

Risk management

Deutscher Skilehrerverband e.V.

Recommended standards for out of piste skiing

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Deutscher
Skilehrerverband

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Course I/b – Out of piste skiing

Overview of the basic course

Practice duration	Practice subject / content	theory time	theory subject / content
1 day	Rescuing of comrades / Search with the VS-equipment	20 min.	Search of persons buried in an avalanche
		30 min.	General avalanche knowledge
½ a day	Evaluation of the danger of avalanches / orientation	20 min.	Orientation
		20 min.	Weather and domain
1 day	Evaluation of the danger of avalanches / strategies for decision	45 min.	Strategies for decision
½ a day	Leadership tactics when skiing out of pistes	20 min.	Leadership tactics when skiing out of pistes
In total 3 days		In total 155 min.	



Course I/b – Out of piste skiing

Overview of the structure of the course

Practice duration	Practice Subject / content	Theory time	Theory Subject / content
½ a day	Rescuing of comrades / Search with the VS-equipment	30 min.	Search of persons buried in an avalanche
½ a day	Practical knowledge of snow and avalanches	45 min.	General knowledge of snow and avalanches
½ a day	Evaluation of the danger of avalanches / orientation	30 min.	Orientation
		30 min.	Weather
1½ days	Evaluation of the danger of avalanches / strategies for decisions	45 min.	Strategies for decisions
1 day	Leadership tactics when skiing out of pistes	30 min.	Leadership tactics when skiing out of pistes
½ a day	Rescuing of comrades / first aid	30 min.	First aid
1½ days	Examination, control of knowledge / examination of the use of search devices		
In total 6 days		In total 240 min	



Definition of the domain of activity

Definition of the German association of ski instructors (DSLTV) regarding the domain of activity of qualified ski and snowboard instructors out of pistes, ski routes and open ski domains:

“The qualified ski and snowboard instructor is able to guide groups of maximum 10 skiers along continuously marked courses out of domain of pistes (the return to the pistes must be guaranteed without danger anytime). The choice of the route must always follow the aims of nature conservation.”



Lawinenbeurteilung-Entscheidungsstrategien

DSLVL risk management (evaluation of avalanches, strategies of decision / daily standards)

1. Consulting of the bulletin of avalanches

Comparison with the information support (for instance instruction card 3x3 avalanches by W. Munter)

2. Personal evaluation on site

● Strategy of decision 3 x 3 filter method (planning instrument)

- Critical amount of new fallen snow
- Signs of alarm
- Snow surface (snow drift and cornices, dunes and wind waves)

3. Comparison with the bulletin of avalanches

If necessary > local adaptation

Downgrading: max. 1/2 a grade as a first adaptation / 1 grade if confirmed

Downgrading only with large experience and with precise reasoning:

e.g. amount of new fallen snow, wind, old snow coverage and temperature!

Rating of height; optional

With more than 3 participants or clients: punctual information!

4. Strategy of decision, method for reduction or Snow Card (Instrument for control)

Keep control:

5. Limits (recommended limits for ski instructors)

class 2 = moderate	class 3 = considerable	class 4 = large
< 40° in all expositions	< 35° in all expositions	No course out of safe pistes!



Lawinenbeurteilung-Entscheidungsstrategien

DSLVL risk management (evaluation of avalanches, strategies of decision)

General standards

1. Standard-emergency-package per person

Instructor and each participant:

- **Electronic search device**
- **Shovel**
- **Mechanical “sound”**

Ski instructor:

- **First aid set**
- **Bivouac sack**
- **Handy/ radio**

✳ Instruction of all participants in the basic functions of the search device: sending, reception, localisation: basically before the first tour or down-hill run

✳ Daily control of function of the device

✳ Control of the completeness of the equipment

2. Communication between instructors/guides

More than one instructor on site

✳ Daily team discussion with precise and total information, regarding the planning

➔ With decision processes (transparent style of leadership)

More than one group on the same tour

Keep an appropriate distance

In case of mutual advice: precise arrangements regarding duties and responsibilities of each one

3. Behaviour in case of an accident

Always

Immediate information of the DSLVL office: **0049-8178-9674-6**

When interviewed by administration

Transmit only personal dates!

No informations regarding the accidental situation!

