

IPWA Uniform Policy

Approved: 12/05/2022

Introduction:

IPWA volunteers represent the United States Forest Service (USFS) and are required to wear the USFS approved uniform during all patrol-related activities. Along with the privilege of wearing the uniform comes the responsibility to wear it correctly. These policies contain the following sections:

1. Current official uniform components (summer and winter);
2. Additional IPWA Items which may be worn with the uniform;
3. Policy for when and where uniform may be worn;
4. Procedures for issuing and returning uniforms, and for replacement of worn, damaged, or lost uniform items;

Appendix: examples of uniform patches, volunteer Trails T-shirt and current contact information.

1. Current Official Uniform Components

1.1. Summer

- 1.1.1. A government approved USFS uniform short-sleeve shirt with a USFS green and gold Department of Agriculture shield on the left shoulder, and a white USFS square volunteer patch on right shoulder. (see Appendix for examples).
- 1.1.2. An IPWA approved rain jacket with a round IPWA uniform patch on the left shoulder and USFS volunteer patch on the right shoulder.
- 1.1.3. All patches noted are considered to be part of the uniform and should not be removed from uniform shirts or jackets.
- 1.1.4. Pants and shorts supplied by volunteers should be a single, neutral color (tan, light grey, olive green, khaki, brown) and without logos or insignia. No blue jeans are allowed with the USFS uniform shirt.
- 1.1.5. Hats supplied by volunteers should be a single, neutral color (tan, light grey, olive green, or khaki) and without logos or insignia, and the hat brim should be less than 4 inches in diameter.
- 1.1.6. Undershirts and "sleeves" in a single, neutral color (tan, light grey, olive green, khaki) and without logos or insignia may be worn.
- 1.1.7. Non-USFS weather protection clothing for rain, snow, cold, etc. may be worn when conditions warrant. Wear clothing that ensures safety foremost, while presenting a professional image at all times.
- 1.1.8. Uniform configurations and patches have changed over IPWA's history; volunteers who were issued older uniform shirt "styles" are okay to retain this

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uniform ("grandfathered in"). Any needed replacement(s) should conform to current uniform policies.

1.1.9. If a shirt size is not available in inventory, the volunteer will be offered an IPWA Trails T-Shirt for use on patrol until a replacement is received (see Appendix for example).

1.1.10. Contact Quartermaster for more information.

1.2. Winter:

1.2.1. IPWA issued rain jacket - and/or -

1.2.2. USFS volunteer patch that can be worn in an arm band or temporarily secured to an outer pocket or pack strap (one patch per patroller, by request).

1.2.3. *Optional:* Black Knit USFS Stocking Caps (Watch Caps) are available for winter patrollers only; all annual winter patrol training requirements must be met before this cap can be requested.

1.2.4. Non-USFS clothing worn for weather protection against rain, snow, cold, etc. may be worn when conditions warrant. Wear clothing that ensures safety foremost, while presenting a professional image at all times.

1.2.5. Contact Winter Patrol Coordinator for more information.

2. Additional IPWA Items which may be worn with the uniform

2.1. One round IPWA uniform patch and/or one white, square USFS volunteer patch to be used **ONLY** on the front of a neutral-color personal patrol hat (not on backpacks or other clothing).

2.2. These additional patches may be requested from the Quartermaster; a \$5 donation per patch is suggested.

3. Policy for when and where uniform may be worn

3.1. Uniform items are only to be worn by currently registered volunteers who are either on a scheduled patrol or volunteering for IPWA in a public-facing activity (e.g. Trailhead Host).

3.2. Personal hats with an IPWA Uniform patch (either round IPWA patch with red and blue background or the white, square USFS volunteer patch) are only to be worn while patrolling for IPWA or volunteering for IPWA in a public-facing activity.

3.3. Failure to comply with this policy may result in the loss of patrol privileges and return of uniform to IPWA.

4. Procedures for issuing and returning uniforms, and for replacement of worn, damaged, or lost uniform items

***NOTE:** New uniform shirts to replace stock are typically ordered at the end of the summer season. They are ordered from a government approved vendor, and delivery can take 1 – 3 months.*

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- 4.1. Uniform shirts and rain jackets are issued to new volunteers at Summer Training Day
- 4.2. To obtain an additional patch (for new and/or returning volunteers):
 - 4.2.1. IPWA suggests a \$5 donation per patch.
 - 4.2.2. Request patch from Quartermaster at Summer Patrol Training Day.
 - 4.2.3. Request by email to hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org. Patches will be sent to volunteers via US mail.
- 4.3. Volunteers who resign from IPWA must return their uniform shirt and rain jacket.
 - 4.3.1. Send an email to hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org informing IPWA of resignation; instructions on returning the uniform will be provided.
 - 4.3.2. All pockets must be emptied, and uniform items must be freshly laundered and clean.
 - 4.3.3. Do not return hats or nametags.
 - 4.3.4. Do not return uniforms to the Boulder Ranger District office.
- 4.4. Replacement of worn or damaged uniform shirts or rain jackets:
 - 4.4.1. Summer Training Day: Email hikers@indianpeakswilderness.org for information on the Training Day date and time(s) when exchanges will be possible.
 - 4.4.2. If unable to attend Training Day, contact Quartermaster to discuss the requested exchange (see Appendix for contact information). Uniform shirts or jackets replacement requests received after training day are filled based on availability. If an exact uniform shirt replacement isn't available, one will have to be ordered and the volunteer will be issued an IPWA Trail T-shirt.

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APPENDIX

A. Examples of patches referenced in Uniform Policy



Official USFS green and gold Dept of Agriculture shield



Official USFS volunteer square patch with white background



Round IPWA Uniform patch with red and blue background

B. Example of USFS Trail T-shirt



C. Current Contact Information:

Summer Uniforms:

CJ Gup, Quartermaster

303-881-1587 (call or text; please allow up to 48 hours for a response)

Winter Uniforms:

Andy Gup, Winter Patrol Coordinator, agup2001@msn.com

Emily Herrington, Assistant Winter Patrol Coordinator, echoka@gmail.com

IPWA Mailing Address: PO Box 17382, Boulder, CO 80308