

# FIPS News

February 2016



## FIPS 2016 Congress update



Plans for the Congress from 2-9 April 2016 at Adamello Ski Pontedilegno – Tonale are now in place with in excess of 130 attendees from more than 13 countries currently registered. Bookings are still being taken.

For more information check the FIPS web site or send an email to [FIPS2016@fips-skipatrol.org](mailto:FIPS2016@fips-skipatrol.org)

The Congress program is well advanced and includes presentations, workshops, on-hill demonstrations and items specific to a particular Special Interest Group or Groups.

Generally, on-hill activities will be in the morning and indoor presentations, workshops, etc in the afternoon.

Specific activities will include:

- Introduction to the Adamello Ski Pontedilegno – Tonale area
- Ski patrolling in Italy
- Presentation on changes in avalanche training in the USA
- Update on medical management for avalanche victims and for primary-cause hypothermia intermittent CPR (from ICAR)
- Incident reporting mobile phone apps
- Apps for ski patrollers
- Drones in the ski patrol/search and rescue environment
- Equipment demos – spine-board, vacuum mat, scoop stretcher, etc
- Transport of the neurologically compromised patient
- Critical incident management workshop & presentations
- A summary report from the recent ICAR meeting in Ireland (Oct 2015)
- At this time commercial demonstrations are planned from Ortovox, Kong, Artva and Safelab
- Each SIG will meet and discuss topics relevant to their area of interest
- Presentations from various attending countries, including new member Rumania
- FIPS Board Meetings

The program will be subject to change. It is dependant availability of speakers and on weather conditions at the time.

On the social scene the USA is hosting a cocktail evening and BASP (the Scots) would be expected to have their traditional whiskey tasting night.

On the free Wednesday for those who do not want to ski, a special surprise tour is being organised

The Italian Organising Committee is arranging for a number of local patroller volunteers to assist with the Congress and to look after their international guests. Thank you in advance to these patrollers.

## Executive & FIPS 2018

The Executive would like to hear from countries interested in hosting the FIPS 2018 or 2020 Congresses. Talk to the President/Secretary if you are interested.

The formal FIPS Board Notices of meeting will be distributed shortly to all FIPS member organisations.

## FIPS Special Interest Groups (SIGs) - Avalanche, Medical, Technology & Legal

The four SIGs have been active with updates on current topics of interest and planning for the Congress. There will be specific meetings of each SIG at the Congress under the direction of their Coordinators:

- Medical SIG     John Holmes
- Legal SIG        Ed Gassman
- Avalanche SIG     Ed Carlson
- Technology SIG    Duncan Isaksen-Loxton

For a number of countries we still need national representatives to be nominated for each SIG.



### Medic52 2016 World Ski Patroller Survey

The FIPS Executive has again endorsed Medic52 to conduct their World Ski Patroller Survey. Patrollers are encouraged to participate and supported this survey.

## FIPS 2016 Mark Labow Award

The Mark Labow Award is made at each Congress to a person who, in the opinion of the Award trustees, has made an outstanding contribution to ski patrolling at an international level. The cut off date is 15Feb16. You can download the profoma application (Fr & En) from the FIPS web site. For information and submissions send an email to [MarkLabowAward@fips-skipatrol.org](mailto:MarkLabowAward@fips-skipatrol.org).

## International Commission for Alpine Rescue (ICAR)

Following attendance by the FIPS President and Secretary at the 2015 ICAR Conference in Ireland FIPS is now a member of ICAR. This allows the linkages between the common areas of interest of the two organisations.



## A REMINDER: Register on the FIPS Web Site

**Yes, you do need to register!**

[www.fips-skipatrol.org](http://www.fips-skipatrol.org)



As a patroller you should now be a SUBSCRIBER to the FIPS web site to receive future FIPS updates and access to the patroller-only areas with full reports on FIPS activities, access to the SIGs, up-coming events, etc. If you have not subscribed follow the link at the FIPS-website and answer the necessary questions. Your registration should be approved within a few days.

**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS:** If you want to join a SIG you must first register on the FIPS web site. Then, after being approved you must go back to website to join the SIG(s) of your choice. SIG Coordinators will then welcome you into their group.

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