



# CERTIFICATION LEVELS AND COMPETENCIES

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## About this document

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# ABOUT NZSIA

The New Zealand Ski Instructors Alliance was founded in 1971 and was recognised by ISIA in 1977.

In 2001 our name was changed to New Zealand Snowsports Instructors Alliance to reflect the changing nature of snowsports and the various divisions within our organisation.

These divisions are: Ski, Snowboard, Telemark, Adaptive and Coaching.

In 2007 Snowboard Division developed their own branding; Snowboard Instruction New Zealand or SBINZ.

## Vision

"To be a global leader in Snowsports professional development."

## Mission Statement

"Delivering with excellence, internationally recognized Snowsports qualifications and professional development."

- » To be New Zealand's certification body for Snowsports Instruction in accordance with the ISIA minimum standards.
- » To provide premier training and continued education of Snowsports Instructors within New Zealand.
- » To act in accordance with our values and guiding principles, which are: Fairness, team work, innovation, passion, transparency and cultural diversity.
- » To further the recognition of Snowsports Instructors and their role within the industry.



# INSTRUCTOR TRAINING IN NEW ZEALAND

In 2009 NZSIA/SBINZ trained 1500 instructors at seven of New Zealand's ski resorts. Of these, 600 were new to the industry with the other 900 were existing instructors taking further training or qualification courses. NZSIA Membership has increased steadily from 700 in the year 2000 to 1650 in 2010. It started to drop after 2010 and by 2012 membership was back at 1200. Then by the end of 2015 membership was on the rise again, back up to 1300. Since then, membership has kept increasing, now passing 2400. This increase was a result of the development of our international operations, making NZSIA becoming a 12 month a year operation.

In the early days of the NZSIA instructors usually came to our exams after a season as a rookie in a ski school. Schools provided preparation for the exams in exchange for help during the peak holiday times and/or weekends. Today rookie programmes through the Snowsports Schools are not as available as they have been in the past. Most aspiring instructors gain their qualifications by participating in a Training Programme. Working instructors still receive training at their Snowsports School to help them progress through the qualification levels.

Avenues for additional exam preparation include:

## **Snowsports Schools**

New Zealand Snowsports Schools generally provide extensive free training for their instructors and rookie instructors in the areas of:

- » Customer service
- » Operational procedures
- » Safety management including Occupational Health and Safety
- » Specific resort culture and values
- » Training towards NZSIA exams

## **Commercial Training Programmes**

There are many commercial training programmes available within New Zealand, offering courses of varying lengths to prospective instructors. Snowsports Schools are also involved in these preparation courses. Some are for one or two days per week, others are full time for up to three months and may include a full package of accommodation, transport, lifts etc. Typically, these programs will have contracts with Snowsports Schools to provide the on-snow portion of their training.

## **Polytechnic Courses**

There are a variety of courses offered by national educational bodies. Generally, a year long, these courses will provide more extensive classroom sessions as well as on-snow training and work experience options. Students graduate with National Certificates in Snowsports Instruction or Snow Patrolling as well as NZSIA/SBINZ Level One & Two certificates.

# SKI INSTRUCTOR PROGRESSION

## Ski Level One 5.5 days / 39 hrs

Personal skiing, demos, teaching assessment, skier analysis and lesson planning, eLearning test.

2nd Language interview

Children's Certification L1  
2 days / 14 hrs

Children's Certification L2 2.5 days / 25 hrs

Free Ski L1  
3.5 days / 25 hrs

OR  
Race One  
3.5 days / 25 hrs

## Ski Level Two 8.5 days / 59.5 hrs

Personal skiing, demos, teaching assessment, skier analysis, lesson planning and eLearning test.

2nd Discipline

5.5 days / 39 hrs

Avalanche Awareness  
4 days / 28 hrs

First Aid  
2 days / 14 hrs

## Ski Level Three 11 days / 77 hrs

Personal skiing, demos, teaching assessment, skier analysis and lesson planning, technical discussion and eLearning test.

Tourism

1 day / 7 hrs

History & Culture  
1 day / 7 hrs

Environment and nature  
1 day / 7 hrs

Professional Development Camp\*

3 days / 21 hrs

Alpine Race Coach  
7 days / 49v hrs

Vocational Training  
32 hrs

**ISIA Stamp 89 days / 623 hrs \*Includes 35 days of optional training**

## Trainers Certificate 7 days / 49 hrs

**Avalanche One**  
7 days / 49 hrs

## Professional Development Camp\* 3 days / 21 hrs

## ISIA Speed Test

## Written Project 5 days / 35 hrs

**ISIA Card 111 days / 569 hrs \*Includes 38 hrs of optional training**

# SKI LEVEL ONE CERTIFICATION

**Description**

The Ski Level One Certification is the entry-level instructor's course aimed at people interested in joining the snowsports industry. A Level One Ski Instructor is certified to teach beginner and advanced-beginner skiers (class levels one and two).

The course includes five-days on snow and an eLearning course and covers teaching adults and children from first time to wedge turning, teaching skills models and learning process, class handling and safety, skier analysis, technical information and fundamental skill demonstrations – all within the class levels one and two.

During assessments candidates must display competencies in four components.

**Competencies****Personal Skiing** (continually assessed throughout course)

- » Parallel turns demonstrating a centered position, leg steering to create edge angle, a stable upper-body and balance on the outside ski.
- » Able to ski confidently and in control on all intermediate and some advanced terrain using a variety of turn sizes.

**Fundamental Skill Demonstrations**

(continually assessed throughout course)

- » Linked wedge turns demonstrating a centred position, leg steering, and upper body stability.

