



Who/What is PSIA and AASI?

The Professional Ski Instructors of America (PSIA) and American Association of Snowboard Instructors (AASI) are nonprofit associations dedicated to promoting the sports of skiing and snowboarding through instruction. With more than 30,000 members, PSIA-AASI establishes credentialing standards for snowsports instructors and develops education materials to be used as the core components of instructor training.

With its large membership base, PSIA-AASI is a significant grassroots organization whose members spend more time with the skiing and snowboarding public than any other snowsports area employee. PSIA-AASI supports snowsports area management through research and development of instructional programs in alpine skiing, nordic skiing, and snowboarding. The association also develops education materials and programs to serve specific snowsports populations, such as children and adaptive skiers and riders.

Vision: Inspiring lifelong passion for the mountain experience

Mission: We support our members, as a part of the snowsports industry, to:

- Develop personally and professionally
- Create positive learning experiences
- Have more fun

What can PSIA-AASI Northern Rocky Mountain (NRM) offer area snowsport schools?

PSIA-AASI NRM offers education and certification clinics and events to support and develop the skills, technique and professionalism of your snowsports education staff. What impact can this have on the instructor? The area?

"I realized, after coaching everything from skiing and baseball to track and volleyball for the past 16 years, how much my movement analysis training during my PSIA years has helped me in coaching other sports. The training, in my opinion, has been invaluable, as it is not readily offered in other sports' coaching clinics."

- PSIA member/High schoolteacher and coach

"The value of being a PSIA member school goes much beyond the direct member benefits for our snowsports school. The success of our program has been recognized and utilized to go beyond traditional ski school roles within the resort. Much of this success I attribute to the professional culture that PSIA has provided. The certification system promotes professional growth, goal orientation, and staff retention. It also provides a means to structure pay scales. In addition, our training program is modeled around the system. Providing an abundance of training material to facilitate several different paths and professional goals."

"We certainly would not have the level of program we currently have without the partnership with PSIA. The value we receive from PSIA goes far beyond the annual membership fee."

- Snowsport School Director

2011-2012 PSIA-AASI NRM Professional Development Education & Training Menu

As a PSIA-AASI NRM member school you have access to a pool of divisional clinicians and examiners who have the skills, knowledge and experience to support and develop a successful snowsports program at your area.

Following is a list of education and training clinics, credentialing events and certification exams available through NRM. The list is broken down by discipline and includes alpine, snowboard, children's, telemark, cross country and freestyle options. If there is something you are interested in that is not on the list let us know and our education staff will do what they can to meet your needs.

Clinics, Exams & Credentialing Programs

Continuing Education Clinics can be either one-day or two-day events. Membership is not required to attend.

Exams & Credentialing Programs are two- or three-day events. Upon successful completion participants receive PSIA-AASI certification, which is recognized across the country. **Membership is a pre-requisite to ALL certification and credentialing events.** Other requirements may apply. Detailed information on PSIA-AASI National Standards can be found at psia-nrm.org or thesnowpros.org.

Minimum and Maximum numbers

Minimum group numbers are 6. Maximum is 10.

Fees

Standard event fees are as follows:

1-day event: \$65 per participant

2-day event; \$110 per participant

In-house Level 1 Exam*: \$150 flat fee

These rates are subject to change and must be confirmed with the NRM office in advance of scheduling an event at your area.

**All In-house Level 1 Exams must be preauthorized by the NRM office to be recognized as an official PSIA-AASI NRM certification event.*

For scheduling, fees, and membership related questions contact the NRM Office

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ALPINE

CONTINUING EDUCATION CLINICS

Video Clinics

- Personal Skiing Image – Many students are visual learners, improve your skiing image as a way to improve student understanding.
- Movement Analysis (MA) – Learn how to quickly and effectively analyze what the ski is doing on the snow and how that affects your student's progress to her goal.
- Group Management and Presence – The best teaching idea in the world will not connect with your student if it isn't presented well. We will help you create an environment conducive to learning and give you feedback on your presence in front of the group.

Skills Clinics

- Carving or Edge Control – Improve your understanding of how edge engagement is best used by students. When do we carve? When is it better to skid?
- Steeps – Develop tactics for skiing steeps
- Bumps – Develop tactics for skiing bumps

Guest Service Clinics

- Teaching Model – In each lesson we need to develop trust, assess movements, work the learning environment, give feedback, and provide debriefing and closure. In this clinic we will help instructors create a teaching model that works for them.
- Gear Expert – Increase your understanding on how gear impacts our performance and how to make the best use of the gear we have
- Building Your Group into a Team – Teaching a large group lesson can be a daunting undertaking, but it can also be a valuable and fun experience for teacher and students alike. Learn how to make connections within the large group and foster an environment where students can coach each other.
- What is Old is New - Compare and contrast what we are doing today with what has been done over the years. How much they are alike rather than different. What are some of the reasons that we think things are different. Are things really different, or are they simply looked at differently due to increased knowledge and understanding developed over time etc.?

