

# Guidelines for Submissions: *The Avalanche Review*

**Introduction:** *The Avalanche Review* is the official publication of the American Avalanche Association.

**The mission of the AAA is:**

- A. To provide information about snow and avalanches;
- B. To represent the professional interests of the United States avalanche community;
- C. To contribute toward high standards of professional competence and ethics for persons engaged in avalanche activities;
- D. To exchange technical information and maintain communications among persons engaged in avalanche activities;
- E. To promote and act as a resource base for public awareness programs about avalanche hazards and safety measures;
- F. To promote research and development in avalanche safety.

**Content:** *The Avalanche Review* welcomes submissions on a variety of topics that are directly and indirectly related to the avalanche world and that further the mission of the AAA.

**Intent:** *The Avalanche Review* has a duty to represent the professional interests of the various committees and activities of the American Avalanche Association. We cannot endorse or print non-professional views of topics such as explosives use at ski areas.

*The Avalanche Review* reserves the right to edit all submissions, including press-releases, letters to the editor, and/or responses to previously published TAR articles. All submissions may be edited for content, style, and/ or grammar and punctuation. Press releases are typically summarized.

*The Avalanche Review* requires that contributors disclose any business or other financial relationship that might cause or give the appearance of causing a conflict of interest. That means identifying any past or present contract, salary or wage employment with any organization or entity described or named in a submission, as well as any direct or indirect funding for research described in a submission. At their discretion, TAR editorial staff may disclose these relationships and affiliations with the publication of a submission. We strongly suggest that contributors take the extra time and effort to present objective and well-rounded views of their topics.

**Topics:** Common topics include recent research, personalities in the field, a remarkable avalanche cycle or path, mechanics, avalanche education, rescue updates, and personnel changes for Metamorphosis.

Call for submissions as appears in TAR:

- Seen any good avalanches lately?
- Got some gossip for the other snow nerds?
- Developing new tools or ideas?
- Learn something from an accident investigation?
- Send photos of a crown, of avalanche workers plowing roads, throwing bombs, teaching classes, or digging
- holes in the snow.
- Pass on some industry news.
- Tell us about a particularly tricky spot of terrain.

**Deadlines:** Please be prompt by submitting articles within TAR deadlines. Promptness will allow the editorial staff to work with you in making your contribution as good as possible.

Deadlines for submissions for each issue within a volume (which corresponds to a winter season) are below:

**Issue 1 (27/1)**, in subscribers' mailboxes by October 1 or by ISSW- **August 1**

**Issue 2 (27/2)**, in subscribers' mailboxes by December 1- **October 1**

**Issue 3 (27/3)**, in subscribers' mailboxes by February 1- **December 1**

**Issue 4 (27/4)**, in subscribers' mailboxes by April 1- **February 1**

Submissions and questions to be directed to:

Lynne Wolfe

PO Box 1135

Driggs, ID 83422

208.709-4073

[lwolfe.avalanchereview@gmail.com](mailto:lwolfe.avalanchereview@gmail.com)

**Format:** We generally prefer articles limited to a total word count of 1000. There are certainly exceptions to this guideline. Please contact the editorial staff to discuss and develop your submission. Microsoft Word documents are preferred for ease of communicating changes with authors during the editing process. Be sure to include a title, your contact information, and a short bio (2-3 lines) of yourself and other contributors, along with small "mug shot" photos when available.

**Photographs:** High-resolution (at least 1 mb) color or B/W original files are preferred in psd, tif or jpg format. Submit figures as vector-based files (when available) in eps, ai, or pdf format. .

Include credits (who took the photo) and caption (what is happening in the photo). Use the journalistic "W's" to write the story of your photo: who, what, where, when, why, how.

Hi-res files can be uploaded to the Fall Line Design ftp site at <ftp.FallLineDesign.com> ; username: fdftp; password: 4filez.

**Style guidelines:** TAR uses Associated Press style. Please consult the Associated Press style book for more information.

Please avoid the passive voice. Instead of telling us that the explosives were launched; it is cleaner, clearer, and more powerful to tell us that you (or the WYDOT forecaster...) fired the howitzer that launched explosives. Please keep sentences short and to the point.