**Teaching** (assessed through 3 teaching scenarios throughout the course)

- » Uses NZSIA teaching skills models, together with NZSIA Technical concepts to teach adult and children's lessons up to wedge turns.
- » Understands different learning styles.
- » Displays safe class handling.
- » Displays enthusiasm and passion for skiing and mountain environment.

**eLearning Course** (assessed through open-book format)

- » Basic skier analysis.
- » Lesson planning.
- » Knowledge of NZSIA manual.

# SKI LEVEL TWO CERTIFICATION

**Description**

The Ski Level Two Certification is aimed at instructors wanting to progress within the snowsports industry to teaching students at higher levels (class levels three and four). The minimum requirement to sit Level Two is Ski Level One or equivalent foreign qualification.

A Level Two Ski Instructor is certified to teach up to advanced-intermediate (class level four). The course includes seven days on snow, an eLearning course and two evening classes off snow and covers teaching progressions from wedge parallel turns to advanced-parallel turns with a pole plant, teaching skills models and learning process, class handling and safety, skier analysis, lesson planning, technical information and fundamental skill demonstrations – all for class levels two, three and four.

Candidates must display competencies in four components.

**Competencies****Personal Skiing** (assessed on final 2 days)

- » Skiing with consistent NZSIA mechanics demonstrating a centered position with lower-body steering and edging the skis, a stable upper-body and balance on the outside ski.
- » Controls speed on all terrain using turn shape.
- » Displays carving skills on groomed terrain.
- » Short turns on most terrain displaying consistent NZSIA mechanics using turn shape to control speed.

**Fundamental Skill Demonstrations** (assessed on set tasks)

- » Wedge turn, wedge parallel and basic parallel turn demonstrations all showing appropriate NZSIA mechanics.

**Teaching** (assessed through 30–40min teaching scenario)

- » Uses NZSIA Teaching Skills models, together with NZSIA Technical concepts to teach adult lessons, beginner to advanced parallel turns.
- » Understands different learning styles and uses a variety of teaching styles.
- » Displays safe class handling.
- » Displays enthusiasm and passion for skiing and mountain environment.

**Analysis and Lesson Planning** (assessed during indoor sessions)

- » Able to analyse skiers from beginners through to parallel skiers.
- » Uses the NZSIA analysis structure to consistently achieve accurate analysis in a class situation.
- » Able to observe and describe the performance of the skis, the movements of the body and cause and effect relationships.
- » Able to analyse the students' needs both emotionally and technically to organise priorities & develop a common goal toward a more ideal performance.
- » Able to create a step by step lesson plan that is relevant to the analysis of the skier and facilitates the goal.
- » eLearning Course (assessed through an open book format)
- » Intermediate Skier Analysis
- » Lesson Planning
- » Knowledge of NZSIA Manual

# SKI LEVEL THREE CERTIFICATION

**Description**

The Ski Level Three Certification, is for instructors wanting to progress within the snowsports industry to teaching students in all-mountain situations. The Level Three Ski Instructor is fully-certified to teach all levels up to advanced/experts (class levels five and six). The minimum requirement for the Level Three Certification is Ski Level Two or an equivalent foreign qualification.

The pre-course includes six days on snow, an eLearning course and two evening classes followed by a four-day exam later in the season. Candidates may sit the exam any time after completing the pre-course. The aim of the pre-course is to introduce the guideline progressions for class levels five and six, as well as situational skiing, developing candidates' technical knowledge, teaching and analysis skills. As well as providing candidates with input on their skiing and give direction to further training towards the exam. Candidates should be advanced/expert skiers that can ski dynamically at speed on and off-piste in a variety of turn sizes and shapes.

Candidates must display competencies in five components.

**Competencies****Personal Skiing** (assessed on set tasks)

- » A strong skier able to dynamically ski all terrain and snow conditions.
- » Able to coordinate technique in different ways to adjust turn types, radius and for a wide variety of snow conditions.
- » Skis dynamically, at speed on groomed runs.
- » Displays dynamic carving ski performance using NZSIA technique.
- » Confident in any terrain or snow condition with a variety of turn radii.
- » Able to demonstrate versatility and adaptability - including performing a variety of skill development tasks

**Demonstrations** (assessed on set tasks)

- » Wedge turns, wedge parallel turns, basic parallel turns, short turns and dynamic medium radius turns. All demonstrations showing appropriate NZSIA mechanics.

**Teaching** (assessed through two 40min teaching scenarios)

- » Able to teach beginners to advanced.
- » Able to deliver lessons, using NZSIA Technical concepts, in ski performance or carving, using short, medium and long radius turns on-piste and in various situations including off-piste snow conditions such as powder, crud and ice and on varying terrain including steeps and moguls.
- » Expert in using the NZSIA Teaching Skills models.
- » Understands different learning styles and uses a variety of teaching styles.
- » Displays safe class handling.
- » Displays enthusiasm and passion for skiing and mountain environment.

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# SKI LEVEL THREE CERTIFICATION (CONT.)

## **Analysis and Lesson Planning** (assessed during indoor session)

- » Able to analyse skiers from beginner to advanced in any snow condition or terrain.
- » Uses an analysis structure to consistently achieve accurate analysis in a class situation.
- » Able to observe and describe the performance of the skis, movements of the body and in-depth cause and effect relationships.
- » Able to analyse the student's needs both emotionally and technically to organise priorities and develop a goal toward a more ideal performance.
- » Ability to create a clear step by step lesson plan that is relevant to the analysis of the skier and facilitates the stated goal.

