



The Future Is Bright

By Kathy Brennan
Eastern Division CEO

As I write this, I'm joining a record number of PSIA-AASI members/staff as we descend upon Big Sky, Montana, for the National Academy. Participating in the Academy is always a highlight of my season. After spending a winter focused on helping other people to improve their skiing, the Academy is my opportunity to hone my own skills, learn from National Team members, and share the adventure with likeminded colleagues and friends. The Academy, and Rider Rally, are open to all certified members. If you have never participated, I highly recommend adding it to your calendar in 2023.

At this year's National Academy, it was a privilege to participate in the presentation of three National Awards to outstanding Eastern members. Gina Basiliere from Jay Peak was awarded the Top of the Course Award for scoring at the highest percentile in people, teaching, and snowboarding technical knowledge while empowering other candidates during her level III exam process. Our own Michael Mendrick, former CEO, was awarded a 3 C's Award. The 3 C's Award recognizes positive leadership within a snowsports school or division through consistent collaboration, communication, and cooperation with peers and guests. Alpine Examiner Charlie Rockwell was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award. This award recognizes exceptional members who developed and implemented programs, projects, and procedures affecting the association on a national level while demonstrating dedication, devotion, and self-sacrifice serving in their role. If you don't know already, check out an article about Michael's contributions in the Winter 2022 issue of the 32 Degrees. Look for an article about Charlie in an upcoming issue of 32 Degrees. Both of these exceptional leaders have helped to make our organization and members strong and successful.

Shortly after returning from the National Academy, I will be hosting an Eastern Leadership Meeting in Albany. Leaders from all disciplines will be gathering to share wins and learns, and develop best practices from our first season with the new Unified Assessment forms. Our goal is to develop consistency and equity within, and across, the training and assessment processes in each discipline. In addition, we will review the process to earn spots on our

Development Teams, to become employees of our division, and for examiners to assess in different disciplines. Our goal is to identify how to develop our education staff to effectively support all our zones/regions and disciplines.

My first winter as CEO has been amazing. My Listening Tour got cut short as resorts closed and gas prices soared; however, over the course of the winter I traveled 10,000 miles, visited 27 resorts, and I spoke with many skiers and riders in every discipline including members, non-members, former members, resort operators and management. There has been much to learn and I'm currently diving into the planning for next year. One concern I heard consistently was related to cost. We will be looking to increase value by providing opportunities to ski/ride with a broader range of clinicians and offer a variety of events closer to home. We are forming a multi-discipline/multi-platform education committee to create new educational programs. I plan to explore if scholarships may help with the cost of reinstating. It is also clear we need to find a way to ensure adaptive events run. We are meeting with divisional and national adaptive leaders to identify options, and we added three new instructors to our Adaptive Dev Team to help meet demand. Another major concern from the members is related to feedback. Team coaches have been directed to do some off-season training on providing more effective written and verbal feedback at events and assessments.

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Volume 48, Number 3

Kathy Brennan, Managing Editor
Karen Haringa, Assistant Editor
Mark Aiken, Assistant Editor

The official publication of the Professional
Ski Instructors of America-Eastern
Education Foundation

5 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203
Phone 518-452-6095
Fax 518-452-6099

www.psia-e.org

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All submitted material is subject to editing. Its use, whether solicited or not, is at the discretion of the editorial staff. All published material becomes the property of PSIA-E/EF. Articles are accepted on the condition that they may be released for publication in all National and Divisional publications.

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view from the chair

PETER HOWARD

The Demise of PSIA-AASI E (not)



For years it has been predicted that the aging boomers were all that's left and when they were gone, well PSIA-AASI in the East was toast.

Pie charts and bar graphs of member trends looked bleak, but thankfully, this season the reality at the grass roots appears different.

Covid caused the resignation of older people who didn't want to risk working in a public venue. Some older members either ended or curtailed their career and the amount of their involvement with snow sports schools, but guess what? Younger folks filled in the gaps and are getting the job done. At mountain orientations, supervisory meetings, and training sessions, younger people are delivering the messages and making decisions.

At this season's Spring Rally nearly 60 people became level I members.

At Stowe 50 members, many of whom were young, attended the Development Team, ACE Team, and Examiner Training Squad tryouts. The At-Large Board seats which will soon be decided have over 25 nominees, and several of the candidates are people under 40 years old. This season, we have an increase of almost 6% in new members as compared to last season and an increase of 21% in new members compared to two seasons ago.

