

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

In consideration of the services of The Patrol Fund, their agents, owners, officers, volunteers, employees, and all other persons or entities acting in any capacity on their behalf (hereinafter collectively referred to as "TPF"), I hereby agree to release, indemnify, and discharge TPF, on behalf of myself, my spouse, my children, my parents, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate as follows:

1. I acknowledge that my participation in avalanche education course entails known and unanticipated risks that could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to myself, to property, or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.

The risks include, among other things: the hazards of walking on uneven terrain and slips and falls; hidden obstacles by snow including ice and snow cornices, tree wells, tree stumps, creeks rocks and boulders, below the snow surface; loss or damage to equipment being used; being lost or separated from their guides or companions by traveling in forested areas, rugged terrain, or bad weather; exposure to temperature and weather extremes which could cause cold shock, hypothermia, hyperthermia (heat related illnesses), heat exhaustion, sunburn, dehydration; the risk of altitude and cold including hypothermia, frostbite, acute mountain sickness, cerebral and pulmonary edema; exposure to potentially dangerous wild animals; my own physical condition, and the physical exertion associated with this activity. Weather and altitude can be extreme and can change rapidly without warning. The areas may not have been traveled previously and are not regularly patrolled. Natural forces including steepness of slopes, snow depth, instability of snow pack or varying and difficult weather and snow conditions may cause avalanches. Communication in this mountain terrain is always difficult and in the event of an accident, rescue and medical treatment may not be immediately available.

Furthermore, TPF personnel have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be unaware of a participant's fitness or abilities. They might misjudge the weather, other environmental conditions. They might misjudge whether the terrain is safe for travel or where or when an avalanche may occur. They may give incomplete warnings or instructions, and the equipment being used might malfunction.

2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, and I elect to participate in spite of the risks.
3. I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless TPF from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action, which are in any way connected with my participation in this activity or my use of TPF 's equipment or facilities, **including any such claims which allege negligent acts or omissions of TPF.**
4. Should TPF or anyone acting on their behalf, be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.
5. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause or suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage myself. I further certify that I am willing to assume the risk of any medical or physical condition I may have.
6. In the event that I file a lawsuit against TPF, I agree to do so solely in the state of Montana, and I further agree that the substantive law of that state shall apply in that action without regard to the conflict of law rules of that state. I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

By signing this document you may be waiving your legal right to a jury trial to hold the provider legally responsible for any injuries or damages resulting from risks inherent in the sport or recreational opportunity or for any injuries or damages you may suffer due to the provider's ordinary negligence that are the result of the provider's failure to exercise reasonable care. I also agree that this document is valid for subsequent visits and participation at TPF. I have had sufficient opportunity to read this entire document. I have read and understood it, and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Print Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Signature of Participant _____ Date _____

PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S ADDITIONAL INDEMNIFICATION (Must be completed for participants under the age of 18)

In consideration of _____ (print minor's name) ("Minor") being permitted by TPF to participate in its activities and to use its equipment and facilities, I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless TPF from any and all Claims which are brought by, or on behalf of Minor, and which are in any way connected with such use or participation by Minor.

Parent or Guardian: _____ Print Name: _____ Date: _____