## **Technical Discussion** (assessed during indoor session)

- » Has a complete and thorough knowledge of the NZSIA manual including the technical and teaching philosophies at all levels.
- » Able to develop technical concepts and communicate these clearly to students.

## **eLearning Course** (assessed through an open book format)

- » Advanced Skier Analysis
- » Lesson Planning
- » Knowledge of all Teaching and Technical concepts in the NZSIA Manual

# SKI TRAINERS' CERTIFICATION

## Description

This qualification is for fully-certified instructors (Ski Level Three or foreign highest qualification with an ISIA card) who wish to become involved with training staff at their resort or candidates for the Level One Certification.

This qualification is split into a four-day workshop with a three-day assessment later in the season. The workshop includes modules on technical knowledge, clinicing and analysis skills, teach-to-teach class levels one and two, trainer-level demos and trainer-level personal skiing. Candidates are expected to present two clinics during the workshop and will receive peer and trainer feedback.

To start the Trainers Certification process with the Trainers workshop candidates must have attained the NZSIA Ski Children's Teaching Certification Level 2 and Free Ski Level 1 or equivalent and complete the current Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 and Children's Cert. Level 2 eLearnings. It also is recommended to attend a three-day Personal Development Camp. During assessment candidates must display competencies in seven components.

## Competencies

### **Personal Skiing** (continually assessed throughout the three exam days)

- » Expert in all situations and all types of terrain.
- » Technically excellent displaying accurate mechanics of the NZSIA model.
- » Able to demonstrate excellent versatility, adaptability and control of movements with the ability to coordinate movements in many different ways from fundamental skills demonstrations, a variety of skill development tasks through to the most dynamic skiing.

### **Demonstrations** (assessed on set tasks)

- » Exemplary NZSIA demonstrations at all levels.

### **Teaching Skills Workshop** (assessed through a 20 -30min workshop scenario)

- » Able to lead and train other instructors (trainees) how to teach students
- » Competent using Teaching Skills models and presenting using a workshop style presentation
- » Able to teach trainees how to teach using the Teaching Skills models required to achieve the NZSIA Level One Teaching standard

### **Technical Skills for Beginners** (assessed through a 45 min teach to teach scenario)

- » Able to lead and train trainees what to teach students
- » Competent using a training model and structure
- » Able to teach trainees what technical skills are required to achieve the NZSIA Level One Teaching standard.

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# SKI TRAINERS' CERTIFICATION (CONT.)

## **Analysis and Coaching** (assessed during a 1-2 hour Technical Development session with Level One Trainee(s))

- » Able to develop rapport with trainee(s) and create a successful learning environment.
- » Accurate analysis of trainee(s) skiing, prioritise the technical skills and what to work on for the trainee(s) goal(s).
- » Able to negotiate a goal and coach the trainee(s) through a training plan using appropriate teaching skills to build a structure and demonstrate an understanding of the learning process.
- » Able to demonstrate Technical understanding of advanced and expert skiing.
- » Able to manage the trainee(s) safely and professionally while demonstrating a passion and enthusiasm for the sport.
- » Able to improve the trainee(s) skiing and explain to the examiners the technical reasoning for their decision-making process.
- » Able to analyse trainees' skiing using a structure that is both thorough and consistent.
- » Accurate analysis of the trainee(s) level(s), presenting what is happening to the skis and the body and why it is happening.

## **Level 2 Demonstration Analysis and Lesson Planning** (assessed during indoor session)

- » Able to demonstrate skier analysis and lesson planning to as an example to develop these skills for NZSIA Level 2 trainees
- » Able to analyse skiers from Wedge Parallel to Advanced Parallel using a structure that is both thorough and consistent
- » Able to observe and describe the performance of the skis and movements of the body
- » Able to describe in depth cause and effect relationships
- » Able to compare observed performance and relationships to more ideal performance and relationships
- » Able to analyse the student's needs both emotionally and technically to organise priorities and develop a goal toward a more ideal performance
- » Able to demonstrate a clear step by step lesson plan that is relevant to the analysis of the skier and facilitates the stated goal
- » Ability to describe multiple ways to facilitate the stated goal

## **Written Elements** (assessed via pre-submission)

- » Written Article with a minimum of 500 words suitable for publication on the NZSIA website: showing the ability to increase the knowledge of skiing, ski instructing, and equipment for all members of the NZSIA.

# RACE ONE CERTIFICATION

**Description**

This 3-day course is designed to be an introduction to racing for Ski Instructors.

The minimum requirement for this course is NZSIA Ski Level Two (or foreign equivalent) OR NZSIA Level One with proven Ski Racing Experience and completion of a written test.

The course covers:

- » Race safety
- » Race event protocol
- » Race rules
- » Course setting
- » Adapting teaching to develop students in a race environment and
- » Personal skiing skills

**Competencies**

The assessment for this course is made up of Five components. Candidates must pass all components to pass the Race One Certification.

**1. Course setting**

- » Course set meets relevant SSNZ regulations
- » Course addresses relevant safety concerns

**2. Off-Snow Planning**

Candidates' plan satisfies the following:

- » Linear and logical skill development
- » Age-appropriate skills addressed
- » Understandable for other coaches

**3. Written Test** (candidates achieve 80% in online exam)**4. Skiing - internally assessed during the course**

Ability to demonstrate the following:

- » A versatile and stable athletic stance in multiple conditions
- » Use of fore-aft movement to maintain balance
- » Use of lateral movements to gain effective edge angle while maintaining balance towards the outside ski
- » Use of rotational movements of the legs separate from the upper body
- » Use of versatile vertical movements to facilitate turns of different shapes and sizes

# ALPINE RACE COACH ACCREDITATION

**Description**

This 6 day course is designed to develop Ski Race Coaching Skills.

