2010 Accidents & Recommendations

Club-Wide Safety Committee

The Mountaineers

6 June 2011
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2010 Incidents
  Major
  Significant
  Minor

Recommendations

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2010 Incidents

• 5 Major Incidents
  – Definition: 911/SAR and/or hospitalization

• 11 Significant Incidents
  – Definition: Injury & Dr. visit, no 911/SAR

• 73 Minor Incidents
  – Definition: No Dr. visit
# Comparison By Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type</th>
<th>‘06</th>
<th>‘07</th>
<th>‘08</th>
<th>‘09</th>
<th>‘10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Major</strong> (SAR and/or hospital)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Included Fatalities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Significant</strong> (Injury &amp; Dr. - no SAR)</td>
<td>NC*</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minor</strong> (No Dr. visit)</td>
<td>NC*</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Not Collected

2006-2009 Major Incidents ➔ Appendices
Request of Trip Leaders

• Please use “Incident Reporting” section in Activity Report to document all incidents
  – As soon as possible after trip
  – Also include no-injury “near-misses”
• Any information is better than nothing
• This is principal source of information for our reports
• We will follow up if we need more
Major Incidents (5)
(911, SAR and/or hospitalization)

1. Overdue Party 4-29-10
   • Currie-Blackcomb Traverse
   • SAR, helo evacuation

2. Broken Ankle & Leg 5-1-10
   • Spire Rock, unroped traverse
   • 911

3. Broken Neck 5-14-10
   • Baker Lodge, child fell from top bunk
   • 911, hospitalization
Major Incidents

4. Broken Ankle 5-16-10
   • Mt. Erie, climb, leader fall
   • SAR

5. Broken Ankle 6-20-10
   • Royal Columns, Tieton, Climb
   • Leader fall
   • SAR
Significant Incidents (11)
(Injury and Dr. visit, but no SAR)

- Fall during self-arrest practice 1
- Slip/Trip/Falls on non-technical terrain:
  - Fall on trail 6
  - Fall on snow 1
  - Kicked back of leg 1
  - Fell off log 1
  - Cut finger on rock 1
Significant Incident Injuries

- Torn bicep muscle in shoulder
- Deep gash in leg
- Broken finger
- Broken shoulder
- Broken wrist
- Crampon puncture of leg
- Tendon tear in knee
- Fractured fibula
- Sprained ankle
- Sliced finger
- Broken rib
Significant Incidents

- Two Significant Incidents occurred on organized Field Trips
  - Scramble
  - Intermediate Ice
Minor Incidents
(No Dr. visit)

• 73 incidents reported
  – Likely under-reported, but improving as Leaders learn of our interest
Minor Incidents

• Fall - 28
  – Fall during glissade – 1
  – Fall on non technical terrain – 16
  – Fall on rock (roped) – 1
  – Fall on snow – 10

• Hit/Cut - 4
  – Cut by equipment – 3
  – Hit by falling object – 1
Minor Incidents (Cont.)

• Illness - 18
  – Altitude sickness – 2
  – Blisters - 4
  – Cramping – 1
  – Feeling weak – 2
  – Heat exhaustion – 2
  – Hypothermia - 1
  – Knees / ankles– 3
  – Previous injury - 3
Minor Incidents (Cont.)

- Kayaking – 3
  - Kayaking other – 1
  - Kayaking weather – 2

- Logistics – 6
  - Party Separation – 5
  - Routefinding – 1

- Preparation - 2
  - Conditioning – 2

- Other - 12
  - Informational – 10
  - Route warning - 2
Recommendations Categories

- Leading Rock
- Slips, trips and falls
- Equipment
Learning to Lead Rock

- Students should practice well within their ability
- Students should practice where fall is unlikely to cause injury
- Sew up the route
Slips, Trips and Falls

• Very common on non-technical terrain
• Special emphasis: be careful on descent
• Avoidance
  – Be aware of risks
    • Wet rock
    • Moss
    • Bark on logs & wet logs
  – Could use trekking poles for balance
Electronics & Equipment

• Know how to use
• Understand limitations
• Batteries
  – Keep warm in winter
  – Be sure fresh and/or charged
More Information

• Much more detail online
  – Accident Reports (2006-2010)
  – Recommendations (2006-2010)

• Right click and open Hyperlink to The Mountaineers Safety Committee:
  – http://www.mountaineers.org/source/community/documentArchive.cfm?section=communities&CmtyId=2&ParId=267
Contacts

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A-1. 2006 Major Incidents

- Fall on snow w/ice ax – arrest failure
  1. Cracked pelvis & vertebrae - Crosby Mtn
  2. Lacerated knee, bruised ribs - The Brothers
- Steep snow travel - w/o ice ax
  3. Broken leg - McClellan Butte
  4. Lacerated head - High Priest
- Uncontrolled Glissade
  5. Lacer. face, abdominal puncture - Red Mtn
2006 Major Incidents

- Rock Leader Fall
  6. Bruising, chipped vertebrae - Chair Peak

- Unroped Fall
  7. Possibly caused by stroke - broken leg, back, neck, fatality by blood clot 3 weeks later - Yellowjacket Tower
  8. Concussion, ankle and wrist injury - Lundin Peak
2006 Major Incidents

- Party separation
  9. Solo unplanned bivy (2 nights)
     -- Hypothermia, dehydration and frostbite
     -- Muncaster Mountain
A-2. 2007 Major Incident

- Hike on Mt. Jupiter
  - Fatality
  - “Congenital Coronary Artery Hypoplasia”
A-3. 2008 Major Incidents

1. Fractured Hip (hospitalized)
   • Magnuson Park Clubhouse - ladder fall
2. Fractured Leg (SAR, hospitalized)
   • Suntop Road – ski tip caught
3. Fractured Leg (SAR, hospitalized)
   • Mt. Baring – arrest failure, 150’ slide
A-4. 2009 Major Incidents

1. Hip Hematoma
   • Tacoma Clubhouse – step thru ceiling

2. Deep abdominal cut + Other
   • McClellan Butte, Climb – loose boulder

3. Fractured Ankle
   • Camp Muir, Scramble – snowshoe fall/slide

4. Deep Leg Gash
   • Icicle Ridge, Hike (Singles) – fall from log
2009 Major Incidents

5. Lost Overnite
   • Kaleetan Peak, Scramble
   • Member separated from party
     • Chose “better route”

6. Felt Faint
   • Foss Waterway, Sea Kayaking
   • Wilderness First Aid event

7. Panic Attack
   • Tacoma Clubhouse, MOFA class
A-5. Club Wide Safety Committee

- Reports to Board of Trustees
- Established after Sharkfin Tower Accident
- Promote a culture of safety in The Mountaineers
  - Collect/report accidents and near-misses
  - Educate our leaders and instructors