

Ski School Rules

In The Parking Lot

- Do not pack anything else in the bag with your skis or snowboards.
- Foul language is not tolerated on school property, the bus, the ferry, or the mountain.
- Do not board the bus until instructed to do so by your chaperone or bus driver.

On The Bus

- The chaperones and bus drivers are responsible for the safety of our students and integrity of our program. If they make a reasonable request regarding your behavior on the bus and you do not comply, you may be removed from our program.
- Students are expected to sit two to a seat - no saving of seats for friends is allowed.
- No kissing, caressing, or fondling is allowed - also, no sharing blankets.
- Students may not change seats, block the aisle, or obstruct the driver's view out the back window.
- Students may use electronic entertainment provided that it does not contain foul language, nudity, or graphic violence (no R or X rated films, no M rated video games)
- Never urinate on the bus! This is considered a criminal activity in the state of Washington and could result in you being a registered sex offender.
- Keep all conversations quiet and respectful.

On The Ferry

- All students must exit the bus upon arriving on the ferry.
- Students are not allowed to leave the main cabin area (no going upstairs or outside).
- No horseplay, running, shouting, or other obnoxious behavior is allowed on the ferry.
- Be sure to clean up your area before you return to the bus.

On The Mountain

- Wear a helmet and required safety gear at all times
- Do not return to the bus until the end of the day.
- Do not leave the resort area or go out of bounds.
- If you are leaving with a family member or friend, your parent must inform us in writing and meet us at the bus at the end of the day so that we know you are with them.
- Do not ski/ride any terrain that is beyond your skill level.
- You must always ride/ski with either a chaperone or another program participant
- Report all injuries to a Ski School director or chaperone.

Before Lessons

- Be sure to pay attention to announcements from chaperones when you reach the parking lot. Be sure you know when to return to the bus.
- Wait until the bus is parked to put on your gear.
- If you have a problem (missing pass, forgot boots, etc) be sure to tell your chaperone or look for a Ski School Director in the parking lot or outside Pacific Crest Lodge.
- You can rent lockers in any lodge to store your belongings.
- Lessons start at 10 a.m. It's alright to take a run or two before your lesson, but leave yourself time to get back before the start time - otherwise your whole class ends up waiting for you.
- Always wear your helmet, stay in bounds, and ski/ride with a buddy.

After Lessons

- After your lesson be sure to ask your instructor to suggest some other runs for you to try.
- You'll need to store your equipment while you grab some lunch. You have two options for storing your equipment:
Option one - put it with everyone else's and hope it doesn't get stolen. Equipment theft is rare but does happen.
Option two - pay for Equipment Check when you register and leave your skis/board in a secure area. Note: only your skis/board can be stored here - not your back pack.
- If you choose to go with Option one (most people do) you should consider either using a cable lock, or splitting up your ski by putting each one on a different rack.
- There are three lodges where you can purchase lunch: Tye Creek, Granite Peak, and Pacific Crest.
- If you brought your lunch, you can pick it up from one of the sleds outside of Pacific Crest lodge. The bus drivers sit in the upstairs of Tye Creek Lodge.
- After lunch you are on your own to practice what you learned in lessons. Remember to stay on maintained runs, ski with a buddy, wear your helmet, and ski/ride only terrain with which you are familiar.
- Always stay within bounds! Going out of bounds can get you kicked out of Ski School.
- Give yourself plenty of time to get back to the bus before the announced return time (usually 3:45)
- Don't go back to the bus too early. You can't get on until the chaperones arrive.
- Go to the bathroom! It's a long way from the pass to the ferry dock. Also, don't chug a bunch of liquids right before you leave, or you'll regret it before we reach Edmonds.

Safety Dos and Don'ts

Wear a Helmet

Your helmet is the most important piece of gear you own - never ski/ride without it! Cascade snow is often hard as pavement, and even minor falls without a helmet can lead to serious injury.