The minimum requirement for this course is NZSIA Ski Level Three (or foreign equivalent) OR NZSIA Level Two with previous registered race experience with SSNZ or FIS.

The course covers:

- » Race Safety
- » Course setting – GS & SL
- » Usage of brushes and dye for line
- » Race technique
- » Drills required to develop specific skills in race development
- » Dryland training for club programmes
- » Video analysis for ski racing
- » Line and tactics
- » Course inspection
- » Course reports
- » Coach relationships
- » Team captains meetings

**Competencies**

The assessment for this course is made up of two components. Candidates must pass all components to pass the Alpine Race Coach Accreditation.

**1. Course setting**

Candidate demonstrates the ability to set courses safely and within the rules.

**2. Workbook****3. Candidates complete workbook throughout the course**

- » Scoring Format
- » Scoring for Alpine Race Coach Accreditation will be in a pass/fail format with relevant comments provided as feedback.

**4. Skiing**

Candidates will receive specific feedback on their skiing/demos with respect to agreed race technique.

**Description**

The ISIA stamp certification is offered to ski Instructors who have completed the following certifications and modules described in detail in other sections of this document:

- » NZSIA Ski Level 1 or equivalent foreign qual: 5.5 days/39 hours
- » NZSIA Ski Level 2 or equivalent foreign qual: 8.5 days/59.5 hours
- » NZSIA Ski Level 3: 11 days/77 hours (provides ISIA performance level 2 in the areas of technique, and performance level 3 in the areas of methodology and didactics)
- » NZSIA second discipline to Level1: 5.5 days/39 hours (provides ISIA performance level 2 in the area of technique and performance level 3 in the areas of methodology and didactics)
- » NZSIA Children's Ski Teaching Certifications Level 1 and Level 2: 4.5 days/ 31.5 hours (provides ISIA performance level 3 in the area of methodology and didactics with specific reference to teaching children)
- » NZSIA Free Level 1 Course: 3.5 days/24.5 hours (provides ISIA performance level 2 in the area of technique)
- » Avalanche Awareness Course: 4 days/28 hours (provides ISIA performance level 2 in the area of safety on and off piste)
- » Interview in a second language (provides ISIA performance level 2 in the area of languages)
- » Tourism & Marketing on line module: 1 day/7 hours (provides ISIA performance level 2 in the area of tourism, marketing, communication, basic rights)
- » Environment and Nature on line module: 1 day/7 hours (provides ISIA performance level 2 in the area environment and nature)
- » History and Culture on line module: 1 day/7 hours (provides ISIA performance level 2 in the area history and culture).

These certifications and modules fulfil the ISIA requirements for Stamp and provide the required 320 hours of training. The following additional optional courses are available to help candidates work towards achieving ISIA stamp certification:

- » Professional Development Camp: 3 days/21 hours (helps candidates to achieve performance level 2 & 3 in the area of technique).

# ISIA CARD SKI QUALIFICATION

**Description**

In 2012 NZSIA implemented the ISIA card level qualification for ski. ISIA card requirements are as follows:

- » NZSIA Trainers Certification: 20.5 days/144 hours (provides further training towards performance level 3 in the area of technique and further training beyond performance level 3 in the areas Methodology and Didactics).
- » MSC Avalanche 1: 7 days/49 hours (provides ISIA performance level 3 in the area of ISIA Test Safety)
- » ISIA Test Technique

The Trainer Certification and Avalanche 1 combined with the previous training requirements to achieve ISIA stamp provide 77.5 days/545 hours of training. This includes 52 hours of optional training.

# SNOWBOARD INSTRUCTOR PROGRESSION

## Instructing Qualifications

**Snowboard Level One**  
5.5 days / 39 hrs

**Snowboard technique,  
teaching, analysis and  
lesson planning.**

Professional  
Development  
Camp\*  
1 days /  
7 hrs

Technical  
Indoor  
Sessions\*  
2 days /  
10 hrs

Children's  
Certification  
3 days / 21 hrs

**Snowboard Level Two**  
6.5 days / 45 hrs

**Snowboard technique,  
teaching, analysis and  
lesson planning**

2nd Discipline  
5.5 days /  
39 hrs

Avalanche  
Awareness  
4 days /  
28 hrs

First Aid  
2 days /  
14 hrs

**Snowboard Level Three**  
8.5 days / 60 hrs

**Snowboard technique,  
teaching, analysis and  
lesson planning**

2nd Language  
interview

Park & Pipe  
5.5 days /  
38 hrs

Environment  
and nature  
1 day / 7 hrs

Tourism  
1 day / 7 hrs

History &  
Culture  
1 day / 7 hrs

Vocational  
Training  
32 hrs

**ISIA Stamp 50 days / 349 hrs \*Includes 17 hrs optional training**

# SNOWBOARD LEVEL ONE CERTIFICATION

## Description

Formerly the Certificate Snowboard Instruction (or CSI), the Snowboard Level One Certification is the entry-level instructor's course aimed at people interested in joining the snowsports industry. The five-day course includes modules covering rider improvement, the teaching model, progressions for levels one and two students, guest service elements, teaching children, class handling and safety. Instructors qualified at this level of certification can teach up to making first turns on beginner terrain.

Candidates must display competencies in three components:

## Competencies

### **Personal Riding** (continually assessed throughout course)

- » Able to ride in control and with good form on intermediate terrain.
- » Able to ride switch in control on green groomed runs.
- » Able to perform a 50-50 on a box.
- » Able to perform an Ollie.
- » Able to ride with versatility and perform flat land 360's and a turn size and rythm change in control on green terrain.

