

Senior Auxiliary Program

The objective of the Senior Auxiliary Program is to enhance the skills of the patrollers within the guidelines of the auxiliary status.

Core Skill Requirements and Electives

Core components required for Senior Auxiliary Status are:

- Senior Emergency Management
- Aid Room Management

Each core component is evaluated and graded separately. Both core components need to be completed only one time. There is no mandatory time constraint regarding when each core component must be completed. Any candidate who completed the Patroller Enrichment Seminar in the past need not complete the Aid Room Management component. It is highly recommended that all core skill requirements be completed within 3 years.

In addition to the core requirements the senior auxiliary candidate must complete a minimum of four electives. Refer to the current NSP National Policies and Procedures, chapter 17, for the accepted list of electives.

Senior Auxiliary Candidate Skill Development

The senior auxiliary candidate is responsible for his or her own training and abiding by any guidelines that may be established by the region Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) administrator or Region Director. Emphasis should be on developing the leadership, decision making and problem management skills of scene management. It is recommended the senior auxiliary candidate complete the SEM component prior to the Aid Room Management component.

Aid Room Management Evaluation

When a senior auxiliary candidate is prepared to participate in the Aid Room Management component the lead area OEC advisor or patrol director/representative must contact the region OEC administrator.

Aid Room Management Evaluators

Regions will be responsible for developing the Aid Room Management evaluators. There should be at least three members on the evaluation team.

Suggested Aid Room Management evaluation team may include:

- 1-2 senior level OEC evaluators from the candidate's local area.
Plus one or more of the following:
- Region Auxiliary Administrator
- Region OEC Administrator
- Division OEC Supervisor or any OEC IT from another area

Scenarios

The degree of difficulty of the Aid Room Management scenario, as rated using the scenario scoring matrix, is level 5 or 6. The emphasis of the scenarios is to evaluate the candidate's skills in decision making, problem management and leadership within the Aid Room environment. The goal is to build upon the skills obtained in the OEC program and enhance the ability of the auxiliary patroller to manage the scene. Examples of scenarios for Aid Room Management can be found in appendix I.

Optional Evaluation Formats for Delivering Scenarios

The evaluation can be delivered in one of three methods:

- A dramatic setting, with actors as patients. Including appropriate supplies and furnishing.
- A review panel discussion of the scenario with the candidate.
- A detailed, written action plan of a scenario by the candidate can be reviewed.

The chosen delivery method should best meet the needs for the candidate, local patrol, and region OEC administrator.

The candidate will be evaluated on at least two and not more than three scenarios.

Evaluation Scoring

The scoring card is the same as that for Senior Emergency Management. Failing any one of the three criteria (Leadership, Problem Management, Decision Making) constitutes a fail for the scenario. Evaluators score individually and then discuss the results in order to reach a consensus. The objective is to come to a well reasoned decision to share with the candidate at the end of the evaluation. If the group is unable to come to a consensus within approximately 5 minutes then the simple majority will determine whether the candidate will pass or fail. All three evaluators will support the final verdict in the scoring. Any failing score must be well documented on the scorecard. At the end of the evaluation the candidate must be provided with constructive feedback to be used during training to improve performance.

Scoring Categories

The performance criteria for (+), (=) and (-) must be established prior to the evaluation and is a critical part of the scenario calibration.

Above Senior Level (+)

Demonstrates outstanding decision making, problem management and leadership ability. Consistently demonstrates exceptional problem assessment, resource management, communication, and team interaction in every scenario. Does an exceptional job of identifying and coordinating all actions necessary to manage the helpers, bystanders and the scene to satisfy the critical performance objectives while continuing to insure the safety of the patient. Displays confidence in the face of tough decisions, makes no mistakes, and corrects the mistakes of others in a professional manner.

At Senior Level (=)

Demonstrates expected decision making, problem management and leadership ability. Demonstrates expected problem assessment, resource management, communication and team interaction in every scenario. Identifies and coordinates all actions necessary to manage the helpers, bystanders and scene to satisfy the critical performance objectives while continuing to ensure the safety of the patient. Acts as a team leader, makes only minor errors then catches and corrects them.

Below Senior Level (-)

Lacks the ability to take charge and make decisions. Is inconsistent in meeting the minimal decision making, problem management and leadership abilities. Makes critical or frequent errors in problem assessment, resource management, communication, and team interaction. Won't listen to directions, suggestions, or hints from the patients or the helpers. Unable to coordinate actions necessary to manage the scene, the patient, the helpers, and the bystanders.

The scenario format is critical for the demonstration of the candidate's leadership capabilities and not intended to assess the ability to apply a splint. The emphasis should be on assessment of the scene and patient, interaction with the helpers and patient and a plan for resolving the situation.