PREP CLINICS & EXAMS

Level 1 Exam

Level 1 certification involves a 2-day evaluated clinic with a written test, skiing, teaching scenarios and technical discussions. It is intended for entry-level or first-year instructors. Successful completion designates that an instructor is knowledgeable in the fundamentals of ski instruction to include understanding the core concepts of snowsports instruction, having the ability to effectively to teach beginner lessons, and demonstrate basic skiing skills.

Level 2 Prep Clinic

This three-day event is the prerequisite for the level 2 exam and must be taken the same season as or the season before the exam. The level 2 written test is given during the clinic. The on-snow portion of the clinic covers tasks, demos, free skiing, teaching, and movement analysis. At the end of the clinic, there is an exit interview with the examiner where participants receive feedback to prepare for the exam.

Level 2 Exam

This two-day interactive exam focuses on teaching, understanding and performing effective movement patterns in skiing. This involves demonstrations, tasks, free-skiing, and teaching segments. The tasks, demonstrations and teaching segments are designed to allow every candidate the opportunity to demonstrate that they meet the Level 2 Alpine National Standards. All parts of the exam are scored. Candidates receive both written and verbal feedback at the end of the exam.

Level 3 Prep Clinic

This three-day event is the prerequisite for the level 3 exam and must be taken the same season as or the season before the exam. The level 3 written test is given during the clinic. The on-snow portion of the clinic covers tasks, demos, free skiing, teaching, and movement analysis. At the end of the clinic there is an exit interview with the examiner where participants receive feedback to prepare for the exam.

Level 3 Exam

This two-day interactive exam focuses on teaching, understanding and performing effective movement patterns in skiing. This involves demonstrations, tasks, free-skiing, and teaching segments. The tasks, demonstrations and teaching segments are designed to allow every candidate the opportunity to demonstrate that they meet the Level 3 Alpine National Standards. All parts of the exam are scored. Candidates receive both written and verbal feedback at the end of the exam.

SNOWBOARD

CONTINUING EDUCATION CLINICS

Intermediate Plateau

Explore some of the common difficulties found in riders whose skills have “stalled” within an intermediate level. Learn effective tasks and teaching concepts to help you and your students get across the plateau and into advanced skill nirvana. Video analysis included!

The Bumps

Discover new tactics for teaching and riding moguls. Video analysis included!

The Steeps

Improve your personal riding skills as well as discover new modes for teaching in this challenging terrain. An overview of “slide for life” tactics will also be addressed. Video analysis included!

Excellence in the Experience

Learn how to elevate the overall guest experience in a lesson to a rating of “excellent.”

Crave the Carve

Improve your riding and teaching abilities in the world of carving. Video analysis included!

Teaching Splits

Learn how to effectively manage students with varying ability levels in retail and school group lessons.

Teaching “Never Evers”

Improve your beginner teaching skills by focusing on proven AASI concepts. Fun solutions will be presented for the common difficulties found in first time riders.

PREP CLINICS & EXAMS

Level 1 Exam

Level 1 certification involves a 2-day evaluated clinic with a written test, riding, teaching scenarios and technical discussions. The written test is a take-home workbook, which is due in a hard copy format at the start of the first day.

Level 2 Prep Clinic and Workbook

This two-day event covers the requirements for becoming an AASI level 2 certified snowboard instructor. Receive specific feedback regarding strengths and deficiencies in the areas of riding, teaching and knowledge. This feedback is important for determining which areas individuals will need to focus on in training for the on-snow exam. The workbook must be completed with a passing score prior to participating in the on-snow exam.

Snowboard Level 2 Exam

Level 2 certification involves a three-day exam. This includes riding, teaching scenarios and technical discussions. Level 2 candidates will be assessed and scored based on the latest version of the AASI National Standards.

Level 3 Prep Clinics

This two-day event will cover the requirements for becoming a Level 3 certified snowboard instructor. Receive specific feedback regarding strengths and deficiencies in the areas of riding, teaching and knowledge. This feedback is important for determining which areas individuals will need to focus on in training for the on-snow exam.