It is said nature abhors a vacuum. It is also said

life will find a way even in a harsh environment.

Why would youthful snowsports enthusiasts join PSIA-AASI when many members are old enough to be their parents? It's simple really, like the Arby's slogan says, “We have the Meats.” The Learning Connection model and its fundamentals are the meats of snowsports instruction. If you know these fundamentals and can put them into practice, your value in the snowsports industry will be assured. You can get the skills to ski big mountains, ride in boarder cross, tether the disabled, and share the gift of snowsports with children. You can also learn to speak clearly, concisely, and positively with people from all walks of life.

In the eighties I was told by a very good friend about the “Hamburger Model of Feedback.” In a way, it was the crude predecessor of the Learning Connection Model. The Teacher had to build a bun of trust with the customer to place the meat of the lesson on. When you got to the meat, it had to taste good but couldn't be bologna. The garnishes were the warm benefits, and future possibilities placed on top. If this was well done, it was an appetizing experience.

Even then we had the meat(s).

The new National Certification Process and supporting education pieces are bringing credentialing closer to college credits and perhaps a college degree. I suppose you could surf around on the internet and figure out what information is useful, but apparently smart young people know a good thing when they see it. If the trends of this season are any indication, there is an infusion of new life entering our organization and its demise is most unlikely.

Peter Howard

Eastern Region Board Chairman <<

Women's Summit held in the East for the first time ever in 2022!



» KB's Corner, continued from cover

Back in the office we are already working on the event schedule for next year. We hope to create a schedule that aligns with your needs. By popular demand, the Event Poster, will be returning. One thing we learned during Covid is the benefit of being able to add programs throughout the season. This nimbleness makes the Event Poster out of date the day it is printed; however, having our message posted in your locker room is invaluable. The poster will not include the complete schedule but will likely include premiere events, assessments and the development pathways for the different disciplines, with a QR code to quickly access the full schedule. Among other projects, we also hope to revamp the website to make it easier for you to find the information you need.

The future looks bright. I'm looking forward to getting the results of the National Member Survey in May; however, simply looking at member numbers and attendance this season things look promising. We

have the most members (9,851) and the most event attendance (5,257) since 2018. In addition, we had the most New Members (1,235) since 2015. The Net Promoter Score (NPS) of the 2,097 event surveys submitted is 79 (73 for assessments and 83 for clinics). An NPS over 70 is considered excellent. Many people were successful during assessments this season. Check out pages 22-24, for a list of newly certified members and be sure to congratulate your friends and colleagues. Furthermore, my congratulations go out to anyone who participated in an assessment or tryout this season. It is never easy to have something we care passionately about put under the microscope to be evaluated; however, the process makes us better instructors, athletes, and skiers/riders. Thank you for all your efforts to improve yourself and provide better service to your guests!

I hope you all have a wonderful summer and stay tuned for some special summer programs! <<

KB's Listening Tour Stops

Beech, NC	Ober Gatlinburg, TN
Blue Mountain, PA	Seven Springs, PA
Butternut, MA	Snowshoe, WV
Canaan Valley, WV	Stowe, VT
Cannon, NH	Sugar Mountain, NC
Cataloochee, NC	Timberline, WV
Gunstock, NH	Waterville Valley, NH
Jiminy Peak, MA	White Grass, WV
Killington, VT	Whitetail, PA
Loon, NH	Windham, NY
Maple Ski Ridge, NY	Wintergreen, VA
Massanutten, VA	Winterplace, WV
McIntyre, NH	Wisp, MD
Mount Snow, VT	



around the east

Congratulations to Our Distinguished Members

60 Year Pin

Freddie Anderson, was presented with her 60-year pin at her 101st birthday celebration. Freddie was one of the first certified female instructors in New York; she was a former Eastern Division Board Member; and she founded the Schenectady Ski School in 1950. She inspired countless people to try snowsports and pursue teaching skiing and riding as a vocation. She truly embodies a lifelong passion for snowsports.