### **Demonstrations** (assessed on set tasks)

- » Can perform demonstrations of straight glide, 'J turns', side-slips, floating leaf, skidded traverses, garlands, and 'C turns' showing appropriate stance, movements and board performance.
- » Can demonstrate linked basic skidded turns on beginner terrain.

### **Teaching** (assessed through 15-20min teaching scenario)

- » Can teach a beginner lesson through to linking turns.
- » Shows guest service elements
- » Has some knowledge of teaching children.
- » Displays safe class handling.

# SNOWBOARD LEVEL TWO CERTIFICATION

## Description

Formerly known as Stage One, The Snowboard Level Two Certification is aimed at instructors wanting to progress within the snowsports industry to teaching students at higher levels (SBI levels three and four). The minimum requirement to sit the Level Two Certification is Snowboard Level One, or equivalent foreign qualification or NZSIA Ski Level Two. Instructors qualified to this level can teach anything up to carving on intermediate terrain, introduce off-piste terrain and basic freestyle. Candidates must display competencies in four components.

## Competencies

### **Personal Riding** (continually assessed throughout course)

- » Able to consistently ride in control, with efficiently blended movements and appropriate turn shape on all groomed intermediate terrain.
- » Able to consistently ride in control and show adaptability and versatility on intermediate off-piste terrain.
- » Able to consistently link switch turns on beginner/easy intermediate terrain with good form, rhythm and turn shape.

### **Demonstrations** (assessed on set tasks)

- » Able to demonstrate linked regular and switch skidded turns with strong stance, turn shape and blending of appropriate board performances.
- » Able to demonstrate basic edged turns on easy intermediate terrain.
- » Can consistently and cleanly perform basic freestyle manoeuvres: Straight airs, ollies, nose and tail rolls, frontside and backside 180s, flat land 360s, and on a box, perform a 50/50, nose or tail press, and a board slide.
- » Able to demonstrate versatility and adaptability within an on trail “freerun” blending in freestyle and carving.

### **Teaching** (assessed through 20-30min teaching scenario)

- » Applies all elements of the teaching cycle for an intermediate lesson, including assessing student's weaknesses and setting correctional focuses.
- » Shows strong guest service elements – student comfort, using names, being upbeat, friendly and polite, assisting students where necessary.
- » Aware of all elements for teaching fun, safe and effective children's lessons.
- » Can move the class around the hill in a safe manner and set appropriate meeting points and addresses both goofy/regular riders.
- » Understands different learning styles and uses a variety of teaching styles.

### **Analysis and Lesson Planning** (assessed during indoor session)

- » Uses the SBINZ movement analysis structure to achieve accurate analysis in a class situation for riding levels one, two, three and four.
- » Able to create lesson plans for all four riding levels by negotiating goals, using analysis, organising priorities and developing a linear approach with body movements and board performances to achieve results.
- » Shows knowledge of both corrective and developmental focuses.

# SNOWBOARD LEVEL THREE CERTIFICATION

## Description

Formerly Stage Two, the Snowboard Level Three Certification is for instructors wanting to progress within the snowsports industry to teaching students in all-mountain and elementary terrain park situations (SBI levels five and six). The minimum requirements for the Level Three Cert is SBINZ Level Two or equivalent foreign qualifications.

The course is split into two, three-day module workshops. Riding workshop and a Teaching/Analysis workshop. Both are three days in length.

Content covered in the workshop include rider improvement in all-mountain terrain (off-piste), and terrain parks. Teaching level five and six progressions, movement analysis at levels five and six, class handling and safety in all-mountain situations.

The Level Three EXAM is split into three assessment modules, Riding module (2 days long), Developmental Teaching module (1 day), and Analysis / Corrective Teaching module / (1 day).

Candidates must display competencies in four components.

## Competencies

### **Personal Riding** (assessed on snow throughout the two day exam)

- » Focuses heavily on versatility and adaptability in all situations.
- » Able to perform high-end dynamic riding in any situations including steeps, bumps, crud, ice, powder, park, etc.
- » Able to ride switch on and off-piste with appropriate blend of movements.

### **Demonstrations** (assessed on snow to set tasks throughout the two day exam)

- » Can perform a variety of turn types and shapes off-piste demonstrating a good blend of movements while showing rhythm and flow.
- » Can consistently and cleanly perform freestyle manoeuvres including straight airs, frontside and backside 360s over park jumps or natural features, board slides and nose and tail press on boxes and flat rails.

### **Rider Analysis / Corrective Teach Exam (1 Day)** (assessed within a written and on snow exam)

- » Able to analyse an advanced rider on challenging terrain or park features and any snow type.
- » Can observe and describe what the board and body movements are with in-depth understanding of cause & effect relationships.
- » Able to question and prioritise inefficiencies and communicate and deliver a constructive lesson plan.
- » Can utilize tactical approach and when to apply it - S.C.O.P.E (Safety, Capabilities, Options, Preparation, Execution).

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# SNOWBOARD LEVEL THREE CERTIFICATION (CONT.)

## **Developmental Teaching Exam (1 Day)** (on snow assessment)

- » Able to present a peer-to-peer developmental lesson focused at the group's own riding level by adjusting to their learning styles, showing understanding and relevance to teaching models and methodologies within the SBINZ system.



# SNOWBOARD TRAINERS' CERTIFICATION

## Description

This qualification is for fully-certified instructors (Snowboard Level Three or equivalent) who wish to become involved with training staff at their resort or candidates for Level One and Two Certifications.