Snowboard Level 3 Exam

Level 3 certification involves a three-day exam. This includes riding, teaching scenarios and technical discussions. Level 3 candidates will be assessed and scored based on the latest version of the AASI National Standards.

NORDIC: Cross Country & Telemark

CONTINUING EDUCATION CLINICS

Tips and Trick for Cross Country Coaches

This clinic applies the PSIA curriculum to coaching cross country racing. For beginner and intermediate coaches who want more background on the mechanics of cross country skiing. Take your youth ski team to the next level with tips and tricks for kids and adults.

Telemark Teaching Blue to Black

Take your students to new places. This clinic will focus on teaching the intermediate skier who would like to take the next step to explore varied expert terrain. Topics of the day will be: managing cornices on skis, ski with rocks, short turn, technique and tactics in the steeps and creating the line.

Basic Avalanche

The course is not a certification but an opportunity to learn more about Rescue Techniques and the ALPTRUTH model while skiing in bounds avalanche terrain. Break out your Beacons and brush up on how to find your buddy.

EVALUATED CLINICS AND EXAMS

Level 1 Exam: Cross Country & Telemark

Level 1 certification involves a two-day evaluated clinic with a written test, skiing, teaching scenarios and discussions. It is intended for entry-level or first-year instructors. This includes understanding the core concepts of snowsports instruction, having the ability to effectively to teach beginner lessons, and demonstrating basic skiing skills.

Level 2 and 3 Prep Clinic & Exam: Cross Country & Telemark

Level 2 and 3 certification is intended for upper-level instructors who have been teaching cross country or telemark for several seasons, have level 2/3 telemark or cross country certification or a level 3 in another discipline. A level 2 instructor is certified to teach intermediate nordic lessons, while a level 3 instructor is certified to teach all levels of nordic lessons. Level 2 and level 3 certification involves a 3-day, all-inclusive, preparation clinic and exam. This includes a written test workbook, skiing, teaching scenarios and discussions. Both the level 2 and 3 cross country and telemark exams are offered together as one exam. The intended certification level must be decided at the beginning of the exam.

CHILDREN'S ED

CONTINUING EDUCATION CLINICS

Please note the list below is just sampling of what we have to offer. We can combine anything and do pretty much anything. So if you don't see something here you want or you feel something is missing please contact jilljuliet@hotmail.com and we will work with you to develop the clinic to match your needs.

Games

For teaching skiing and riding skills to children

Motivation and how it relates to children and skiing.

A discussion of what motivates adults and children. Hints on how to motivate children to love and learn skiing.

Child Development

How children grow, think, and feel through all stages of development.

Teaching Children the Steeps

How to take those ripper kids to the steeps safely. Tips and tricks for managing a group in steep terrain. Progressions for developing their ownership in high-level skiing and terrain management.

Children in Avalanche Terrain - Beacon use and Fun Games

Intro to avalanche terrain and rescue techniques. Focus on basic terrain evaluation and how kids can be safe on the mountain. How to teach kids the basics of beacon rescue in a fun game like format.

Training New Instructors to Teach Children

Learn how to give new staff the skills to do their job well.

Teaching Freestyle to Children

Introductory to advanced students how to safely introduce freestyle and help them develop their skills.

Using Freestyle in Your Beginner and Intermediate Lessons

Give your staff the skills to make freestyle fun and safe

Multiple Intelligences

Everyone has a different learning style find out how to identify and teach to your students specific style and it will make it a more successful experience for everyone.

Learning Disabled Students

For the students who need extra help learn tactics and tricks to teaching a more fun and effective lesson.

ADD/ADHD

Help your instructors better understand the thought processes and learning styles of a child with ADD or ADHD.

Behavioral Challenges

Give your staff the tools they need create a team atmosphere and how to deal with behavioral challenges so everyone comes out ahead.

Developing a Team in your Children's Group Lessons

Add to your instructors' success in group lessons by helping them understand how to create a team atmosphere from the beginning of the lesson.

How to Structure your Lesson

From establishing goals, to working toward them while still having fun and staying safe in the process. Give your instructors the tools to create a framework for their lessons.

CAP Model as it Applies to Kids

How children think, feel and move at each stage and the importance of taking that into account when teaching them.

Terrain Choices and Kids

How it can make or break your students success.

Using Props in Your Lesson

How visual aids and physical tools can help your students understanding and awareness and make it more fun too.

Children's Equipment

How children's equipment will make a difference how they move on snow. Give your staff the knowledge they need to help their students.

Building a Relationship with Teens

How to connect and work with teenage students.