Freddie Anderson wearing her 60-year pin Photo credit: Stan Hudy

Lifetime Achievement Award

Charlie Rockwell, Bromley, VT. Charlie is an Eastern Examiner and former multi-term Eastern Board Member and Vice President of the National Board of Directors. This national award, presented at the National Academy, recognizes exceptional members who developed and implemented programs, projects, and procedures affecting the association on a national level while demonstrating dedication, devotion, and self-sacrifice serving in their role.



Photo courtesy of PSIA-AASI and Linda Guerrette

Top of the Course Award

Gina Basiliere, Jay Peak, VT. Gina recently achieved her Level 3 AASI certification. This national award, presented at the National Academy, recognizes members who scored at the highest percentile in people, teaching, and skiing or snowboarding technical knowledge; and who empowered other candidates during the level II or III exam process.



Photo courtesy of PSIA-AASI, Linda Guerrette, photographer

The 3 C's Award

Michael Mendrick, Eastern Division CEO, Retired. This national award, presented at the National Academy, recognizes members who demonstrated positive leadership within their snowsport school or division through consistent collaboration, communication, and cooperation with peers and guests – they serve as role models for others.



Photo courtesy of PSIA-AASI, Linda Guerrette, photographer

Eastern Division Service Award

Alison Cummings, Eastern Division Examiner, former ACE team coach, and former member of the national Junior Education Team (JETS). This award recognizes Alison's longstanding dedication to advancing snowsports education for children. ⏪



SNOWSPORTS DIRECTOR

Ski Butternut, located in the Berkshires of Massachusetts, is seeking a Snowsports Director. Responsible for the overall performance and guest experience of the Snowsports and Rental departments. Exceptional guest and staff communication is required to expand on the strong demand for learning to ski and ride. FT/YR benefitted position. Family owned and operated for nearly 60 years. For more information, please send resume to rcrozier@skibutternut.com

Changing of the Guard

By Kathy Brennan

Eastern Division CEO

When the organization moved to a Policy Governance model of board leadership in 2020 the decision was made to re-structure the Board to:

- Support greater diversity of age, gender, discipline etc. through the inclusion of more at-large representatives.
- Continue geographic diversity via the election zones.
- Recognize greater efficiencies in governance and costs due to the board's reduced size.
- Invite member participation in the nomination and selection process through a balance between member-elected board seats and at-large seats.

A schedule has been defined to transition the board to this new structure over a number of years. This year Zone 1 (Northern New England ME, VT, NH – formerly regions 1 and 2) elected Tera Adams to be their Board representative for the next three years.

Newly Elected



Tera Adams – Zone 1 (ME, NH & VT) For the past 5 years Tera has been the Program Director at Adaptive Sports at Mount Snow and has recently added the title of trainer at Mount Snow Ski and Ride School. In addition, Tera was selected for the Adaptive Development Team in a competitive tryout this spring. She is excited to serve our membership by working to heighten visibility of our varied community, to facilitate ways to bring value to the individual and collective membership, and to continue to develop community amongst all disciplines, while supporting the standards of snowsport instruction. Tera is a lifelong learner and plans to lead by example by furthering her certifications in different disciplines next season. This summer, along with becoming acquainted with the board and board business, she also plans to learn how to skateboard. For a full bio and statement of her philosophies see the Winter 2022 issue of the SnowPro. We look forward to benefiting from Tera's leadership as she steps into her new roles.

Newly Endorsed – Here is your opportunity to vote!

After a two-month nomination, review and vetting process that included 28 submitted candidates, the Eastern Board has endorsed Katie Brinton and Stephen Gover to serve as at-large board members serving a three-year term beginning on day two of the June Board of Directors Meeting - June 21, 2022. The endorsement was made after an extensive review and vetting process by the Board's Nominating Committee (Ross Boisvert, Chair; Katherine MacLauchlan, Elizabeth Limerick, Ted Fleischer, Ty Johnson and Brandon Pearce) and endorsement by the full Board. All candidates were given thorough review and consideration. In the end, the Board felt Katie Brinton and Stephen Gover will best serve the organization's needs for diversity of thought, experience, expertise, demographics, disciplines, age, gender, race, ethnicity, and more.

We invite and encourage you to cast your vote to affirm or decline the slate of at-large nominees as endorsed and proposed to you by the Eastern Board of Directors. Voting period ends May 31, 2022. **Please visit www.PSIA-E.org/atlarge to affirm or decline Katie and/or Stephen.**

The following is a brief summary of Katie's and Stephen's backgrounds.



