big Sky Reservations for accommodation rates and availability prior to Thursday. Ask for the PSIA Room Block. See details below.

HOTEL ROOMS

Huntley Lodge

Guests per room:	1	2	3	4	5	6
First Class (2Q)	\$109	109	134	159		
Mtn View (2Q)	\$119	119	144	169		
Loft (3Q)	\$132	157	182	207	232	257

CONDOS

Shoshone

Suite (4 guests)	\$241
Loft (6 guests)	\$379

Stillwater

Stillwater Studio	\$127
Stillwater 1-BR	\$152
Stillwater Loft	\$200
Stillwater 2-BR	\$214

Huntley Lodge rate is quoted per room per night and includes a daily breakfast buffet in the Huntley Dining Room plus gratuity per each guest. Breakfast is served daily from 6:30-10:30 a.m. only. No credits or refunds will be offered. Children 10 and under stay free when in the same room as their parents with existing beds and enjoy complimentary daily breakfast buffet.

The above rates do not include tax and service fees. The current total is seventeen percent (17%) tax and service fees on accommodations. This seventeen percent (17%) is made up of seven percent (7%) state accommodation tax, three percent (3%) resort tax, and seven percent (7%) resort service fee.

FREE SKY CARDS!

As a sponsor of this year's Fall Fest Big Sky Resort is offering one FREE Sky Card to individuals who reserve three nights or more in any Big Sky accommodations during Fall Fest weekend. Normally not available for purchase after November 30th, this is your chance to take advantage of a great deal!

Sky Card details:

- Normally \$179, that's a BIG savings! THANK YOU Big Sky Resort!
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- NEW \$49/\$39/\$19 Dates: November 27 - 30, 2014, December 8 - 19, 2014, January 5 - 11, 2015, April 6 - 12, 2015.
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- Exclusive lodging discounts available.
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SUE KRAMER'S FOUR SEASONS OF FITNESS

While Sue Kramer was working toward a Masters Degree in Exercise Science, she wrote a 250-page thesis about best training practices to stay fit for the slopes. To say the alpine examiner and ACE team coach with the PSIA-AASI Eastern Division is an expert on cross-training might be a bit of understatement.

What is unexpected is how Kramer matches her own workouts to each of the four seasons, creating a workout schedule as unique as the ever-changing months.

"The standard is that it all has to be something I enjoy, otherwise I won't do it," Kramer said. "I tried different programs and gyms and realized that doing things in my backyard is what I like to do the best."

Of course, Kramer's "backyard," encompasses a lot more than just a garden and a porch. She lives less than a mile from her job as head technical coach for the Bromley Outing Club in Peru, Vermont. With the mountain, the surrounding woods, and lots of countryside to use as her gym, here is how Kramer defines her four season workout.

Summer: increase your cardio and basic strength

If you like to bike, then get your cardio from biking. If you like running or swimming, then you should do that. For basic strength I also like lots of lunges, work with a physio ball or medicine ball, and I use free weights. I like free weights better than machines because you're always using your core. But if the gym's your thing, then go for it.

Fall: plyometrics, agility, and power

From my house I can go run up steep hills or create my own training

space in the ski area parking lot. I sketch out a distance to do sprints, set up some cones to practice slalom, do some box jumping – it's great to really use what you have in your environment. I usually have five to seven individual drills, and my goal is always to increase the number of reps.

Winter: maintenance

Snow pros spend so much time on the snow in the winter that it can be easy to say, "Let's just hit the bar," when the lifts stop. But maintaining cardio and flexibility are very important. "You don't have to go all out, but I have an indoor bike and a treadmill that lets me feel my ankles and flex the bottoms of my feet. I've found that if you can continue to hold a conversation or sing while your pedaling it's a good measure of your fitness." (For the record, Kramer has everything from Dolly Parton to Pearl Jam on her playlist).

Spring: back off

At the end of a long season, Kramer suggests slowing down, and even doing nothing for a week. Later, moving without a physiological goal other than staying in motion, and playing tennis, or canoeing to rebuild upper body strength are some of her favorites. "It's like a prescription just to go out for a long hike in late April or May," she said.

Maintaining your cerebral fitness is important, too. Kramer also has a Masters in Ceramic Sculpture to help keep her mind fit. Now we want to hear from you, snow pros. What are the unique and interesting ways you keep your body and your mind fit?

- Peter Kray

WHY NATIONAL TEAM MEMBER KELLY COFFEY REREADS THE PSIA-AASI MANUALS IN THE OFF-SEASON



There is no off-season for enjoying the great outdoors. That's why many of the stories we have posted on cross-training have focused on running, mountain biking, whitewater paddling, and all the other sports professional instructors participate in to stay fit for when the snow starts to fall.