Establishing Trust with Any Age Child

What instructors can do to establish trust and rapport with students at any age.

Working with: Teens, Tweens, Elementary Age, Kindergarteners, Toddlers

Tips, tools, and basic knowledge about any age group and how to work with them on snow.

Cognitive Aspects Combined with Any Age

How kids think and how knowing that will help you teach them.

Affective Aspects Combined with Any Age

How kids feel and how knowing that will help you teach them.

Physical Development Combined with Any Age

How kids move and how knowing that will help you teach them.

CREDENTIALING PROGRAMS

Successful completion of the following courses grant professional recognition to the instructor and industry for their education, experience, and expertise in teaching children snowsports. These are multi-disciplinary courses. Full details of requirements can be found in the PSIA-AASI Children's Specialist National Standard available at psia-nrm.org or thesnowpros.org.

Children's Specialist 1 (CS1):

The CS1 is the entry-level children's education course for PSIA and AASI and includes an evaluation component. The course includes a written workbook; skiing/riding and teaching scenarios; and a technical discussion regarding how children/young students learn and progress from the Beginner/Novice to Intermediate Zones. Evaluations of those taking the CS1 course reflect the participants' knowledge of teaching children, and individuals.

Children's Specialist 2 (CS2):

The CS2 will continue building on the instructor's knowledge and skills from the CS1. The course focuses on the specifics of child development for young learners as they progress through the Beginner/Novice to Advanced Zones. Participants will integrate their technical understanding of the CAP model with movement analysis and teaching activities for children in the Intermediate and Advanced Zones. Evaluations of those taking the CS2 course reflect the participants' knowledge of teaching children, and teens.

NOTE: The CS2 national curriculum replaces NRM's Children's Accreditation known as A.C.E. Any current ACE instructors will automatically be referred to now as Children's Specialists 2 both nationally and within the Northern Rocky Mountain Division.

FREESTYLE

PSIA-AASI NRM offers a variety of freestyle education, coaching, and certificates. Our freestyle divisional clinicians and examiners (DCE) are experts at progression development, park safety, movement analysis, and body mechanics in all areas of freestyle.

The select group of elite freestyle riders make up the NRM Iron Team. Iron Team coaches are NRM Freestyle DCE who retain high level coaching and riding skills in all areas of freestyle. Iron Team coaches also offer personal coaching of freestyle riding to NRM members.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CLINICS

Up to 3 of the following topics can be combined into a single day event.

Safety First!

An in-depth look and safety in freestyle, group management, beginner terrain, freestyle features, park etiquette, ATML, and Smart Style.

Tactics for Coaching Flatland Maneuvers

Snowsports participants engage in these maneuvers from day one. Help them develop these skills for use across the freestyle spectrum.

Tactics for Coaching Slides on Boxes and Rails

Most snowsports participants fear the hard metal and plastic features. Create an environment for success with these coaching tactics

Tactics for Coaching Introductory Half Pipe

Half pipes are scarce, however skills for riding them are learned without an actual half pipe and are beneficial in all areas of freestyle. Learn the ways.

Tactics for Coaching Air Maneuvers

Catch some air! Develop your skills for coaching stability with jumping as well as basic maneuvers such as grabs, freestyle positions and small spins.

Movement Analysis

Develop your eye for freestyle movement. Compare and contrast movements and their results to increase your skills at affecting positive change for your clients riding.

Iron Team Coaching

This is the opportunity for participants to receive coaching on personal freestyle riding skills. Through development of personal freestyle skills, participants will gain knowledge on coaching future clients.

In addition to the clinic topics listed above the following specific freestyle events are available:

Iron Jam

Participants receive an entire day of coaching on personal freestyle riding skills. Iron Team Coaches focused on safety and fun will ride with participants to help them progress in freestyle and take away skills for coaching future clients through their personal learning experience.

Freestyle Camp

Freestyle Camp is a one-day event to help prepare participants for their Freestyle Specialist Certificates. This is a review of progressions and content as needed by the participants to maximize success at the Freestyle Specialist event.

CREDENTIALING PROGRAMS

Freestyle Specialist 1 (FS1)

This event awards participants who meet the standard with a freestyle certificate recognizing them for having comprehensive skills in safety, coaching, and riding at a basic level in all areas of freestyle.

Freestyle Specialist 2 (FS2)

This event awards participants who meet the standard with a freestyle certificate recognizing them for having advanced skill in freestyle coaching in all areas of freestyle. They must also retain advanced level riding skills in one or more areas of freestyle.