

RESORT SLOPE AND TRAIL SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY CODE

Responsibility for safety on slopes and trails is shared by skiers, riders and the resorts. Skiers and riders should reasonably abide by the NSAA's "Your Responsibility Code" posted at most resorts. This *Resort Slope and Trail Safety Responsibility Code* lists the minimum safety measures resorts should undertake to maintain a reasonably safe and predictable environment for responsible skiers and riders.

1. Warn of and mark the full extent of hazards that approaching skiers and riders may not see so they have ample time to stop or avoid them.
2. Close access to areas with "unskiable" and / or "unrideable" conditions such as significant avalanche risk, steep ice, exposed ground, continuous cliffs, hazardous visibility, etc.
3. Maximize visibility, place advance warning signs, and separate merging skier/ rider traffic with fences or ropes at blind and widely divergent ability intersections.
4. Control skier/ rider speeds in designated "family" and "slow" areas and where narrowing slopes and trails constrict traffic flow.
5. Clearly sign and rope off terrain parks and unmanaged areas to prevent inadvertent skier/ rider entry. Keep more advanced skier/ riders from traversing beginner learning areas.
6. Post highly visible signs/ markings along resort boundaries to make boundaries continuously obvious, especially in inclement weather. Clearly warn of extreme hazards beyond the boundary.
7. Prominently post and locate designated trail names with difficulty ratings on the resort trail map and on the trails so as to enable skiers to make appropriate, informed trail selection decisions.
8. Construct all hazard marking, signs, rope lines, and fences with colors and materials that attract attention, and that easily breakaway or minimize potential impact injuries.
9. Standardize signs, hazard markings and difficulty ratings. Clearly explain their intended meanings in "Keys" included as part of printed and enlarged trail maps posted in highly visible locations throughout the resort.
10. Protect man-made and other obstacles on or near trails to effectively deflect or absorb impacts at and from predictable skier/ rider speeds and directions. Isolate or protect lift lines from approaching skiers and riders.
11. Maintain terrain park features to the International Ski Federation (FIS) or professionally engineered standards to minimize effective fall heights to less than 3'. Mark all jump start and take-off points.
12. Park all vehicles and operate all non-emergency vehicles such that skiers/ riders can't encounter them. Operate all emergency vehicles with flags, flashing lights, and sirens.
13. Equip all chairlifts with restraint bars. Maintain and operate all lifts, including loading, unloading and staging areas to best practice safety standards for common carriers. Require small children to be accompanied by a responsible adult.
14. Control reckless and dangerous behavior and remove noncompliant skiers/ riders.
15. Direct, equip and provide well trained and sufficient staff to effectively monitor and patrol open slopes and trails and provide state of the art outdoor winter emergency rescue and medical care.

16. Prominently post this Resort Slope and Trail Safety Responsibility Code. Maintain a comprehensive, publicly accessible resort safety plan and five years of complete resort accident statistics.

This "Mountain Resort Responsibility Code" is authored and endorsed by the non-profit SnowSport Safety Foundation. For more information on mountain resort safety go to www.snowsport safety.org