Continuing Education

The senior auxiliary patroller is not required to attend any extra continuing education programs to maintain classification. A Senior Auxiliary patroller who has completed the requirements to obtain classification of patroller need not repeat the SEM component when attempting to achieve Senior Nordic or Senior Alpine patroller.

Appendix I

Aid Room Management Scenarios

Aid Room Management Practice Scenario 1

You are in charge of First Aid Room on a very busy weekend afternoon (2:30 PM) when a patient, transported by toboggan, is transferred to your responsibility for care by the responding patroller on the hill. The responding patroller re-packs the toboggan, drops off the patient's rental skis in the First Aid Room, and quickly returns to the hill because of the increasing number of accidents/injuries that need his support/response.

The responding patroller tells you the following about the patient:

- His name is Tom
- He has had a collision with another un-injured skier who skied down and is now in the First Aid Room.
- Tom has a sprained knee (quick splint) and a bump/contusion on his forehead (no cuts or blood).
- Tom said at the accident scene that he had 2 young daughters that were skiing some where on the mountain that were supposed to meet him at the end of the day in the Rental Shop.

As you start to treat and question patient his level of consciousness (LOC) deteriorates and he is not able to communicate.

WHAT ACTIONS DO YOU TAKE (In order of priority)?

1. Will need to backboard the patient, call for extra patrollers.
2. Determine level of responsiveness and prioritize over the knee injury. Treat serious head injury by administering high concentration of O₂ (15 liter/min) with a non-re-breathing mask. Keep head elevated.
3. Notify EMS of need for medical emergency transport.
4. Collect and document the vitals over time.
5. If LOR is stable expose/examine knee injury and place in cardboard splint. Apply cold pack.
6. Question other skier about MOI, if he knows last name of patient, or names of daughters.
7. Radio responding patroller to determine initial vitals, LOC and if he knows last name of patient.
8. Fill out accident report utilizing other skiers and responding patrollers input. Make sure to process information on rental equipment and return paperwork with skis per area protocol.
9. Continue to recheck and record vitals and LOC.

WHAT ACTIONS DO YOU TAKE TO LOCATE DAUGHTERS?

1. Search patient's clothes (with witness present) for identification (i.e. ski rental contract, driver's license, etc.).
2. If successful in obtaining last name notify mgt. to utilize PA system and bulletin boards at lifts to instruct daughters to come to First Aid Room.
3. If not successful in finding daughters, have someone wait at Rental Shop to meet daughters when they return equipment. Also notify patrollers on hill of search.

Aid Room Management Practice Scenario 2

You are in charge of the First Aid Room on a busy, very cold and windy weekend with a full contingent of patrollers on duty. You hear on the radio that a serious chair lift accident has occurred with many resulting accidents, some with very serious medical emergency injuries, and some with minor injuries. You know that you don't have enough space/beds in the First Aid Room to handle all the patients.

HOW DO YOU ACCOMADATE ALL THE PATIENTS?

1. You request additional enclosed space/facility from management. Mgt. provides the heated Ski School Building, which is on the slopes up hill (skiable) from the First Aid Room, but does not have easy access to EMS vehicles.

WHAT IMMEDIATE ACTIONS DO YOU TAKE TO HANDLE MEDICAL EMERGENCY PATIENTS AND PROVIDE RESOURCES TO TEMPORARY FIRST AID FACILITY?

1. Notify EMS of need for several medical emergency transports.
2. Instruct patrollers on hill to bring only serious medical emergency cases to Main First Aid Room because of easy access to EMS vehicles.
3. Appoint a senior/experienced patroller to be in charge of Temporary First Aid Facility (with radio contact).
4. Assign free patrollers to help move needed first aid equipment to Temporary First Aid Facility (i.e. O2/masks, rubber gloves, cardboard splints, backboards, accident forms etc.). Since there are no beds/cots in Temporary First Aid Facility, you may have to keep patients in toboggans, unless needed.
5. Depending upon response of number/timing of EMS vehicles, you may have to supplement vehicle transport of serious medical emergencies with mgt. vehicles. Ask mgt. to have available.
6. Try to minimize the number of patient transfers/transports needed to enter the EMS. (i.e. don't transport patient's from Temporary First Aid Facility to Main First Aid Facility and then to EMS vehicles. Try to time transport of patients from Temporary First Aid facility via toboggan or litter directly to EMS vehicles as they arrive.

References

Central Division Board of Directors. *Central Division Current Policies and Procedures*.

National Ski Patrol Board of Directors, National Program Directors and Coordinators. *Current National Policies and Procedures*. National Ski Patrol System Inc., Lakewood CO.

National Ski Patrol System Inc. 1997. *The Ski Patroller's Manual*. 14th ed. Lakewood CO.

National Ski Patrol System Inc. 1998. *Outdoor Emergency Care Instructor's Manual*, 3rd ed. Lakewood CO.

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