



Lake Mountain Resort Ski Patrol Operations

Lake Mountain Ski Patrol operates in the winter season to reduce the risk of injury and exposure to hazard for all Resort users, and provides assistance for injured or lost persons in the Alpine region over winter.

Ski patrol is comprised of 4 full time and 25 volunteer patrollers. All active Patrollers are trained to a high level of skill that includes advanced emergency care, rescue and search techniques. Ski patrol maintains an ongoing training regime for all patrollers in order to keep their skills up to date and to develop the overall skill base of the individuals and the patrol team. Training is facilitated by the Victorian Police, Ambulance Victoria and the Australian Ski Patrol Association.

Ski Patrol achieves successful risk management through constant monitoring of the conditions in the resort and by educating resort users on safety. This includes monitoring of weather forecasts, terrain conditions, accuracy of snow report services and an awareness of the volume of resort users. Education is achieved through talking to visitors before they commence their activity, safety talks to school groups and distribution of Snow Safe material.

A typical day for ski patrol commences with a morning meeting at 8:00am. Conditions, forecasts and the outlook for the day are discussed before the group breaks away to assess the resort. Patrollers are then dispatched throughout the resort to monitor and report on the conditions. This monitoring and risk assessment continues throughout the day and along with responding to calls for assistance is the prime focus of a Ski Patroller.

Ski Patrol is responsible for ensuring no one is left stranded in the resort over night. Patrol check runs at the end of the day and are the last people off the hill before close at 6:30 PM.

Patrollers at Lake Mountain are easily recognizable by their red jackets with a large white cross on the back and a smaller cross on each arm.

The main purposes of the Ski Patrol are to:

- . Eliminate if possible or minimize the risk of injury and exposure to hazards for all resort users.
- . To educate resort users about safe and appropriate behaviour in the alpine environment.

- . Administer first aid assistance to injured persons.
- . Transfer those requiring further medical attention to the Ski Patrol Centre and if necessary the Ambulance Service.
- . In conjunction with the Victorian Police and other emergency services act as a support agency in the event of any declared emergency as defined in the Emergency Management Plan.
- . Serve the public with other assistance and skiing information.
- . Improve safety standards within the resort.