While PSIA-AASI Alpine Team Freestyle Specialist Kelly Coffey also likes to camp and hike, he has a different method for maintaining a "snow-focused mind."

Coffey likes to reread the PSIA-AASI instructional manuals in the off-season. He said he started doing it when he set his personal path for progressing from instructor to trainer to examiner to member of the PSIA-AASI Alpine Team, and that the process continues to help him start the season with his mind in mid-season form.

Here are three of his favorites in his words:

Core Concepts for Snowsports Instructors

After rereading this manual a number of times, I've found that there's always something new that hits home. Because this is the foundational manual for all instructors, every passage has relevance to a lesson I have taught in the past, and helps me look back and see what I did well, and what I can do better the next time. The section on Maslow's Hierarchy of needs is a particular favorite, because it helps you focus

on what each individual student needs at any given time.

Alpine Technical Manual

This is also a great one. Because there are so many technical elements, it rewards multiple readings. I like to focus on all the ways the body can rotate, and all the ways we can teach proper skills to our students, and also apply them to our own skiing. I'm also going to reread it now in advance of the new Alpine Technical Manual coming out, which I can tell you has a much more robust biomechanics and physics section.

Children's Instruction Manual

This is another good one that rewards multiple readings. There are a lot of models presented, and reading it once won't really allow you to absorb everything. I've found that when you tie this information into your actual experience teaching kids, it helps the relevance of the models coalesce in your mind.

While I enjoy rereading all of these manuals, it's not just for teaching skiing. Whether it's understanding the children's mindset, or applying any of the tools the manuals present, it can help you understand more about how any industry can benefit from better instruction. And by reading them in the summer, I tend to absorb more than I would when I'm so focused on getting out and skiing.

When was the last time you picked up one of PSIA-AASI's manuals?

WHAT PSIA HAS DONE FOR ME...

I distinctly remember my first day of ski lessons, four years old, stomach filled with a lingering nausea. I was a mix of nerves and pure excitement. The kids programs at Bridger Bowl, Montana filled most of my winter weekends as a youth fostering and promoting a love for skiing and creating wonderful memories at the home mountain.

I never imagined that someday I would become a PSIA member. Instead I spent my weekends searching for my fill of powder and learning Bridger like the back of my hand. In fact, I specifically remember watching lessons unfold on the lower mountain as I rode the early morning chair during big powder days. I would watch as lines of students trail their instructor in gliding wedges and think, "I'm sure glad that's not me teaching."

My introduction to PSIA occurred after I finished my undergraduate degree. I followed some friends to Garmisch, Germany using teaching as an excuse to travel Europe. What I found was a pure enjoyment for teaching.

Over the last ten years, I have continued to teach, always finding a way to make it work though various other jobs, graduate school, and a busy life. Even now, with a career in orthopedic medicine, I look forward to my occasional days instructing. I crave the opportunity to create new experiences, memories, and foster a love for skiing in students.

Often when I teach these days, I think back on my experience in the kid's programs of old as a student nearly 25 years ago or my numerous great days with students over the

last ten years. Teaching for me is not only about improving a technique or progressing abilities, although it is a great experience to see things click with students and the excitement newfound skills promote. PSIA extends greater than this ability to teach. It goes beyond techniques, progressions, and learning to ski. **It boils down to watching students make memories and friends.** As PSIA instructors, we have the ability to promote the experience of great days on the mountain that will stick in student's minds forever. These memories may, in time, foster and promote the lifestyle we all enjoy each winter. As we teach we build our community and pass on a passion for our wonderful sport and pastime.

- Matt Neumann, PSIA-NRM A2

More than 10 years ago I made a decision that changed my life forever. I said yes to a friend who invited me to visit him in Copenhagen, Denmark. I was bit by the travel bug and I have had a bad case of wanderlust ever since. That desire to push my boundaries and explore the world led me to Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany where I was an employee of the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort. It is a hotel that is part of the American Armed Forces Recreation Centers that service American service members and their families. That was where I first learned to snowboard. I loved it so much that the following year when the Hausberg Lodge had open tryouts for new ski and snowboard instructors I jumped at the opportunity. The work culture at the Hausberg was one of constant training, pushing your limits, and encouraging everyone to strive for the highest certification we could achieve. It is very typical to have many level 2 and 3 instructors with hundreds of hours of on-snow teaching experience available to our unique client base. I was shocked to find out that not all instructors who taught in America were certified or that they had little desire to become certified with PSIA/AASI. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to grow my skills and work ethic around the Hausberg's culture with NRM's influence.

I brought that work ethic with me when I was accepted into the Peace Corps Ukraine Community Development program. I learned

many things during my time in Ukraine, one of which was the Russian language and the second was project management.