Stay in Bounds

There is more than enough terrain within the boundaries of Steven's Pass to keep the most experienced and adventurous riders challenged and entertained. If you hike or ski out of the ski area boundary you are exposing yourself to unnecessary and life-threatening risks. Outside of the ski area boundaries are no precautions taken to prevent avalanches or indicate hazards such as cliffs and creeks. Do not go into the following areas:

- Above Bobby Chute on 7th Heaven
- Behind or to the left of Brooks Chair
- Behind the Skyline Chair
- The Trails to the right of Kehr's Chair
- The left side of the Southern Cross Chair
- The right side of the power lines on the back side

Ski with a Buddy

- If you get hurt, or have another problem on the mountain, the best and quickest way for you to get help is to have a friend with you. Before you start down the hill, agree which route you are taking.
- Always know the name of the run you are taking.
- Stay in sight of each other on the way down - stop periodically to regroup.
- If your friend gets hurt, ask a passing skier to tell the lift operator to send Ski Patrol.

Stay Out of Trees

Although many expert skiers will tell you how great the powder is in the trees, it is an extremely dangerous place to ride. Even if you are wearing a helmet, a collision with a tree can be life threatening. Tree wells, the pits in the snow that form at the base of trees, are extremely dangerous. If you accidentally go head-first into a tree well you will not be able to get yourself out of it and you will suffocate in minutes. Tree wells are especially dangerous after a big snowfall.

Stay in Places You Know

Do not explore terrain you are not familiar with. Many people have ruined their day on the mountain after saying, "Hey, lets try going over there." This can lead to flat areas of deep powder that take hours to trudge out of, or a long detour around a band of cliffs. You should always limit yourself to places your instructor has taken you to. Your instructor knows the mountain better than you do, and he/she knows what you are and are not ready for.

Look Before You Leap

Never take a jump if you don't know the landing is clear. Whether you ski or snowboard, jumping is something most people like to do. But if you leap before you look you might end up colliding with someone. As the uphill skier/rider, it is your responsibility to avoid people below you, and you can only do this if you know where they are. Always have a friend spot the landing zone for you before you take a jump. Also, if you fall when making a landing, be sure to move out of the way as soon as possible (as long as it is safe for you to move).

Know the Snowrider's Responsibility Code

Regardless if you ski or snowboard, always show courtesy to others and be aware that there are elements of risk in skiing that common sense and personal awareness can help reduce. Observe the codes listed below and share with other skiers the responsibility for a great skiing experience.

1. Ski or ride under control and in such a manner that you can stop and avoid other people and objects.
2. When skiing or riding and overtaking another person, avoid the people below you.
3. Do not stop where you obstruct a trail or are not visible from above.
4. When entering a trail or starting downhill, yield to other skiers and snowboarders.
5. All skiers and snowboarders shall use devices to help prevent runaway skis and boards.
6. Stay off closed trails and posted areas and observe all posted signs.
7. Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride, and unload safely.

Obey Warning Signs

Warning signs are posted for your protection. Skiing and snowboarding are fairly safe activities - as long as you stay within the approved areas of the mountain and don't venture into areas that are beyond your ability level.

Ski area boundary signs warn you against leaving the controlled environment of Stevens Pass Ski Resort. Beyond these signs there is no protection against avalanche, cliffs, and other hazards. "Cliffs" signs warn you against entering terrain that is too steep to be reasonably attempted by even expert skiers/snowboarders. No matter how tempting the snow may look on the other side of the sign, do not go there!

Another way resorts have of warning you trouble spots is with round, orange lollipop-shaped signs. Think of these as stop signs. Stevens Pass has a Family/Learning zone underneath the Daisy Chair. When you see the slow signs in this area please be respectful of the fact that there are many young children and novice skiers/riders in this zone and keep your speed down.

Never Stop Where You Can't Be Seen

Never stop where you cannot be seen by people above you. It is the responsibility of the uphill skier to avoid colliding with the people below them, but this is only possible if they see you. If you stop to rest just below a change in pitch, a skier or snowboarder traveling at 20-40 mph will not have time to avoid hitting you - and it will HURT! Also, changes in pitch are often places where people jump. Never, never stop to rest below a change in pitch.

Don't Adjust Bindings on a Chairlift

Never adjust your bindings while on a chairlift. You should always lower the safety bar when you get on a chairlift. This keeps you safe and gives you a place to rest your feet. If you lean over to adjust your bindings while you are on a lift, you could fall off the chair and end up seriously injured or dead. Whatever you need to do can wait until you are at the top.

Don't Attempt Anything Beyond Your Level

Don't let your friends talk you into trying to do something that you aren't ready for. Remember, Ski School is about fun, not about impressing other people. If you have any misgivings about a jump or a descent then don't do it - whatever it is will still be there next week or next season, but you might not if you get yourself injured.