This qualification is split into a five-day workshop with a three-day assessment later in the season. The workshop includes modules on clinicing skills, Level One and Two training, Level Three demos and personal rider improvement. Rider analysis is also covered via video. Candidates are expected to present a clinic during the workshop and will receive peer and trainer feedback.

During assessment candidates must display competencies in six components.

## Competencies

### **Personal Riding** (assessed throughout the three exam days)

- » Expert riding in all situations and all types of terrain.
- » Able to perform high-end and versatile turn tasks based around the turn type, size, shape, direction, edged/skidded, including both basic and dynamic movement patterns, steeps and bumps situations, toe-to-toe/heel-to-heel, bump riding and carving.
- » Can ride the whole mountain regular or switch showing tactics for the snow and terrain situation, as well as good use of terrain and personal flare while remaining balanced and in control.

### **Demonstrations** (assessed on set tasks)

- » Exemplary SBINZ demonstrations from instructor levels 1, 2 or 3 (CSI, Stage One or Stage Two).
- » Able to perform the following freestyle demonstrations; frontside and backside 360s off of natural or terrain park jumps, switch 50-50 on a rail or box, 90-degree rotation on and off a box, a pivot and pressure move on a box, straight air with a grab on a medium sized terrain park jump.

### **Teach to Teach** (assessed in 30min teach to teach assessment)

- » Able to lead and train other instructors (trainees) to teach students.
- » Competent using a training model and structure.
- » Able to teach trainees how to teach all the elements required to achieve the SBINZ Level One standard.

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# SNOWBOARD TRAINERS' CERTIFICATION (CONT.)

## **Instructor Development Clinic** (assessed with group of peers up to 55mins)

- » Able to develop and lead a rider improvement clinic to coach participants towards achieving a specific outcome in improving technique.
- » Able to identify and use different training styles according to the learning needs of the group.

## **Movement Analysis** (assessed through 30min indoor session)

- » Able to analyse a Level One candidate's riding using a consistent structure that is both thorough and efficient.
- » Accurate analysis of the trainee level presenting what is happening to the board and the body and why it is happening.
- » Able to use a questioning-based style to discover the rider's awareness and then give appropriate feedback.
- » Shows more detailed understanding on SBINZ teaching and training theory through a technical discussion.

## **Written Elements** (assessed via pre-submission articles/resources)

- » Written article with a minimum of 500 words suitable for publication on the SBINZ website: showing the ability to increase the knowledge of snowboarding, snowboard instructing, snowboard equipment for all members of the SBINZ.
- » 10-week training calendar: to show planning and preparation in training participants towards Level One (CSI) and Level Two (Stage One) exams.

# PARK AND PIPE CERTIFICATION

## Description

The Park And Pipe Certification is designed for those instructors who want to get more involved with teaching freestyle in and out of the terrain park and halfpipe. The freestyle components take the next step up from those contained in the Level Two snowboard instructor certification and have a strong focus on park/pipe safety and etiquette. This Certification is split into two modules; Terrain Park Module, 2 day workshop, 1 day exam. Half Pipe Module, 1 day workshop, 1 day exam.

Park Module riding standards for this cert involves: Small jumps 2-3m (from lip to knuckle), straight airs (forwards & switch) with various grabs. 2x 180s & 2x 360s in forwards direction, Medium jump 3-5m from lip to knuckle, a – spin of your choice (doesn't have to be a 360) with a smooth takeoff, solid in the air, and landing in the sweet spot. Jibs consist of 50-50s, boardslides (both front and back), nose/tail presses, and 180-off, on boxes or basic rails. Plus a front or backside 50-50 on a street/urban approach feature.

Halfpipe / Pipe Module riding standards: Primary focusing on technique NOT amplitude outcome. This should include appropriate speed control and edging skills to be able to flatten your base through the transition with edge change consistently in the vert. A grab on both walls in or above the vert. Versatility tasks (below the lip of a Super pipe) will be; Air to fakie or 360s. Or drop in and out's from deck to deck or a switch run (close to the lip of a mini pipe).

Candidates will be trained in basic movement analysis skills on snow and/or via video. Candidates will be assessed on both the riding elements and a brief teaching presentation where they will be expected to introduce freestyle skills utilising A.T.T.L (Approach Take-Off Trick Landing) as well as elements of safety, park etiquette and fun.

# TELEMARK LEVEL ONE CERTIFICATION

**Description**

This Certification is the entry-level Telemark Instructors course aimed at people interested in developing their personal telemark skiing and introducing others to the sport. A Level One Telemark Instructor is certified to teach beginner and advanced-beginner skiers (class levels one and two).

The four-day course includes teaching students from the telemark position to beginner telemark turns the teaching model and learning process, class handling and safety, skier analysis, technical information and demonstrating – all within the class levels one and two.

During assessments candidates must display competencies in three components.

**Competencies****Personal Skiing** (continually assessed throughout course)

- » Able to ski confidently on all groomed intermediate and some intermediate off-piste maintaining the telemark form.

**Demonstrations**

- » Demonstrate range of movement appropriate for the terrain while showing smooth and balanced lead changes and linking turns with smooth rhythm.

**Teaching**

- » Understands different learning styles.
- » Displays safe class handling.
- » Displays enthusiasm and passion for skiing and mountain environment.

# TELEMARK LEVEL TWO CERTIFICATION

**Description**

Telemark level two is for Telemark Instructors wanting to progress their personal telemark skiing and teaching students at higher levels (class levels three and four). The minimum requirement to sit Level Two is Telemark Level One, or equivalent foreign qualification. A Level Two Telemark Instructor is certified to teach up to advanced-intermediate (class level four).