I became friends with another Peace Corps Volunteer who lived close to me and taught English at a local school. She had reached out to me because she wanted a professional ski and snowboard instructor to accompany her, her Ukrainian counterpart, and their 20 students to Bukovel in the Carpathian Mountains. The project's goal was to teach new skills, in English, to Ukrainians who would never have had the opportunity to learn about this exciting sport. I immediately said yes and a few weeks later we hopped on a train that took us from the eastern region of Ukraine to the far west. The trip took more than 30 hours to complete.

Once we arrived, the majority of students rented skis. There was one student, Misha,

who decided to break away from the pack and try snowboarding.

I was able to give beginner lessons to all of the skiers for the first few hours of the day so that they could enjoy some mountain time while I had some one-on-one time with Misha and his new favorite hobby. His willingness to push himself and to listen to my instructions got him up and down the mountain with ease. The look on his face each time he learned a new skill or trick was priceless. The other students would come to me during our private lesson for some mini-lessons of their own so that they could continue to improve. It was a juggling act to say the least, but after that trip I knew that bringing PSIA/AASI to Ukraine was an experience that these students would never forget.

Thank you,

William Wray, PSIA-NRM S3 and A1



PSIA-AASI NRM SPRING 2015 ELECTIONS

NRM operates largely on the basis of volunteer efforts. All of the program chairs, board members and officers are volunteer positions.

The NRM Board of Directors is responsible for setting the overall direction for NRM and translating member needs into a long-range plan of action. Board member positions open up every spring. This spring there will be two open seats. There are seven total.

We encourage any interested member to run. Direct experience serving in a nonprofit board capacity is not necessary. We believe that everyone has their own skill set to bring to the table. If you feel you have something to offer and gain in return via service on the board, please consider running for one of the open seats. Here is an overview of board operation for those considering taking the plunge.

The board of directors has the principal responsibility for fulfillment of the organization's mission and the legal accountability for its operations. This means that, as a group, they are in charge of establishing a clear organizational mission; forming the strategic plan to accomplish the mission; overseeing and evaluating the plan's success; hiring a competent executive director and providing adequate supervision and support to that individual; ensuring financial solvency of the organization; interpreting and representing the community to the organization; and instituting a fair system of policies and procedures for human resource management.

Board members have a duty of loyalty to the organization, its staff and other board members. While differences of opinion are sure to arise, board members should seek to keep disagreements impersonal. Practicing discretion and accepting decisions made on a majority basis, promotes board unity and confidence.

Board members accomplish their functions through regular meetings and by establishing a committee structure that is appropriate to the size of the organization and the board. Ideally, board members arrive at meetings prepared and ready to engage in thoughtful dialogue to ensure a group process that generates, encourages and uses the best ideas and efforts of its members.

Boards should be open to self-evaluation and regularly review their own composition to ensure constituent representation, board expertise and commitment. Boards also are responsible for evaluating and determining compensation for the executive director.

Under Montana law, nonprofit directors are responsible for management of the business and affairs of the corporation. In carrying out their responsibilities, the law imposes on these directors specific fiduciary duties of care, loyalty, and obedience to the law. Further information can be found online in the NRM Bylaws and NRM Rules and Regulations.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To run for the board you must be a member of NRM (for at least two years) and be in good standing. You must be willing and available to attend two board meetings per year (Spring and Fall) as well as proficient with e-mail. Travel, food and lodging for board meetings are reimbursed. Between meetings, business is conducted via e-mail and telephone. Board members receive one free NRM education clinic per year of service (after the first year of service, and subject to availability). A board term is three years.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

To throw your name into the hat for one of the open seats on the NRM Board of Directors, submit a written statement and photo by January 31, 2015 to info@psia-nrm.org or PSIA-AASI NRM P.O. Box 11392 Bozeman, MT 59719

ELECTION NOTIFICATION

Candidate statements will be posted online at www.psia-nrm.org and election ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by February 28, 2015.

VOTING DEADLINE

Ballots must be received postmarked by March 31, 2015.

In addition to electing two board members, the following officer and chair appointments will take place at the spring board meeting:

- President
- Secretary
- Snowsports School Management Committee Chair

Details on responsibilities and eligibility can be found online in the NRM Bylaws and NRM Rules and Regulations.

