

## **Information Regarding Willamette Pass Bicycle Patrol**

The Willamette Pass Bicycle Patrol is a part of the Willamette Pass Ski Patrol (WPSP), and includes but is not restricted to members who participate both summer and winter. WPSP is associated with the National Ski Patrol and as such uses training materials and methods developed by that national organization. Members of the ski patrol take their training and responsibilities very seriously, which leads to confident and competent members. A similar commitment is expected from bicycle patrollers. Training includes an Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) course which is taken once and requires many hours of hands-on and knowledge-based study and practice. A 2008 class will begin in September. This training is refreshed each year in day-long activities for experienced patrollers; the course itself does not need to be retaken once it is behind you so long as you remain current with these refreshers.

Further training occurs on the hill where familiarity with the area and its policies and procedures including radio use and protocols are reviewed. In addition, we will practice our first aid skills in field situations so that each patroller can be confident that he or she can handle accidents out there. A summer refresher day is scheduled for the same purposes, and is required for summer patrollers.

Bicycle patrollers are not required to be expert mountain bikers; their duties do not require those skills, though highly skilled riders are welcome.

Obligations of bicycle patrollers beyond attending training sessions include the goal of having at least one patroller present on each day (especially weekend days) that the gondola is in operation. Summer patrollers are required to put in at least 10 patrol days each summer season (similarly, winter patrollers normally must spend at least three days per month on duty). Further, all patrollers are required to work a minimum of ten hours at our primary fund raising activity, the fall Ski Swap. There are other fund raisers as well, though they do not carry mandatory participation. There is some expense involved, especially in the first year. Expenses in that first year will include a one-time fee of approximately \$75.00 to cover OEC books, and OEC registration fees. In addition, all patrollers must pay annual National/Division/Regional dues, currently \$63.00.

The principal benefit to the individual patroller is the knowledge that he or she is contributing to this popular and growing sport. In addition, the patrol member and his/ her immediate family can expect to have free use of the gondola throughout the season, including on days when the Patroller is not on duty. There is also a discount for patrollers on food purchases in the lodge and use of the Patrol Family Room while at the Pass. After completing the 10-day patrol obligation in his/her first summer season, the summer patroller is eligible for a winter season pass for him/herself. If the patroller works at least 15 summer patrol days, winter season passes are also offered to immediate family members.

Still interested? Have other questions? Contact Joe Mosley at [recruiter@wpsp.org](mailto:recruiter@wpsp.org).