

Event Action Plan
Schweitzer Mountain Resort, ID USA
2024

Venue: Loophole

Direct to Patrol Dispatch Phone: 208-603-2173.

1. Summary

On hill medical coverage is provided by the Schweitzer Mountain Resort Ski Patrol (SMRSP). SMRSP members are trained to respond to incidents anywhere on the mountain, including in the race venue. SMRSP is “Pro” patrol; the patrollers are employees of the resort and are members of the National Ski Patrol. Their training is very specific and applies to providing emergency service to ski areas. Members of the SMRSP are certified as Outdoor Emergency Care Providers under the professional division of the National Ski Patrol.

Ski patrollers may be identified by red jackets with a silver or white cross on the back and upper arm.

Patrol operations are overseen by Arlene Cook.

The medical plan for racing events has been developed under the guidelines described in the FIS Medical Guide (published 2013 and revised 2020). Specific elements of this medical plan depend on a number of variables, including without limitation, the event size, competition level, available facilities, anticipated weather conditions, appropriate medical standard of care and overall risk evaluations.

2. Course Medical Locations

Toboggans are the primary means of transporting injured persons from the slopes/trails to the base of the ski area. There is a ski patrol room located at the top of the quad on the main floor of the Sky House. A toboggan with a ski patroller will be stationed at the race start on Loophole. The Ski Patrol Dispatch will insure that any used toboggan is swiftly replaced. Should an incident occur, and a patroller needed, the patroller located at the will get the message from a jury member at the start. Ski Patrol Dispatch is notified by the Chief of Timing, relayed from the race radio. The responding patroller will proceed to the location of the injured party. The first responding patroller will contact Ski Patrol Dispatch upon their arrival and request any additional personnel or equipment as necessary.

Patrollers carry basic medical supplies to respond to most injuries on the hill. In addition to those supplies following medical equipment is cached at strategic locations on the hill for timely response to injured guests:

- Toboggans with J-Splint, blue pad, blanket and tarp
- Backboards
- Oxygen kits
- Trauma packs
- Traction splints
- Automatic External Defibrillators
- Sagar traction splint

3. Ski Patrol Headquarters:

Schweitzer has two Ski Patrol First Aid Stations. The main station is located on the ground floor of the Lakeview Day Lodge. This second First Aid Station is just below the finish at the Outback Inn. All injured parties assessed by Ski Patrol (unless first aid is refused in the field) are brought to the Aid Station on the ground floor of the Lakeview Day Lodge. A registered nurse will be on duty at the Lakeview Day Lodge First Aid Station.

4. Spectator Care

Patrol will respond to incidents involving spectators just as they would for any other guest or employee at the ski area. Their care and transportation off of the ski hill will be coordinated through the patroller on scene and Patrol Dispatch.

5. Communications

Five main channels will be used during each race:

1. Jury Ch. 9
2. Course Crew Ch. 10
3. Conversation Ch. 8
4. Timing Backup Ch. 7
5. Ski Patrol (Dedicated Mountain channel). The Ski Patrol radios are tested from the race venue daily before the start of the event. The Ski Patrol Dispatch can be contacted via mountain radio on a dedicated radio channel by a ROC liaison person or by telephone. A ski patrol radio will be staged in the finish shack at all times during the race.
6. External phone or mobile phone: 208.255.9555 X dispatch.

6. Incident Protocol

What to do when an incident occurs, or an athlete appears to need assistance on the race course:

- The Jury official closest to the incident site or injured athlete will communicate with the Chief of Race the location of the injured athlete. ***NO PERSON IS TO MOVE ONTO THE COURSE OR APPROACH THE DOWN RACER, UNTIL ORDERED TO DO SO BY EITHER A MEMBER OF THE JURY OR THE SKI PATROL.***
- The Jury official closest to the incident site or injured athlete will take charge of the accident and communicate on the Jury channel as to the initial assessment of the accident and athlete and request, if necessary, course access by ski patrol.
- If required, a jury member or the Chief of Course at the start will communicate the location of the injured athlete to the ski patroller at the start and request the ski patroller access the injured athlete on course to determine the appropriate course of action and the need for equipment or personnel. ***NO ONE WILL ACCESS THE COURSE UNTIL THE JURY HAS GRANTED COURSE ACCESS.***
- Evacuation, if necessary, will be coordinated by the ski patrol.
- Team physicians may assist response after course access has been granted. (Team physicians should follow or accompany ski patrol response but are not primary responders and must obey the directions of the Schweitzer Ski Patrol.)
- Athletes will be transported from the race venue according to the evacuation protocol set out below.

Any person, other than the ski patrol attending at the accident site may only remove “debris” from the racecourse and may only assist the athlete under the specific direction of the ski patrol person in charge of the accident site. ***Under no circumstances (other than AN OBSERVED NON-BREATHING PATIENT), is any person other than the ski patrol in charge of the accident site to attempt to remove the athlete’s equipment, remove the athlete from the nets or attempt to move the athlete in any way.***

The Jury official nearest the accident will be responsible for the orderly conduct of the area around the accident site. Care should be taken to control the number, and status, of those persons attending the accident. Those persons in the area not attending the accident will ensure that the fencing and netting is restored to its original form and function. If there are any broken poles or torn netting this should be communicated to the Chief of Course so they may take appropriate steps to replace these items before the race is allowed to restart.

Immediately upon the accident site being clear and safe for the event to recommence, the Jury official closest to the accident site will advise the Chief of Race. The Chief of Race, in conjunction with the Jury, will confirm that all areas of responsibility are ready to proceed, and ask the Start Referee to complete a course clearance from the bottom up. At that time the Chief of Race will direct the re-start of the event. At the same time the Chief of Race will advise that normal radio communications may resume.

Care and transport decisions will be the responsibility of the ski patrol with input from event and team physicians. Care will be based upon established protocols. All medical personnel are asked to adhere to the use of pertinent established protocols.

The ski patrol will advise the jury of the status of the racer as soon as the information is known. The Jury will ensure SMRSP replaces the ski patroller and toboggan at the race start before resuming racing.

7. Evacuation Protocol:

Race Course:

- Injuries requiring transport will be evacuated via toboggan and travel down the race course or trails adjacent to the race course by the ski patrol. All transport decisions will be coordinated by the patroller on scene and Patrol Dispatch. Unless first aid is refused on the hill, all injured parties will be taken to one of the two Ski Patrol First Aid Stations.

Transportation from Schweitzer Mountain Resort to area Hospitals:

Several options exist for transportation from the Resort to area hospitals.

- Weather permitting, severely injured patients may be airlifted directly from the Main Ski Patrol First Aid room in the Lakeview Day Lodge. Patients transported by helicopter will most likely be taken to the Kootenai Medical Center in Coeur d'Alene, ID or one of the hospitals in Spokane, WA. The decision on where to take a patient will be coordinated by Schweitzer Ski Patrol. The approximate flight time to Coeur d'Alene, ID and Spokane, WA is 20 and 30 minutes respectively.
- Ambulance service is available from the main Ski Patrol First Aid room located in the Lakeview Day Lodge. Ski Patrol personnel can request Para-medics to meet the ambulance to provide advanced care as required.
- The nearest hospital is Bonner General Hospital located in Sandpoint, Idaho 14.87 miles from the Resort. Driving time is approximately 30 minutes.

Note: Nothing in this medical plan may be considered a guarantee of service by Schweitzer Mountain Resort, the organizer or any other party providing service as outlined in this plan.