Kathryn Brinton – Alpine Development Team, Alpine Level III, Children's Specialist 2, Freestyle Specialist 1

Residence: Vermont

Snowsports School Affiliation: Okemo Mountain

Summary of Qualifications:

Kathryn (Katie) is a current At-Large member and Vice Chair of the Eastern Board of Directors, having been selected for the Board in 2019. She is the current chairperson of the Work Plan Task Force, and was a member of the CEO and the Scholarship Selection Committees. In addition to serving as a Ski School Staff Trainer and Instructor at Okemo and an active member of the Alpine Development Team, Katie is also the full-time Senior Editor at Beardsley Publishing (*Ski Area Management* and *Adventure Park Insider* magazines). In 2017, Katie was recognized as *Ski Area Management's* "10 Under 30," and in 2020 she was awarded the PSIA-AASI Angus Graham Rising Star Award.

Katie has reflected that through her work with *Ski Area Management*, she has had the opportunity to become informed on a number of the significant issues affecting snowsports participation and, consequently, snowsports instruction (corporate consolidation, barriers to access, including cost, travel, and housing, climate variability, and more). She is eager to continue tackling some of these challenges as they impact our membership and to facilitate the growth and vitality of PSIA-AASI. As a member of the NextCore demographic (ages 16 – 39), she continues to bring her own perspective about the ways the organization may meet the needs of—and grow—this fundamental segment of our membership. Additionally, she is keenly aware of the obstacles facing many women in the field and an advocate for the work being done to make participation in the organization more inclusive and equitable.

"I am honored to serve a second term on the board. As Vice Chair and chair of the Work Plan Task Force, it has been my pleasure to help shape the strategic vision of the organization as we welcome a new CEO, Kathy Brennan, at the helm of the Eastern Division," said Katie. "I look forward to continuing to support the important work happening on all levels to evolve and improve our education and certification offerings. PSIA-AASI East is a community that has profoundly enriched my life, and I look forward to finding new ways to drive value for our 10,000-strong membership."



Stephen Gover – Snowboard Level II, Alpine Level II, Children's Specialist 1, Freestyle Specialist 1, 5-year member.

Residence: Pennsylvania

Snowsports School Affiliation: Tussey Mountain

Summary of Qualifications:

Stephen has been an instructor for 7 years and is currently employed as the Director of the Ski and Ride School at Tussey Mountain. Stephen has also spent a season as a Ski and Ride supervisor at Okemo and has instructed at Jay Peak in Vermont. Stephen graduated from Pennsylvania State University in

continued on next page

May with a Bachelor of Science in Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management.

Stephen believes he can benefit the Board and membership by offering a diverse viewpoint. Stephen has spent six of his seven years instructing at Tussey Mountain, a small beginner-focused ski area. Stephen also worked a season for the Ski and Ride School at Okemo as a supervisor, allowing him to understand the workings of a destination resort. In addition, as a rider and skier who is currently pursuing Level III certifications in both disciplines, he is able to approach our organization's mission from two perspectives. Stephen is a professional in recreation management, and completing his degree at Penn State has enabled him to develop a strong and wide-ranging base of knowledge in the field. Being a recent graduate, Stephen has much in common with his peers in the NextCore demographic.

Stephen shared: "While serving on the Board, my goal is to accurately represent the concerns and views of all members, especially our NextCore, small school, and snowboard demographics."

Stepping Down

As part of this transition several Board members will also be stepping down at the end of this fiscal year in June. We are grateful for their volunteer leadership and their many years of service.



Ted Fleischer – Region 2 (VT) Representative since 2015, former Treasurer. Also, a current AASI Eastern Division Examiner, former member of the AASI Steering Committee, former AASI Dev Team Coach, and former AASI Advisor. Ted is also the Training Supervisor/Programs Manager at Jay Peak Ski & Ride School. Riding and Skiing changed his life.



Katherine MacLauchlan – Region 2 (VT) Representative since 2012, former Secretary, Treasurer and founding chair of NextCore. Level III certified instructor and former Snowsports School Director. Katherine currently is the Co-Owner of La Pêche Lingerie and a volunteer with the Bart Adaptive Sports Center at Bromley.



