

## IMPORTANT NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The content of this **Family Safety Report Card** (The Report Card) is educational and informational in nature and is not intended as minimum standards, recommendations or other legal or professional advice. The Report Card does not approve, disapprove, certify, recommend or endorse mountain resort facilities. It is based on the best available public information, including resort responses to requests for information, resort websites and the **SnowSport Safety Foundation** (SSF) **California Mountain Resort 2016/17 Safety Survey** (The Onsite Survey) found on SSF's website ([www.snowsportsafety.org](http://www.snowsportsafety.org)). The Onsite Survey is designed and supervised by a snow sport safety expert and is based on observations of a limited set of safety practices made on a single random day in 2016 or 2017. It may not reflect current individual or collective resort safety practices. The Report Card grading of the elements of Categories I, II, & III was directly derived from the 1-10 scoring of the same elements in The Onsite Survey. When consulted, The Onsite Survey expert indicated the boundary safeguard observations reported complete enough to score or grade. He deemed the documented observations reported on the elements of *Terrain Parks Design and Engineering*, Category III, reasonably accurate but the absence of any information on a critical element, feature engineering, made overall grading unreliable. All resorts have been notified of the availability of The Onsite Survey on the SSF website, and, to date, SSF has not received any comments or requests for corrections from any resort. The grades reported in Category IV were based on resort responses, or lack thereof, to the **Family Safety Survey** (The Paper Survey) found on the SSF website at <http://www.snowsportsafety.org/documents/SSF-Resort-Family-Safety-Survey.pdf> and mailed by SSF to the resorts in July 2012. The Paper Survey requests updated information on all of the safety elements and practices included in the Onsite Survey, as well as some additional information on safety policies and procedures. As of the date of publication of this **Report Card**, tSSF has not received any completed Paper Surveys, comments or updated information from any resort. SSF disclaims any and all warranties and/or responsibility for the information contained in this **Report Card** or its use in evaluating, managing, operating, constructing or using mountain resort facilities. Users of this Report Card should confer with a snow sport safety expert of their choosing or seek information/clarification directly from the resorts regarding any issues or concerns raised by the information in this Report Card.

The Snowsport Safety Foundation is a not-for-profit organization. Its purpose is: **to encourage and enable ski area safety improvement through research, education and public access to reliable safety information.**



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**SnowSport  
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# CALIFORNIA SKI AREA FAMILY SAFETY REPORT CARD 2017

## *Safety Is Not By Accident*



**SAFETY IS A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY.  
MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE OF SKI RESORTS.**

### I. IMPACT PREVENTION DEVICES AND SYSTEMS

OVERALL: **C**

* Lift related structures safeguards	<b>F</b>
* Snowmaking equipment safeguards	<b>D</b>
* Air and water pipe safeguards	<b>A-</b>
* Outbuilding safeguards	<b>F</b>
* Parked vehicle safeguards	<b>B+</b>
* Beginner trail tree safeguards	<b>A-</b>
* Side sloping trail safeguards	<b>C</b>
* Chairlift safety bars	<b>C</b>

### II. TRAIL DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE

OVERALL: **C+**

* Blind intersection safeguards	<b>B-</b>
* Mixed ability intersection safeguards	<b>B-</b>
* Traffic congestion controls	<b>A</b>
* Learning area traffic safeguards	<b>A-</b>
* Family area speed controls	<b>C</b>
* Moving vehicle safeguards	<b>D+</b>
* Surface hazard safeguards	<b>C+</b>
* Terrain hazard safeguards	<b>D</b>
* Natural and unmanaged area entry safeguards	<b>B</b>

### III. TERRAIN PARK DESIGN AND ENGINEERING

OVERALL: **D**

* Defined boundaries	<b>B-</b>
* Posted feature difficulty ratings	<b>C+</b>
* Spotters required	<b>F</b>
* Speed controls	<b>F</b>
* Half-pipe rope off	<b>C</b>
* Features engineered	ND
* Jump take offs flagged	<b>C</b>

### IV. SAFETY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

* Regularly updated safety plan available on website and request	<b>F</b>
* Standardized signage and signage key on trail map and website	<b>F</b>
* Death and injury monitoring, tracking and reporting	ND
* Designated safety / injury prevention officer or manager	ND
* Systematic accident reviews	ND
* Patroller qualifications and staffing	ND
* Employee and patron safety issue reporting and follow-up	ND
* Reckless skier monitoring and sanctions	ND
* Equipment operator drug use testing	ND
* Alcohol service on slopes	ND
* Child and staff helmet use requirements	ND
* Child accompaniment requirements	ND

The overall averages for the categories above do not yet include data from nine resorts whose surveys were delayed into the 2017 season.

### OVERALL AVERAGE GRADE (CATEGORIES I AND II) AND RANKING

All Resorts ..... **C**

#### LARGE RESORTS (4 LIFTS OR MORE)

All Large Resorts (Ranking 1-22). ..... **C**

RESORT	GRADE	RANK <sup>1</sup>
Alpine Meadows	<b>C+</b>	10
Bear Mountain	<b>C</b>	15
Bear Valley	<b>C+</b>	7
Boreal	<b>D+</b>	19
China	<b>D</b>	21
Diamond Peak (NV)	<b>C</b>	16
Dodge Ridge	<b>B-</b>	2
Donner Ski Ranch	<b>D</b>	20
Heavenly	<b>C+</b>	8
Homewood	<b>C-</b>	18
June Mountain	<b>C+</b>	6
Kirkwood	<b>B-</b>	1
Mammoth	<b>C+</b>	9
Mount Shasta	<b>C</b>	17
Mountain High	<b>C</b>	15
Mt Baldy	<b>F</b> <sup>2</sup>	22 <sup>2</sup>
Mount Rose (NV)	<b>C+</b>	3
Northstar	<b>C</b>	12
Sierra at Tahoe	<b>C</b>	14
Snow Summit	<b>C</b>	13
Snow Valley	<b>C+</b>	4
Squaw Valley	<b>C</b>	11
Sugar Bowl	<b>C</b>	5

#### SMALL RESORTS (LESS THAN 4 LIFTS)

All Small Resorts (Ranking 1-6) ..... **B**

RESORT	GRADE	RANK <sup>1</sup>
Badger Pass	<b>B</b>	2
Cedar Pass	<b>B</b>	3
Granlibakken	<b>A-</b>	1
Mt Waterman	<b>C</b>	6
Soda Springs	<b>B-</b>	5
Tahoe Donner	<b>B-</b>	4

#### GRADING

90%\* and above . **A**  
 85-90%\* ..... **A-**  
 80-85%\* ..... **B+**  
 70-80%\* ..... **B**  
 65-70%\* ..... **B-**  
 60-65%\* ..... **C+**  
 50-60%\* ..... **C**  
 45-50%\* ..... **C-**  
 40-45%\* ..... **D+**  
 30-40%\* ..... **D**  
 25-30%\* ..... **D-**  
 <25%\* or fail .... **F**

ND = Not disclosed on direct request

\* Consistent use of most effective safeguards

<sup>1</sup> Ranks are based on the actual numerical scores in the survey.

<sup>2</sup> Mt Baldy could not be surveyed in 2016 or 2017 because of closure due to weather conditions. Its grade and rank are based on the 2011 Report Card. This grade and related numerical score are not included in the all 2017 resort average. Mountain management should be contacted regarding any improvements in the measured safety practices since the earlier survey.



To view the detail from each resort, visit [snowsportsafety.org](http://snowsportsafety.org)