The five-day course includes teaching progressions from introducing the diagonal up to intermediate turns with a pole plant, the teaching model and learning processes, class handling and safety, skier analysis, lesson planning, technical information and demonstrating.

During assessments candidates must display competencies in four components.

**Competencies****Personal Skiing** (continually assessed throughout course)

- » Free skiing with consistent NZSIA 'telemark form' skiing on and off-piste, with and without poles, and including a pole plant.
- » Controls speed on all terrain using turn shape.
- » Displays carving skills on groomed terrain.
- » Short turns on most terrain displaying consistency, using turn shape to control speed.
- » Understands and uses the three lead change options.

**Demonstrations** (assessed on set tasks)

- » Beginner turns, intermediate turns on-piste with and without pole plants.
- » Ski Jump turns, check hop and two-step drop turns.

**Teaching**

- » Understands different learning styles and uses a variety of teaching styles.
- » Displays safe class handling.
- » Displays enthusiasm and passion for skiing and mountain environment.

**Analysis and Lesson Planning**

- » Able to analyse skiers from beginners through to intermediate level skiers.
- » Understand NZSIA telemark analysis structure to consistently achieve accurate analysis in a class situation.

# TELEMARK LEVEL THREE CERTIFICATION

**Description**

This certification is for Telemark Instructors wanting to progress within the snowsports industry to teaching students in all-mountain situations. The Telemark Level Three Instructor is fully-certified to teach all levels up to advanced/ experts (class levels five and six). The minimum requirements for the Level Three Certification is Telemark Level Two or an equivalent foreign qualification. The six-day course and exam introduce the guidelines for class levels five and six, as well as situational telemark skiing, teaching further technical knowledge and analysis skills, providing candidates with input on their skiing and giving direction to further training toward the exam.

During assessments candidates must display competencies in four components.

**Competencies****Personal Skiing** (continually assessed throughout course)

- » A strong telemark skier able to dynamically ski all terrain and snow conditions.
- » Able to coordinate technique in different ways to adjust turn types, radius and for a wide variety of snow conditions.
- » Skis dynamically, at speed on groomed runs
- » Displays correct technical ski carving and ski performance.
- » Confident in any terrain or snow condition with short and longer turns.
- » Able to demonstrate versatility and adaptability - including performing a variety of skill development tasks.

**Demonstrations** (assessed on set tasks)

- » The full telemark progression from straight running to carving on piste and off-piste. Demonstrate situational telemarking skills using appropriate movements to maintain good form.

**Teaching**

- » Able to teach beginners to advanced.
- » Able to deliver lessons in ski performance or carving, short, medium and long radius turns in varying snow conditions including powder, off-piste and ice and varying terrain including steep and moguls.
- » Understands different learning styles and uses a variety of teaching styles.
- » Displays safe class handling.
- » Displays enthusiasm and passion for skiing and mountain environment.

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# TELEMARK LEVEL THREE CERTIFICATION (CONT.)

## **Analysis and Lesson Planning**

- » Able to analyse telemark skiers from beginner to advanced in any snow condition or terrain.
- » Able to analyse the student's needs both emotionally and technically to organise priorities and develop a common goal.
- » Lesson plans will display a clear structure and simple approach to achieve the desired results for classes or individuals.

## **Technical Discussion**

- » Has a complete and thorough knowledge of the NZSIA telemark manual including the technical and teaching philosophies at all levels.
- » Able to develop technical concepts and communicate these clearly to students.

# ADDITIONAL COURSES

## Avalanche Course

The four-day Avalanche Course is intended for Ski, Snowboard and Telemark Instructors wanting to expand their knowledge of the mountain environment, to travel safely within it and impart knowledge useful for an instructor within organised area boundaries worldwide.

This qualification is required to achieve ISIA status along with your NZSIA/SBINZ Level Three instructing qualification and a second discipline. Documented attendance at a professional MSC Avalanche Stage One course or a MSC Backcountry Course is also acceptable as a cross-credit for the ISIA Avalanche Course towards gaining ISIA status.

## Children's Teaching Certification

The Children's Teaching Qualifications are aimed at Instructors interested in improving their ability and knowledge around teaching children from ages 3 to 13.

There are separate Children's Teaching Qualifications for Ski and Snowboard.

Ski Children's Cert Level 1 is 2 days in length with a prerequisite of Ski Level 1 and the Level 2 is 3 days with a prerequisite of Ski Level 2 and Children's Teaching Cert Level 1.

Snowboard Children's Teaching Cert is 3 days with a prerequisite of Snowboard Level 1.

These courses include modules for safety and group handling, the CAP model, student profiles, movement patterns, and application of the teaching model. Online learning or a written worksheet is completed throughout the courses and short teaching presentations are delivered to the rest of the group during the course.

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# ADDITIONAL COURSES (CONT.)

## Professional Development Camps

Professional Development Camps are run over three days and are open to all NZSIA members, full and associate. The purpose of these camps is to work on individual member's ski technique without exam pressure. A maximum of 1:8 trainer / participant ratio allows for excellent individual feedback. These camps are ideal for anyone who is looking to improve their skiing using a combination of coaching and mileage. We offer two different Professional Development Camps and two Free Ski Camps open to all Certified Ski Instructors. A maximum of 1:8 trainer-participant ratio allows for excellent individual feedback. These camps cater to all members wishing to improve their personal skiing.

The 3-day professional development camp is a recommended course in the ISIA Stamp/Level 3 syllabus.