Dave Capron – Region 1 (ME & NH) Representative since 2018. Dave has served on the Governance, Scholarship and CEO Search Committees. He is also a current PSIA Eastern Division Examiner and the Alpine Development Team Coach. Dave is also the Training Manager for Attitash Mountain Resort.



David Isaacs – At Large member since 2019. David is an AASI Level 2 member, a former supervisor at Liberty Mountain, and currently a full-time instructor and supervisor at Mount Snow.

During the June board meeting, our new Board Members, as well as the departing members will both participate to ensure a smooth and successful transition.

If you run into any of these people, please congratulate them and thank them for their service. <<

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Women of Winter

This winter PSIA-AASI partnered with Women of Winter to host five instructor education events around the country for female Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC). One of those events was hosted in the Eastern Division at Windham Mountain, NY.

The Women of Winter partnership encourages and supports BIPOC women to pursue opportunities to teach skiing or snowboarding. Participants received scholarships to attend, empowering them with education to feel confident in their skiing, snowboarding, and teaching skills. They had the opportunity to network with women leaders in our industry. Sponsors also provided equipment, goods and a wonderful welcome dinner. A huge thank you goes out to Rossignol, Giro, Head, Hestra, Leki, onX Backcountry, Phunkshun, Terramar, The North Face, PowerBar, Head and Flaik. Ultimately, the women will use this education to welcome other BIPOC women and girls into the snowsports community. <<



Women's Summit

This year the Eastern Division hosted the National Women's Summit at Stowe, VT.

The event featured:

- 1 amazing resort – Stowe Mountain.
- 1 fantastic community of women ready to tackle everything Stowe has to offer.
- 2 exceptional keynote speakers: Diann Roffe, Olympic Gold Medalist and Pat Campbell, Senior Advisor Mountain Division, Vail Resorts.
- 3 days of ski and ride clinics in alpine, snowboard and the cross-country disciplines from 6 National Team Members, 2 former National Team members and 10 Eastern Examiners.
- Many great indoor and on-snow electives and après events including presentations from Leslie Baker-Brown, Global Leader of the Blizzard Tecnica Women2Women program; Mermer Blakeslee, former National Team member, Eastern Division Examiner and Author; a pizza party hosted by Rollerblade; and a cider donut party from Cold Hollow Cider Mill.

Thanks to our sponsors: Stowe, Rollerblade, Blizzard/Tecnica, Volkswagen, Cold Hollow Cider Mill, Laughing Moon Chocolates, Untapped Slopeside Syrup, and also for the Alpine Demos from Blizzard, Dynastar, Rossignol, Vökl, Nordica, Stöckli and Atomic. Also, thanks to Angelo Ross for creating our logo. <<

national report

By Eric Jordan
Eastern Representative
PSIA-AASI Board of Directors

Greetings, I hope everyone had an amazing winter!

As an organization, we took some huge strides this season and it was super exciting to see our vision of alignment, unity, and consistency across the nation start to come to life. Some perfect examples of this vision come via our National Standards, Performance Guides and Assessment Forms.

The consistency that we have been striving for is becoming crystal clear and is centered around a common educational model "The Learning Connection." Our association has stressed the importance of our balanced system that spans across every region. More importantly, the Learning Connection Model promotes consistency across all disciplines by realizing that a sound snowsports instructor has the same fundamentals when it comes to Teaching Skills and People Skills with the understanding that their Technical Skills will focus on the tool that they are sliding on. One common language is huge!

I would like to encourage you to check out the following links which are extremely powerful and educational.

<https://www.thesnowpros.org/certification/>

https://www.thesnowpros.org/download/LearningConnection_Fundamentals_2021.pdf

<https://www.thesnowpros.org/certification/recommended-certification-resources/>

As mentioned above, we have a lot to be proud of as an organization but there is still plenty of work to do. The PSIA-AASI Board is laser focused on strengthening alignment and unity across the organization via our ends and we are committed to working on your behalf to provide you with the best membership experience possible.

Please feel free to reach out to me via email at enj5050@yahoo.com if you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes for a great spring/summer!

Eric Jordan <<

Future Snow Pros

What did these future Snow Pros look like on the first day they slid on snow?!