As an organization we are only as strong as our membership. Additional volunteers willing to share their expertise and contribute to the success of NRM are welcome. If you have experience with accounting, human resources, fund raising, marketing, writing, photography, graphic design, web design, legal services, or other fields, we encourage you to get involved. Help grow and improve NRM and uphold our vision and mission:

Vision: Inspiring lifelong passion for the mountain experience

Mission: We support our members, as a part of the snowsports industry, to:

- Develop personally and professionally
- Create positive learning experiences
- Have more fun

"You make a living by what you get,
but you make a life by what you give."
– Winston Churchill



PSIA-AASI NRM FALL 2014 COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

freestyle

By Matt Larson, NRM Freestyle Chair, Iron Team Coach, and Ed Staff

Lots of updates to the NRM Freestyle Program for the 2014/15 season! The NRM Freestyle Video Library continues to be developed. Currently the Library resides on the NRM Iron Team Facebook page. This Library will be utilized to score Movement Analysis skills at Freestyle Specialist events.

In addition to the video library, there will be an on-line test for participants in the Freestyle Specialist program. Other disciplines are also incorporating on-line testing. The Freestyle tests are 30 questions randomly selected from a question bank. Participants will have the option to retake the test 2 additional times. This test must be completed two days prior to the event. Yes, this means you have to be on your game and get things done! The workbooks will continue to be a part of the program and utilized for group discussion. They will be shorter in length to accommodate for the added workload of taking the on-line test. During a meeting of the NRM Discipline chairs, there was unanimous excitement about the on-line testing as we believe this will add to consistency in scoring and add credibility to NRM credentialing programs.

nordic

By Stew Chumbley, NRM Nordic Chair and Ed Staff

Budget Review:

FY14 resulted in Nordic participant numbers of 31, eighteen XC and thirteen Telemark. The first ever CS1 held on XC equipment was held at Seeley Lake with seven participants. Gross revenue was \$3080. Net revenue was \$615

Hits of the Season:

NRM NES will be all heading to Showdown for a tele education event. The Nordic committee thought outside the box and decided to continue our connection with the Showdown Telemark community (January 24). We will be offering a one day Tele education event with all of the NES staff present. This event will be made in conjunction with the NES training the Friday before.

The National Nordic team has been working with Brenda Winkler from NRM to have the first ever XC Academy at the Rendezvous Trails of West Yellowstone this December. This is hoped to be an amazing event. More details to come.

Fall Fest will be here before we know it! We will be offering two FS1's at Fall Fest. A two-day event on Saturday and Sunday as well as a three-day on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (Friday is a full day, and Sat/Sun are mornings only). There will also be a Freestyle Core on Saturday and Sunday. For electives, we have added an elective for training freestyle staff at your home mountain. Invites have gone out to many other divisions. Could be a big show this year! Make sure to drop by the Booth Saturday evening to check out the shenanigans.

ProPark 8 this year!!! We hope to see you there! For those of you who don't know what ProPark is, its FUN and FREE. What else can you ask for. MSAA (Montana Ski Areas Association) drops some cash to open Great Divide up just for our event! Yes, this means we have the area to ourselves. For those interested in Education Credits, \$20 for 6! Killer deal! The event is freestyle oriented as there are 6 parks at Great Divide. All experience levels are invited. This is a great place to test the waters if you have questions about the Freestyle Specialist Program.

Thank you to James Mackay, Jon Farnam, Chris Kronebusch, Addison Sponsler, Meghan Larson, and Matt Larson for attending the Fall Freestyle Committee meeting. Excited to see you on the snow.

Misses of the Season:

Unfortunately, last season NRM had low enrollment in the level II/III Telemark and Level II/III XC exams and was not able to run this event. It is our hope this season we will be able to collaborate with Intermountain to make sure we have a Level II/III event available for the membership.

Staffing Issues:

Our NES group continues to meet the needs of the divisional events offered. We have a small core of Telemark and XC examiners. The Telemark group includes six examiners and XC group includes three examiners. Keep this in mind if you are looking to schedule events outside the regular calendar as we have limited availability to accommodate late schedule changes and short notice clinic requests.

Training Plan:

NES will be training January 23 at Showdown. The NES had a great training last season taking it on the road at Lost Trail, so we will be reaching out again up in Showdown. XC NES will be hitting the trails December 3 at Rendezvous.

As the chair would like to encourage any Level III nordis interested in the NES group to apply through the process on the NRM website and participate in NES training.

alpine

By Jim Anderson, NRM Alpine Chair and Ed Staff

The 2013/2014 season was good for Alpine. Alpine ended the year well in the black making it possible to budget for sending Alpine staff to this year's National Fall conference. With all the new material from National this year having representatives at this conference is critical for integrating that information into NRM's products.

Last season we scheduled more events in the hopes of finding out when the membership wanted them and what topics were in demand. While some events were canceled we were able to determine that more prep clinics and an early exam were necessary. Based on last year's numbers we have narrowed it down to the events we think will go this season and expect less canceled events.

snowboard

By Ben Daniel, NRM Snowboard Chair, Iron Team Coach and Ed Staff

Happy fall, Snow Pros!

