



CANADIAN FREESTYLE SKI ASSOCIATION  
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE SKI ACROBATIQUE

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**Canadian Freestyle Ski Association  
Terrain Park and Rail Usage Policy**

**1.0 Preamble**

The sport of freestyle skiing is constantly evolving. It is more than moguls and Olympic aerials. Young freestyle skiers are now looking to ski area terrain parks to learn the new tricks and manoeuvres that are now defining freestyle skiing.

This policy document has been drafted to define the conditions under which the Canadian Freestyle Ski Association (CFSA), the national governing body for freestyle skiing in Canada, will approve and sanction activities for CFSA members in ski area operated terrain parks.

The foundation of this policy is the coach. It is anticipated that training in ski area operated terrain parks will take place while the public is still using the facilities. The coach must maintain an appropriate duty of care to ensure his or her athletes and the public safely use the facility together without harm to either group.

Creating a solid working relationship with the ski area operator will ensure that all activities in the ski area's terrain park are conducted safely and will provide maximum enjoyment for all users.

**2.0 Activities within Ski Area/Resort Owned & Operated Terrain Parks**

The CFSA will provide approval and sanctioning of activities within terrain parks owned, designed and operated by a ski area/resort under the following conditions:

1. Written authority to use the ski area/resort's terrain park for identified training and competitive activities must be obtained from the facility owner/operator. A Copy of this written agreement must be supplied to the CFSA. Permission to use the terrain park facility may require the coaches and athletes to sign waivers or hold harmless agreements as a condition of use of the terrain park.
2. All training and competitive activities must be conducted under the supervision of a coach with the minimum appropriate training and certification from either Canadian Ski Instructors' Alliance (CSIA) Park and Pipe training program or the CFSA National Club Coach training program (Air, Moguls & Park).
3. Coaches are to follow the skill training progressions as outlined by the CSIA or CFSA coach training programs. Particular care should be taken when introducing athletes to a new feature.

4. Coaches must assess an athlete's skill level and determine if his/her skill level is appropriate for using specific jumps and/or rails. Coaches should limit the use of specific jumps and/or rails if the athlete does not have the appropriate skill level. The coach should give consideration to the ski area's/resort's terrain parking grading system (if applicable) when making this decision.
5. Coaches must ensure landing areas from jumps or rails are clear of obstructions before sending the next athlete on the feature. The coach is responsible for controlling access to the jump(s) or rail(s) and allowing athletes to use the features only when it is safe, particularly when the landing area can not be seen from the start position.
6. Inverted aerial manoeuvres may not be taught by a coach unless he/she has, as a minimum, the CFSA "Air Development Coach" training program certification.
7. Athletes performing inverted aerial manoeuvres in the terrain park must have these jumps properly qualified according to the policies and procedures of the CFSA as detailed in the CFSA's Air Regulations and Qualification (ARQ) Manual.
8. All athletes are required to wear helmets and it is strongly recommended they wear properly-fitted mouth guards while training or competing.
9. Inform ski patrol that training or competition is taking place.

### **2.1 Apparatus Inspection**

The Coach must inspect the apparatus in the terrain park prior to each training session to ensure it is safe for training or competition.

For jumps, the coach should ensure:

- \* The jump is properly highlighted to clearly indicate the transition and take off points (e.g. lip) of the jump;
- \* The landing hill is prepared appropriately for the configuration of the feature and terrain. This means that it is soft or steep enough to cushion some of the impact;
- \* The landing area is clear of big chunks of snow or ice;
- \* The landing area is visually inspected on a regular basis (for example, after every 10 jumps) to ensure no holes are developing and the area is still well-prepared for training;
- \* The landing area is free of debris (e.g. skis, goggles, hats, grooming tools, etc).

For rails or box-rails, the coach should include the following as part of his/her inspection:

- \* Determine that the anchoring systems are sound (i.e. the rail is firmly placed in snow and won't fall over when skier is using apparatus);
- \* Check that the surface of the rail(s) is free of any sharp surfaces that may impale or puncture an athlete upon contact;
- \* Check all welds to ensure they are sound (i.e. no cracks, splits, tears or excessive rust);

- \* Check the tightness of any bolted joints and tighten as necessary;

- \* Check the surface for kinks, chinks, burrs, holes, rust, etc;

If the rail or box-rail is determined to be unsafe following the inspection, notify the Ski Area Terrain Park Supervisor immediately and do not use the identified feature in training or competition until the required repairs are completed.

Coaches must receive permission from the Ski Area operator before performing any maintenance work on the facility's features.

Skirting on rails is strongly recommended. Coaches must use their discretion to permit an athlete to use a feature that does not have skirting based on the athlete's level of ability. If the coach determines that the absence of skirting may pose a risk to the athlete, the coach should not permit the athlete to use the feature.

For rails that have skirting, the skirting may be constructed of plywood, plexiglass, high-strength small weave fencing or similar material and should be able to be seen in low and flat light conditions. There should be no gaps between the skirting and the uprights or frame.