Aleah McMeekin
2 ½ years
Wachusett Mountain



Brynn Yaeger
15 months
Binghamton, NY



Orly Cleveland
15 months
Liberty Mountain, PA



Henry (in hoop) and Alice (first day teaching) MacLauchlan
2 and 6 years
Bromley



Calev Uustal
3 years
Yawgoo Valley



Emmett Holland
3 ½ years
Wachusett Mountain



Ericson Hopkins
8 months
McIntyre Ski Area



Luke Thaler
4 years
Sugar Mountain

CALLING ALL FUTURE PROS

The SnowPro publication is featuring pictures of our Future Snow Pros.

What did their first day sliding on snow look like?

Share their adventure!



Luke Gunnar Mawhinney (Age: 25 months - Front yard, PA)

Submit your child or grandchild's image here:

<https://fs9.formsite.com/PSIA-AASI-E/FuturePro/index.html>

Education Foundation News

Education Foundation Donors

The PSIA-E Education Foundation expresses its sincere appreciation to the following members who have contributed at least \$50.00 to the Foundation through the annual dues “add-on” program and standalone donations since last May. Since no dues or program fees go to the EF, contributions are the primary source of support for the Foundation and its scholarships. **Thank you!**

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F. Michael Bannon
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Terence E. Barrett
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Proceeds from the sales of GH stickers
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Proceeds from the sales of GH stickers <<

The Impact of Scholarships on Retention and the Improvement of Outreach to New Populations in PSIA-AASI

By Brandon Pearce

PSIA-AASI Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group member

Eastern Board Member

The recent breadth of scholarship opportunities has encouraged not just members but has also sparked enthusiasm among the general public toward the path of teaching. This translates into positive gains of less populous demographics within our organization. When there is a partnership to incentivize learning and professional development in our Snowsports community, it pays dividends.

There is an automatic appeal in joining an organization that is eager to invest in your own personal and professional knowledge. It is also valid to provide encouragement to seasoned recreationalists, who have an interest in connecting with us. It creates a tangible reason to shift from enjoying the dynamics of the sport to the dynamics of helping others in your personal circle to join in the sport. Spreading our reach looks good for membership in PSIA-AASI. What we do not often realize, is that enthusiasts are deeply bound to their own communities. One tests the water, and the rest will follow. That happened to me, my college friend Rouget started teaching at Windham Mountain; two seasons later... I followed. Our community was the squad of Joan Heaton's former City College of New York (CCNY) phys ed students. It was a tradition of CCNY Alumni crafted by the scrappy New Jersey hardpack.

An outstanding model is Women of Winter. Already it has brought new leadership voices to the table. The simple act of circulating a call for nominees aspiring to train for and gain certification has connected talented people who are active in many of their own organizations and doing purposeful things. It gives a reason to share a spirit of stewardship with others and increase the love for outdoor pursuits while recruiting likeminded people. Our membership needs more of the same. When a school partners with a local ski club, for example, all the people in that club are available to consider their own interest in teaching. I would propose that Area Reps connect with the leadership of every club in their area and maintain ongoing conversations. I am sure many do already.

Pro Jam is quite the event for ALL PSIA-AASI Eastern members. Years ago,

Russell Fleming (Liberty Mountain) and Shelley Shepard organized a group called "The Bootcamp" which energized so many people to join in organization activities as Friends and Family. It is the ultimate cheering squad for those of us who are participating in the Pro Jam or the Master's Academy and working hard on our advancement. In the end, many of the friends and family members end up wanting to do what everyone around them is doing. This is the case for one brand new Alpine Level 1 certified member, Gary Anderson. The ProJam Bootcamp community still grows in attendance, and in enticing new membership. Which brings this full circle: there are 5 scholarship slots every season in tribute to Russell Fleming and his pioneering spirit. I believe the scholarships drive prospective members to eye our event calendar giving sound reason to become a member. Scholarships also drive prevailing members to feverishly pour over schedules and find the right events each year to achieve growth.

