

Navigation Standards Review Meeting

10-14-2020

Attendees: Jerrick Linde, Kevin De Fields, Peter Hendrickson, Patricia McDonald, Alan Davey, Michael Hutchens

What are the topics that are most important to the group?

Digital navigation standards:

- The regular nav course is based on a map and compass.
- The current format ensures that any student who has a nav badge has gotten mostly the same training across branches and that is the value of the standard
- If you have a digital navigation standard do we have the same desire? Yes, the group thinks so
- Making a standard is not so hard put taking that standard and making it into practical use is hard
- Digital is not just gps, it is also trip planning, different online platforms, etc.
- We can keep the basic nav badge the same and add a supplemental badge with the digital standards
- Who wants to be a part of this?
 - Foothills may have a few who want to jump in. Alan will make the ask. Nick will send out an action item to the summit group and other branches can make the ask to start a working group
 - Before we do that, Alan will draft up a proposal for this idea to get input from the branches who are not here today
- Would this be a single standard all on its own or a subset of each piece of digital navigation?
- Jerrick says if we do come up with a standard come up with a basic set of functions for the tool but not drill down what software the mountaineers recommends
- Let students know we are going to teach one way to do it but if you want to use a different app or software you will need to figure that out, but we will give the skills to help you understand digital nav

ACTION ITEM: Alan is proposing to make a proposal to all the nav committees to then vote on adopting a digital nav standard. He will write something up and email the nav folks on the call

Broadening the scope of the standards:

- Alan - General nav standards that all courses have to have no matter what you are teaching.
- Then, look at what our market looks like. For example: A gps standard, off trail standard, backpackers/on trail hikers.
- On trail courses- Seattle intro to map and compass, Foothills staying found. Oly has had one called emergency preparedness.
- Do we call it on trail/off trail, front country or backcountry?
- Seattle's focus over the next year is wilderness nav course curriculum, but sounds like an interesting idea. Michael wants to know if there is a need for this before committing to this? Do all branches have a need, do students want this, do we need consistency?
- GPS may be the exception because most people are using digital tools
- What's the value of an on trail standard? Some people only want on trail skills!
- Does anyone want to address on trail?
- Nick will float the idea on Basecamp - The group made a point to clarify we are not writing a book, no need to make this overly complicated.
- Nick will follow up with Peter to link in people from map and compass and staying found to nav summit basecamp
- Michael has an issue with how prescriptive the standard is. Peter says its okay to use your best judgement. It drills down too deep and doesn't leave enough room for creativity

ACTION ITEM: Nick will float the idea of broadening the scope of the standards. This means writing out different parts of navigation into sections to better support the courses nav already does or will do in the future. For example:

Wilderness Navigation
 Digital Navigation & Trip Planning
 On Trail Navigation

ACTION ITEM: Navigation Standards wordsmithing and editing. I captured comments and suggestions from the 10-14 Navigation standards review. All branches (especially those who were not present during the meeting) should go in and take a look and make suggestions and comments. Feedback is due before the November BLC meeting.