Fresh snow is falling in the mountains, 2015 gear hit the stores, new movies are dropping and we're busy planning for our most successful winter season yet! There are many changes to our certification processes that should improve all participants overall experiences.

First, in February changes were made to the National Snowboard Standards. If you are planning to achieve a new certification this season or just like to stay current, find the link on the NRM Snowboard web page!

Second, the new Snowboard Technical Manual (Alpine and Telemark too) will be available via TheSnowPros.org. It is for sale as an electronic file, web version, and hard copy. We're excited for it to drop! I recommend it to all snowboard coaches, especially those advanced level 1s and for all L2/3s.

Third, level 2/3 preps will now be utilizing an online test to be taken once you register and pay for your on-snow prep event. The test must be taken at least 48 hours before the on-snow event. A passing score of 80% is necessary to attend the on-snow event. You may retake the test two times at a \$25 additional cost for each retake.

Fourth, we are contemporizing level 1/2/3 exam workbooks to stay current and in synch with the National Standards. The L2/3 workbooks will be shorter, 20ish questions; an 80% will remain the passing score to attend the on-snow two day exams.

Fifth, the level 2/3 exams will now be two days. This will help to lower participant cost; use your two MSAA passes for the exam, less lodging costs, less days needed off from work...not to mention many other benefits to all involved in the process; this decision was determined from feedback given at the two day exams we did the last two seasons.

Alpine staff has a busy fall training planned. Goals for this year's training are working on new tasks, covering the new National Standards, consistency in delivery, and managing candidates expectations. Fall training will be attended by DCEs from Rocky and Intermountain to share information and observe our process. Alpine has agreed to go with online testing and plan on reviewing the tests prior to fall training.

Alpine is working on a project for offering PSIA clinics to the public with the purpose of promoting taking lessons from a PSIA certified instructor at their home area. These clinics will be high energy and higher end to target intermediate to advanced skiers that don't necessarily sign up for lessons anymore. We are developing a press package for the areas to promote this product.

If anyone has ideas or concerns regarding the Alpine program I am always available and happy to hear from you. I look forward to seeing you all on the slopes this winter.

Sixth, thanks to Matt Larson we have new scorecards to be used in preps and exams for levels 1/2/3. Ideally, the new score cards will be a more legible, professional, clear and concise conveyance of where participants stand in reference to the standard necessary to achieve the next level.

Check out our events calendar to see a list of preps, exams and events.

Get your season started on a high note by attending Fall Fest December 12-14 at Big Sky Resort. We invited members from all divisions, so register soon and reserve your place!

We are offering a level 1 Clizam (clinic+exam) to start your certification process, level 2/3 preps to continue your certification process (and get an early look at what you need to work on to be successful at the exam), a Train the Trainers all day event free to one member trainer from any NRM snowsports program to stay current and help solve training issues, three morning Core events to increase your bag of tricks and earn continuing education credits, three afternoon specialty "shrededucation" sessions (see our list of several choices on the Fall Fest page under Electives), three full day spouses' clinics, fun evening activities for all to socialize and be merry, plus so much more!!

If the cost for an event is an issue, please apply for individual scholarships to help cover the costs of Fall Fest or any other NRM educational events, or apply for a grant to have your snowsports program host a certification, pre or shrededucation session! Please reference the Education Foundation section under Member Resources on psia-nrm.org.

I encourage YOU to get involved! We are only as good as our contributors. Be active, write articles, go to meetings, participate in events...create events. Email me any shrededucation session topics you'd like to see offered at a venue of your choosing, like Fall Fest December 12-14 in Big Sky, or at your home mountain. We will do our best to offer and hold any event that has, at a minimum, six participants signed up for the event two weeks prior to the event start date.

NRM COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS CONTINUED...

adaptive

By Diana Proem, NRM Adaptive Chair

Budget Review:

We should be on a good roll for this coming season. My hope is to bring in only one adaptive snowboard trainer from out-of-state. If there is a desire for Level II we will make amends to bring someone up from Intermountain or Northern-Intermountain division.

Hits of the Season:

- Adaptive Snowboarding event
 - Full turnout of 10 people on both days it was offered
- Adaptive Level I trainings and certifications
 - 12 people attended the certification process at Bridger Bowl
 - 12 of 12 passed the adaptive component of the exam
 - All candidates, excluding one, who were not already certified passed the ski portion of the exam
 - Was great to have Steve Hill on board to do the alpine section testing

Misses of the Season:

- Fall Fest
 - Low attendance rate for adaptive and sign ups
 - One class did go but with only 2 people

Staffing Issues:

- Most issues we have taken care of at this time
- Not cost effective to have to bring in out of state adaptive examiners

Training and Certification Plan:

- Continue as we have in the past but add more opportunities
- Fall Fest
 - Adaptive sit ski track
 - Two elective offerings in the afternoons
- Adaptive Snowboard Level I certification
- Adaptive Alpine Level I certification
 - Possible Locations: Great Falls, Red Lodge, Big Sky or Bridger Bowl
- Adaptive Level II prep and or certification
 - Will be based on need/wishes of members
- General education trainings throughout the region

children's

By Jill Imsand-Chumbley, NRM Children's Chair and Ed Staff

I hope you are having a great fall season so far and getting excited for winter. There was snow on Lone Peak yesterday. The first snow always increases my anticipation for the coming winter season!

