

# Awards 101 - Northern Division – NSP

## Why bother with Awards?

1. Awards are an inexpensive investment into our patrols and patrollers. It has been proven that having a system of positive recognition has led to meaningful, positive, and long-term effects on the performance and retention of patrollers.
2. The recognition of contributions and the acknowledgment of accomplishments are core principles of the NSP and have a rich and important history.
3. Awards are fun, inspiring and a worthwhile investment into our patrollers who go above and beyond.

**Patrol Level Recognition** - these awards can often be the most meaningful because they come directly from fellow patrollers:

1. Patrol specific awards – These can range from serious to silly, like “Best Patroller”, “Best Rookie”, “Most Epic Wreck”, etc. I encourage each patrol to have multiple awards to recognize and appreciate their own.
2. Certificate of Achievement – for completion of an NSP course, like OEC, AVY, ID, or MTR. The forms can be ordered from the NSP website (25 for \$5)
3. Certificate of Appreciation – Can be given for many reasons including instructors of courses. The forms can also be ordered from the NSP website (25 for \$5)

**Division Level Recognition** – there are 4 Division awards. Each has a nomination form which can be found on the Northern Division NSP website. (Division nominations are due to the Awards Advisor by June 15<sup>th</sup>):

1. Patriot Star Award – for patrollers who have served or are currently serving in the US Military
2. Dwight Chambers Rising Star Award – This award honors an active patroller, 35 years of age or younger, for exceptional service and leadership to the patrol, region and/or division.

3. Warren Bowman Outstanding OEC Instructor Award – This award recognizes exceptional leadership and innovation in OEC education.
4. Mark Behan Outstanding Patroller Award – This award honors a patroller with 25+ years of service, holds a National Appointment, and exemplifies the high standard of contribution set by Mark Behan

**National Level Awards** – below are the many types of National awards. The nomination forms for each of these awards is found on the NSP website. (Nominations are due by June 15<sup>th</sup>, unless otherwise noted):

1. **Outstanding Patrol and Outstanding Patroller Awards** – Outstanding Awards are unique in that they are the only competitive NSP awards. The nominations are first judged at the Division level. The winner at Division, in each category, will go on to be judged at the National Level.

Gold Merit Stars are presented to the National Winners and a Silver Merit Stars are presented to the National Runner-up. (Due April 15<sup>th</sup>)

2. **Merit Stars** –

- a. Purple – for saving a life
  - b. Green – for an arduous and/or hazardous rescue
  - c. Blue – for attempt to save a life or support of Purple Merit Star recipient
  - d. Yellow –for any outstanding act or service to the NSP or support roles associated with the above Merit star recipients
3. **Patrollers Cross** – may be awarded to a patroller who is seriously injured while performing ski patrol duties.
  4. **National Appointments** – this award has a long history with the NSP. It is given to recognize a senior level patroller who demonstrates leadership, good judgement, character and showcases extraordinary service to the NSP
  5. **MSA** – Meritorious Service Award – is awarded to active patrollers who have provided outstanding leadership and service as a region or division supervisor or advisor, or other core administrative positions

6. **DSA** – Distinguished Service Award - The NSP Distinguished Service Award is a prestigious award given to recognize a Patroller who has performed extraordinary service to the National Ski Patrol and the skiing public over a long period of time, a minimum of 20 years. This is distinguished by exceptional devotion to duty and outstanding performance.
7. **NSP Hall of Fame** - The National Ski Patrol Hall of Fame was created in 2013 as part of the 75th Anniversary Celebration. The HOF is to honor and recognize Patrollers whose lifetime of dedication and achievements with the NSP has had a substantial and lasting positive effect on the organization. (Due June 1<sup>st</sup> or December 1<sup>st</sup>)
8. **Minnie Dole Award** - 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.