#### HYPHENS

- hyphens to connect multiple-word modifiers (as shown here!)
- hyphen after mid (eg: Our dog was born in mid-January.)

#### COMMAS

- comma separates items in series, including the last one before the "and" (eg: We went to Bozeman, Butte, Anaconda, and Dillon.)
- use comma between two independent clauses separated by "and" (eg: We adopted a new dog, and she is very cute.) Also applies to other coordinating conjunctions: or, but, yet, and so. Also "for" when used that way, but it's a little anachronistic. As in: The skiers waited hours at the top of the mountain, for Buck the dog had run off to chase a deer.
- Commas are not used to separate a title and name when the name follows the title. CORRECT: "AAA president Janet Kellam kept the board meetings on time." INCORRECT: "AAA President, Janet Kellam, kept the board meetings running on time."
- Commas are used to separate a title and name when the title follows the name. CORRECT: "Janet Kellam, AAA President, kept the board meetings running on time."

#### MEASUREMENTS - INCHES, FEET, PERCENTAGE

- numeral with the inch or foot symbol (eg: It snowed 3" above vertical elevation of 8000' last night, bringing us to 150% above average for snowfall this month.)

## NUMBERS (not measurements)

- spell out numbers 1-9 (eg: We now have two dogs and one cat.)
- numeral for numbers 10 and up (eg: Our two dogs pee in 20 different spots in the yard.)

AP style spells out any number when it's the first word of a sentence. (eg: Twelve women attended 12 lectures.) Sometimes it is better to rearrange the sentence so you don't have to spell out a long complex number, such as "two hundred fifty six." I've adopted a special TAR style of starting sentences with numeral measurements because it was too difficult to rearrange all the sentences in the October issue's season summaries. Writing out all those complex numbers was cumbersome (and used up too much space).

## DATES

- no ordinal suffixes (th, st, nd) after date numbers (CORRECT: Jazz was born on April 2. WRONG: Jazz was born on April 2nd.) Like measurements, dates are always numerals.

## CAPITALIZATION

- titles as part of proper names (eg: TAR Designer Karen Russell does a great job. Alternatively: Karen Russell, TAR Designer, does a great job.)
- regions, only when they are proper names or actual places on a map (eg: Rocky Mountains, East Coast, West Coast, Deep South)
- seasons NOT capitalized (spring, summer, autumn, winter)

A recent example from TAR is "Ogden-area mountains" where "mountains" is not capitalized because this is not an actual place name, but rather a term to encompass all the mountains in the Ogden area. Actually, portions of several different mountain ranges make up the center's work zone. So even if the avalanche center there refers to their general area as "Ogden Area Mountains" on their Web site or in their season summary - that capitalization is incorrect. You might have to look at a map to make sure.

- "Western" or "West" when referring to "the West" as a region - not as an actual direction (eg: Located on the west side of Jackson Hole, the Cowboy Bar is one of the worst tourist traps in the West.)
- "Internet" is always capitalized because it is considered a proper place.
- "Web site" - because Web is a shortened form of a proper place: the World Wide Web. (WRONG: web site or website)

## EXCLAMATION POINTS

- often overused: limit to none or very few

## NO DOUBLE SPACES after periods or colons

## SEMICOLONS and DASHES

- separate two independent clauses with no coordinating conjunction such as "and" (eg: It was an incredible season; it never stopped snowing. Also: It was an incredible season—it never stopped snowing.)
- separate items in a list that contains commas (eg: The trip included stops in Rexburg, Idaho; Ennis, Montana; and Jackson, Wyoming.)
- Here are correct spellings of a few common TAR words: widespread, snowpit, snowpack, snowfall, backcountry, snowboarder, warmup, highmark, inbounds, fundraising, jetstream, bombproof, filmmaker, rework, freeriders, multiple burials, judgment, backcountry, human factor.
- The following combinations should be hyphenated: on-line, heli-ski, wet-slab, dry-slab.
- Because it is so commonly used in this context, TAR style is to write "decision-making," "decision-makers," etc., as a compound word. (eg: One component of backcountry decision-making is terrain evaluation.)