Looking ahead to the winter season it's going to start off with a bang with Fall Festival during which we will again hold a CS1 and CS2. This year we are planning for two CS1 groups since the groups have been packed to capacity in the past couple of years. And to allow more scheduling flexibility we are experimenting with a new format for the CS1 groups where one group will meet all-day Friday and half-days (mornings) Saturday and Sunday, and the other group will meet all-day Saturday and Sunday. Sign up for whichever fits your schedule best!

For those who already have CS1 or CS2 at Fall Festival there will be a Core option (Saturday and Sunday AMs) for Snowsports School Kids Trainers. This group will cover how to better train staff to teach children. This will include a lot of skiing on a variety of terrain while covering best practices for kids snowsports instruction. Topics will cover development, movement analysis, lesson structure, learning preferences, and how to impart the knowledge you have to your staff! It is preferable that participants in this

group have at least a CS1. This is open to all disciplines so come on the gear you train folks on. If you are a trainer at your local school this will be great core group for you to join!

As far as afternoon educational clinics for Fall Festival go, we have a great array of clinics, from an introduction to teaching kids to teaching advanced kids (Terrain Trap). Check out the Fall Festival clinic descriptions online or in this newsletter. All Clinics are multi-discipline so please join us on whatever gear you feel is appropriate given the terrain and your skills.

We will have our annual Children's Education Staff meeting at Fall Festival after hours in the Big Sky area, most likely on Wednesday. If you have an interest in joining us to learn more about the Children's Education DCL staff please let me know and I will be sure to fill you in with the details as they form. Any ideas for educational clinics, additions to the Children's Specialist program, or anything you feel would be beneficial for the NRM Children's Education Team to know are always welcome!

Looking further into the season we currently have a CS1 scheduled at Blacktail and a CS2 at Discovery for divisional events. There are also a few in-house CS1 events scheduled already. If you think your snowsports school would like to host a divisional CS or Children's Educational clinic this season please contact me and we can get the ball rolling!

register for fall fest 2014
www.psia-nrm.org

marketing

By Mike Ewing, NRM President and Marketing Chair

The marketing for 2014/2015 is in place and moving forward. PSIA-NRM attended the Involvement Fair at MSU on September 14, 2014. We were also invited and will attend the Career Fair on October 16, 2014. Megan Zilz took the lead in organizing both.

Meghan Larson has utilized marketing materials shared with us from PSIA-Eastern to create terrific ads and fliers to get the word out on PSIA-NRM. We will be appearing in four issues of the Exponent and are circulating fliers throughout MSU campus with the help of the advising staff at the university.

The director of MSU Outdoor Activities is expressing interest in helping us get a Level 1 Clinic and Exam together for this Fall/Winter.

Initial contact has been made to secure an event sponsor for our events and though the first reaction was not as positive as we would have liked, I still believe that we will secure financial support before the ski season is over.

We welcome any ideas that our members are willing to share and we always welcome volunteers.

THANK YOU!

Ousel & Spur Pizza Co. and Big Sky Town
Center for cosponsoring the NRM
Snowboard Fall Committee Meeting



report from the national board of directors

By Eliza Kuntz, NRM National Representative

THE MEETINGS SEASON

While fall brings shorter days, crisp air and colorful foliage, it also brings an additional season for PSIA/AASI leadership- the MEETING SEASON. There are thousands of volunteer hours spent working behind the scenes to help mold this association into a meaningful part of your snowsports experience. Kicking off the season was the NRM board meeting held in Bozeman in September and followed by discipline committee meetings throughout Montana and the joint meeting of the PSIA/AASI National Board of Directors and the Divisional President's was held October 4th in Denver, CO. The Fall Education Event, held annually at Copper Mountain, CO will occur again in late October and 9 representatives from NRM will join others from around the country for this on-snow event, scrutinizing our association's national standards and solidifying a unified message between all divisions.

AND THE SURVEY SAYS...

Recently, 22% of the association's members voiced their opinion of the association through an e-mail survey, which is up from the 14% who participated last year. The national board has been debating a dues increase for some time and thought the membership should be given an opportunity to weigh in on the topic. The question asked members their opinion on a possible \$3 dues increase versus an \$8 dues increase. The respondents were equally split between the answers.