## Professional Development Day (ISIA)

Professional Development Day is a one day on snow clinic which is open to all Certified Instructors who are Full or Associate members of the NZSIA. The specific purpose of this clinic is twofold:

1. To update individual members understanding of modern ski technique and teaching methodology.
2. To update individual members ski technique, using individual feedback to improve personal performance.

This one-day clinic is open to any members and is aimed at those wishing to gain development in their personal skiing and understanding. This clinic is to develop members awareness there will not be an evaluation, though some indication of member's individual abilities may be given. It is ideal for qualifying Fully Certified members to maintain their ISIA status.

## Technical Indoor Sessions

The Technical Indoor Sessions are 4 indoor evening clinics which is split into two evening sessions. Each evening clinic is 2.5 hours. These are open to all Certified Instructors who are Full or Associate members of the NZSIA. This clinic is ideal for any Instructor wishing to:

- » Develop technical understanding
- » Develop Skier analysis and Lesson Planning skills
- » Develop Teaching and presentation skills

Technical Indoor Sessions cover technical understanding, skier analysis and lesson planning, teaching, lesson planning and presentation skills. The technical indoor sessions are a recommended course in the ISIA stamp /level 3 syllabus.

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# ADDITIONAL COURSES (CONT.)

## **Free Ski Introduction**

This is a 1-day qualification that is to develop both teaching of and personal free skiing skills for Ski Instructors. The course will also focus on Park and Pipe safety and etiquette.

The prerequisite for this course is Ski Level 1.

The course will cover a variety of skills that are used in flat land situations, using the whole mountain as a playground and basic free skiing skills and short teaching presentations to the group.

Candidates will take an online course ahead of the on-snow day and be internally assessed on basic free skiing skills and short teaching presentations to the group.

## **Free Ski Level 1**

This is a 3-day qualification that is to develop both teaching of and personal free skiing skills for Ski Instructors. The course will focus on Park and pipe safety and etiquette.

The prerequisite for this course is Ski Level 2 and the online Free Ski courses.

The course will cover a variety of skills that are used in flat land situations, using the whole mountain as a playground and in the Park and Pipe. These include Butter moves, skiing switch and flat land tricks, basic jumps, beginner fun boxes and rails.

Candidates will be assessed on personal free skiing skills and the presentation of a teaching scenario to the group on day 3 of the course.

## **Environment & Nature – online module**

The online module delivering information and assessing candidates on the subject of environment and nature. The module presents information on the unique environment and nature within which ski areas in New Zealand coexist. The module will take approx. 1 day to complete

## **Tourism and Marketing – online module**

The online module delivering information and assessing candidates in the on the subject of Tourism and Marketing and its place in the NZ and international Snowsports industry. This module compliments information presented on this topic throughout level 1,2 and 3 certification courses.

## **History and Culture – online module**

The online module delivering information and assessing candidates on the topic of History and Culture of Snowsports in NZ. This module looks at the evolution of snowsports globally and in NZ from inception to the current day.

# VOCATIONAL TRAINING

In New Zealand, vocational training plays a significant part in ski instructor training and development.

Instructor training in New Zealand is quite different to European countries. We do not have a government body that regulates or advises on training. NZSIA is the only certification provider. In addition, all ski areas operate as concessions within national parks and therefore control all commercial activity on those mountains including snowsports schools.

Generally, Instructors must be employees of these Snowsports schools to work at a resort in New Zealand and cannot work independently. These schools regularly hold training sessions for their instructors to assist them to reach all levels of certification with particular emphasis on level three (Minimum level for ISIA stamp) and Trainer's Certification. This is informal training and NZSIA is not involved directly in monitoring how many hours an individual attends. An individual instructor can allocate a portion of this towards their ISIA training.

An example of the vocational training opportunities available at a major ski school in New Zealand are described below:

At the start of every winter all ski instructors have to attend one-day induction. The induction will cover many topics such as customer service, the marketing of the company, how the company is performing in the market, overall company operations and developments etc. Workshops are taken to develop customer skills and how to improve these skills in the Snowsports environment.

A further one day is then taken which is snowsports specific. This covers operations and safety issues in the ski instructors' environment. This includes a recap into avalanche rescue procedures, chairlift evacuation procedures and general safety issues on the ski area.

During the two-day training general standards of professionalism are constantly being addressed and developed.

Once employment has begun there is constant and ongoing monitoring of performance as a ski instructor. Goals are set at the beginning of the season, and mid-season appraisals and end of season appraisals are in place. These appraisals cover such areas as professionalism, knowledge and application of teaching techniques and standards, commitment to training and personal development etc.

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## VOCATIONAL TRAINING (CONT.)

During the season, each ski instructor is entitled and encouraged to attend training, on snow, and off snow in the evenings etc. These training sessions are supplied free of charge by the ski school.

As an example, a Ski Instructor training for their NZSIA Level 3/ISIA stamp qualification, would have access to:

- » 9 days of on snow training from an NZSIA qualified examiner (employed by the ski school)
- » 9 evening sessions, covering skier analysis, teaching (pedagogy), and technical understanding of skiing

Ski Instructors who are working for this particular ski school also have access, and are encouraged, to take part in NZSki-U. This is a training facility that allows ski instructors (and other employees) to take their working skills and apply them in a study situation, with the opportunity to take that study further and gain qualifications up to the standard of a Bachelor of Arts degree or a National Certificate in Tourism with strands in Snowsports. This training is free to all staff.

This is one example of additional vocational training available to ski instructors in New Zealand beyond the certification courses offered by NZSIA.