



## **Snow Safety and Emergency Officer**

### **– Mt Olympus Ski Club**

Work in the Playground of the Gods!

Mt Olympus ski area is set in a high, south-facing basin at the southern end of the Craigieburn Range in the Canterbury High Country. Famous for a superb balance of terrain, a sheltered aspect and the ability to capture dry powder delivered by southerly storms out of Antarctica, Mt Olympus is a mecca for New Zealand's big mountain, back country and free ski enthusiasts. Club field skiing is one of the most unique ski cultures in the world, operating as more of a community or an extended family rather than just a bunch of skiers.

The role is Fixed Term for a maximum of 12 weeks and includes (but is not limited to):

- Overseeing the Snow Safety Programme.
- Administering a wide range of avalanche control techniques including the use of explosives, ski cuts, and closures.
- Assessing ski area boundary safety and route opening or closures.
- Responding to all risk and emergency situations such as medical and trauma incidents that require a high level of first aid experience.
- Managing helicopter rescue and evacuations procedures.
- Implementing all of the ski area's emergency response plans including the avalanche rescue plan.

To be considered for this role, it is essential you have the following qualifications and attributes:

- Excellent technical snow science knowledge and practices.
- Minimum of 3 years of operational avalanche forecasting experience.
- Certified in Avalanche Risk Management Level 6 (or equivalent).
- Ski Patrol experience (4+ seasons).
- Previous avalanche control experience using explosives.
- Current Controlled Substances License (CSL) and Approved Handlers certificate.
- Pre-Hospital Emergency Care (PHEC) (or equivalent).
- Ability to interpret patterns of various meteorological systems to make evaluations of weather conditions that may affect avalanche behavior.
- Demonstrable problem solving skills in ski area operation and risk management.
- Experience in managing multi-faceted emergency response procedures and working closely with emergency agencies and volunteers.
- Specialised knowledge and demonstrable experience in implementing avalanche response plans and scene management.
- Advanced level skiing ability.
- Ability to lead a team in a challenging physical environment.
- A flexible approach to work hours and position needs & requirements.
- Capability in training staff for avalanche response or medical trauma response will be a key requirement.



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To be suitable for this role you will need advanced snow science knowledge, specialised alpine emergency response experience, dynamic problem-solving skills, possess good common sense and the ability to lead a team in a challenging physical environment. If successful, you will be part of a small team in an isolated environment, so you must possess an excellent work ethic, understand personal dynamics and have a sense of humour.

The Top Hut at Mt Olympus is a ski-in, ski-out alpine lodge, set right in the middle of the basin at the top of the Access Tow. The Top Hut offers bunk room style accommodation for up to 65 guests, along with an in-house chef, bar, hot showers, drying facilities and the infamous outdoor hot tub. Staff accommodation is self-contained within the lodge which means living and working at altitude. The ideal candidate will be an advanced level skier, have alpine driving and living skills, with a sound understanding of the challenges of living in the alpine environment.