The members also highlighted the importance of pro deals, the award-winning publication 32 Degrees and the popular Accessories Catalog as being a highly valued perk to their membership. Com-

ing this season will be the NEW Alpine and Snowboard manuals as well as mobile apps for on hill resources! The results of the survey also told us that members want to see improvements to the web site and on-line educational opportunities. This season you will find written quizzes and exams on-line in NRM!

NOBODY LIKES A DUES INCREASE!

The joint meeting in Denver focused around the short and long-term projections of the association's financials and how the board plans and evaluates the appropriate dues increase, which was voted to be a \$6 increase to your dues statement for the fiscal year 2016. While no member wants to see their professional dues increase, the board felt that the increase will continue to allow the staff to offer exceptional member services to assist you in your efforts as a snowsports instructor. Look for further information on line at www.thesnowpros.org and in upcoming communications from this division.

ARE YOU A PROMOTER?

PSIA/AASI is proud to announce that the Northern Rocky Mountain (NRM) Division scored the highest in the country in the Net Promoter Score, which simply comes down to answering the question "how likely are you to recommend PSIA/AASI-NRM to others?" Way to go NRM! We will continue to improve your experience here in NRM, as well as with the National association. The results of these surveys are taken very seriously and, despite our successes, the association, as well as the division, hear that we all need to continue to work toward meeting the member's expectations of a growing association.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP WITH
PSIA/AASI-NRM

SEEKING AWARD NOMINATIONS

submit nominations to the NRM office by Nov 15, 2014

The success of the NRM division relies on the hard work and commitment of a large team of volunteers passionate about snowsports. The office and board know who many of these dedicated individuals are, but we also know there many out there who give of themselves everyday and are not recognized.

Help us recognize those NRM members who have had a positive impact on you, the organization and snowsports as a whole. Know someone with contagious enthusiasm for instructing snowsports, a benevolent individual who has committed hours to an extensive NRM project, a role model with a long-time history with the organization? Nominate him/her to receive an award this fall (awards will be bestowed at Fall Fest).

THE AWARDS AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

DOUBLE BLACK DIAMOND AWARD

Eligibility: Any member of PSIA-NRM - active, inactive or alumni. The award may be given posthumously.

Criteria: Any member who has made an exceptional contribution to PSIA-NRM as a teacher, coach or leader; has been a positive role model as a professional ski instructor, coach or leader and has demonstrated a long-term history of service to PSIA-NRM.

Award : PSIA-NRM Double Black Diamond Award plaque.

EXTRA MILE AWARD

Eligibility: Actively involved in teaching or coaching skiing; member of PSIA-NRM in good standing.

Criteria: Sustained history of distinguished service of lasting benefit to PSIA-NRM as a teacher, coach or leader; exceptional act worthy of special recognition.

Award: PSIA-NRM Extra Mile Award plaque.

SERVICE AWARD

Eligibility: Member who has given outstanding service to PSIA-NRM; member who has completed an extensive special project for PSIA-NRM.

Criteria: Service should be above and beyond the normal duties of the office; service should be exceptional over a period of several years; service has not been (and is not likely to be) recognized by the Extra Mile Award.

Awards : PSIA-NRM Service Award plaque.

LLOYD SORLIE AWARD

Eligibility: Any member of PSIA-AASI NRM, active, inactive, or alumni, who holds certification in at least two different snowsports disciplines. The award can be given posthumously.

Criteria: The person should be a positive role model. They have actively participated in educational clinics for a sustained period of time. Their genuine love of the sport is contagious to others.

Awards: PSIA-AASI NRM Lloyd Sorlie Team Player Award plaque. One years dues paid.

NOMINATION AND SELECTION PROCESS:

Nominations must be submitted in writing (email or print) to the Executive Director with backup documentation (letters, etc.). Nominations may be made by any member of PSIA-NRM in good standing.

The Executive Director reviews the nominations, conducts necessary research, and submits the nominations to the Board for approval. Only one PSIA-NRM member is selected to receive each award each year except for the Service Award. There is no minimum or maximum number of Service Awards given per year.



*There will be an empty space on the chairlift
and in our hearts this season...*

In recognition and remembrance of Mark Whitman. Mark was first certified by PSIA in 1974 while working at Marshall ski area. He taught at Big Mountain (he refused to call it Whitefish Mountain Resort), and Bridger Bowl. Mark was a truly happy sort, he was always cracking jokes and trying to lighten the atmosphere. Watching Mark teach one would quickly realize his desire to see his clients have a good time. Laughter and fun were two terms that defined Whitman

and both were a huge part of his lesson plan. He could be truly irreverent and had an off color comment or joke for EVERY occasion, and had little restraint in the telling. He had the ability to connect with almost anyone and considered all his fellow ski and snowboard instructors his friend. Mark will be missed by all who knew him.



