



Tahoe Nordic Search & Rescue

Winter Backcountry Preparedness Scholarship Program

Tahoe Nordic Search & Rescue is pleased to announce the launch of the team's first annual Tahoe Nordic SAR Winter Backcountry Preparedness Scholarship Program for 2019. **These scholarships are open to all local Truckee/North Tahoe high school students, cover the costs of a two-day comprehensive, combined First Aid/CPR/Avalanche Companion Rescue Course and will occur on February 23rd and 24th, 2019. **Deadline to apply is February 1st, 2019.****

Exploring the North Tahoe/Truckee backcountry on skis, a snowmobile, a splitboard or snowshoes is a great way to see these areas in all of their winter glory but it also requires a level of knowledge and skill that is beyond what is needed "inside the ropes". Tahoe has already seen several avalanche incidents this season and by offering these scholarships Tahoe Nordic SAR hopes to mitigate future incidents by providing preventative training to the general public, especially young adults. Our local high school students are an active and significant user group in the resort sidecountry and local backcountry areas and it is Tahoe Nordic SAR's goal to make it as easy as possible for this demographic to get the knowledge and skills they need to be educated and safe in avalanche terrain.

This two day class offering will be co-led by veteran snow safety professionals, Lel Tone and Devin Hiemstra. Lel has been patrolling for twenty-four years, heli-ski guiding for eighteen year and brings a wealth of knowledge to the classroom. Devin has been a ski patroller for eighteen years, an advanced EMT and instructor for eight years and is the president of Tahoe Nordic SAR.

Tahoe Nordic SAR will award eight scholarships to aspiring leaders of local backcountry recreation who have a commitment to public safety and a drive to serve our community. This interactive two-day course will cover topics and skills including the patient assessment system, emergency and evacuation plans, wound management, avalanche rescue, avalanche rescue equipment and avalanche scenario practice.

All applicants must reside in the Truckee/North Tahoe area and attend Truckee HS, North Tahoe HS, Incline HS, Forest Charter School, Sugar Bowl Academy, Tahoe Expeditionary Academy or Sierra High School.

To apply for this scholarship applicants should thoughtfully answer the following questions:

1. What is your backcountry experience?
2. Why are you interested in taking this class?
3. How would you use the knowledge and skills gained in this course to benefit the community?

Email submissions to: tnsarscholarship@gmail.com. Be sure to include your name, phone number and high school attended. Please also note whether or not you own a beacon, shovel and probe. Application deadline is February 1st, 2019. Selected applicants will be notified by February 8th, 2019.