HOW WILL YOU ADAPT?

By Diana Proemm, CTRS

I recently came across one of the best reads on skiing in awhile. It has everything the modern skier would ever need or want to know from how and why to ski, where the best places are to catch some powder, and of course modern fashion and ski gear information – if you were a skier in circa 1966. I found this book inside my parents Grundig radio system bought in Canada around 1960 with a vinyl album player hidden under an old bed sheet in their basement. The book is “The Golden Ski Guide, A complete course of instruction in the modern American Ski Technique”. My mother started skiing in the early 80’s and then introduced the sport to my dad and I. We started skiing at Brandywine ski resort in northeastern Ohio on slopes with approximately 300 vertical feet.

As I was searching for ideas for this article, I came across this book and it gave me the idea of what to write here. How the ski industry has adapted over the years with ski gear, lift styles, clothing and most importantly ski teaching techniques. The concept is the same in this book written in 1966 as it is today. Back then there were approximately four million skiers in America and 200 certified ski instructors. That number has risen to approximately 20 million Nordic and Alpine skiers and snowboarders, 32,000 certified instructors along with 1,614 people with adaptive certifications. Technology in lift service, ski gear and apparel has allowed access to places that most people would not have dreamed of in the 60’s.

Adaptive skiing started sometime after World War II when the Europeans realized the importance of participation in sports for injured veterans. Mostly it was men with single leg amputations skiing as a “3-tracker” with one leg and two stand up outriggers instead of poles. In 1967 Disabled Sports USA was formed by Vietnam Veterans which was originally called the National Amputee Skiers Association. Throughout the years many pieces of adaptive gear developed including items such as the “ski bra” (currently known as a ski tip stabilizer), toe spreader, sit skis that functioned as a glorified toboggan with rails on the bottom to help steer the participant down the slope, and eventually the design of bi and mono skis in the 80’s.

In 1990 the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) was passed through congress to prohibit discrimination in employment, public

services and accommodations and telecommunications for people with disabilities. Ski resorts operating on federal lands slowly made amends to accommodate everyone with varying degrees of disabilities. This has given many individuals with disabilities opportunities to recreate just like everyone else.

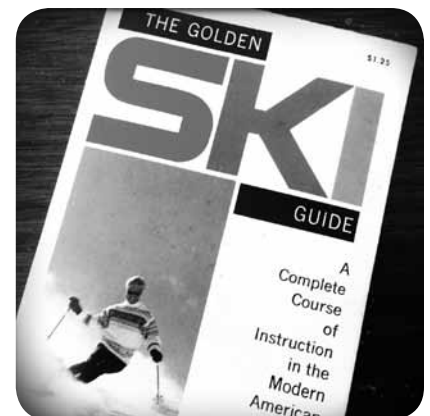
Every season ski instructors adapt and invite different ideas and ways of teaching, and learning about new technology and equipment. We strive to be better teachers and educators when we learn and grow with our peers. There are many things that have changed over the years, but the constant that remains is the diligence that instructors took in the late 50’s to develop the ‘official ski technique’ and the ‘American Ski Technique’ then, as we are now by the continual development of national standards to keep the teaching systems consistent throughout the nation.

By learning the fundamentals of skiing, snowboarding, or whatever your flavor, you must adapt to whatever piece of equipment you are on. Adaptation begins with you, it doesn’t mean equipment adaptations are necessary, just the coping skills and patience. Some obviously need more equipment to make skiing, or snow sliding work for them, but in the end movement patterns are similar, it just depends what you are descending on at the current time.

The number of individuals with disabilities around the world are rising and there are approximately 1 in 5 people in the US have a disability. Many instructors are finding children with Autism or ADHD into their lessons these days. Taking a step back and providing patience and understanding to the participant or parent is where to start. Give them a little extra time, but if you can’t make it inclusive due to behavior issues or other issues, make sure you send the family to the adaptive teams at your ski resorts. They will be able to give them the care and attention they need for specialized lessons.

Adaptive skiing has come a long way over the years as well as the other disciplines of Alpine, Telemark, Nordic, Freestyle skiing, Snowboarding, and Mono and Bi skiing. We all have the same goal in mind and that hasn’t changed per this golden ski guide. “He who skis finds that each run down a trail or a slope tests his ability to master the problems of the terrain. Skill and success at mastering the problems – ‘beating the hill’ – bring a sense of well-being, pride in achievement, and often elation.”

We snowbirds and winter lovers are all on lifelong ski trip to find that ultimate snow sliding Zen. The question is how will you adapt today?



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