At Winter4Kids, the program that I direct, we have a high percentage of our amazing staff sourced from local clubs like the Thrillseekers, Highlife Ski Club, Jersey Ski, Short Hills Club, Snowburners, Soulboarders, Watchung and Ski Club of NJ to mention a few. If you don't see your club's name here, contact us and see the many opportunities to join us on staff or volunteer! www.Winter4Kids.org

The Winter4Kids (W4K) programming is incredibly rewarding for kids and coaches alike. Without question you see the resilience experienced and learned by the kids. We are sharing that spark among young lives, so new generations treasure getting to the mountains, seeing new perspectives, learning, generating a positive sense of self through outdoor challenge and growing skills for fun or racing. As a special place with a very worthwhile mission, W4K often attracts people with a purpose who like to mentor and give back, many of whom would not normally consider teaching under other circumstances. In this case, scholarships are a good way to interest people who enjoy this rewarding work with youth. The scholarships give a reason to look at the other benefits of participating in PSIA-AASI events. Many seek ways to have greater impact in their work and be more effective in their teaching by finding just the right event.

It is time to consider clubs as not just fun social networks, but as a pool of untapped resources for our programs, catalysts in the growth and vitality of both ends. ⬅

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kids, kids, kids

What's New in Kids' World

By Bonnie Kolber

ACE Team Coach and AASI-E Examiner
National Children's Task Force

What is the ACE Team and what do they do? The ACE Team, or Advanced Children's Educators, is the portion of your Ed Staff that runs Children's focused events. If you've taken a Children's Specialist event, you've most likely skied or ridden with one of them. However, as fun and educational as they can be, did you know that CS events are not all that we do? As a group of individuals with backgrounds in things like public school, psychology, higher education, competitive coaching, resort management, children's snowsports programming, and creative thinking, the ACE Team also offers a variety of educational on-snow events and on-line webinars that enhance how we teach kids to ski and ride!

This fall we offered a Children's Track at the Snowsports Management Seminar addressing multi-discipline/multi-age family lessons and building progressive progressions for seasonal programming, among other topics, which we plan to expand next season. If you are a Children's Program leader at your resort, look for us there! At Spring Rally, we had a total of six groups go out, with 21 successful new CS1's, 11 new CS2's, and a full group of attendees at the non-evaluative Children's Focus event. Thanks for joining us, and congrats to all who earned their CS pin this winter! Please see the list elsewhere in this issue and make sure to congratulate your colleagues.

Looking forward to next season, we'll be offering more educational events to expand your Bag of Tricks for teaching kids. These "Children's Focus Events" will cover topics such as applying Ski and Snowboard Fundamentals to teaching kids, Movement Analysis on the children's level & how to align coaching with realistic expectations based on ages and stages, how to integrate freestyle to engage kids right from the very first lessons, and more. Look for these events on the 2022-2023 calendar, we hope to see you there!

This season saw the publication of the new *Teaching Children Snowsports* manual, co-authored by our own ACE Team member Mark Aiken. Every PSIA-AASI member is entitled to a free digital copy, so if you haven't read it yet, check it out at www.thesnowpros.org under the Education tab.

We're excited to welcome four new ACE Team members:

Dara Aber-Ferri (Smuggler's Notch, VT)

Greg Fatigate (Smuggler's Notch, VT)

Kerri Petrillose (Mt. Peter, NJ)

Angelo Ross (Seven Springs, PA)



(L to R): Kerri Petrillose, Sara Aber-Ferri, Bonnie Kolber (Coach), Angelo Ross, Greg Fatigate

Two skiers, two riders. Two women, two men. Two on Ed Staff previously, two new to Ed Staff. This is a very well-balanced and talented group who shone at the ACE Team Exam held at Stowe in March for their knowledge and application of fundamentals & theories; their inspirational skiing and riding; and their ability to coach great kids' teaching while creating a fun and engaging environment. Keep an eye out for them and wish them a hearty congratulations when you see them!

We also have a new Children's Education Advisory Team led by longtime ACE Tina Buckley and consisting of members like you who are working with the ACE Team to help drive programming. With their assistance, we are looking forward to offering a Children's Academy type of event again in the near future; stay tuned!

Thanks for checking out what's new in Kids' World, and have a great summer! <<

Kids Put the FUN in the Fundamentals!

By Lyndy Dawson

Alpine Level III

PSIA-AASI E ACE Team member

Reading through the 5 alpine fundamentals, many instructors first thought might be "how on earth do I coach these to my younger students?" A misconception might be the fundamentals don't pertain to children or have a place in children's snowsports education. As they are currently worded, one can see how it would be hard for younger students to understand the meaning of them. Heck, they're even hard at times for adult students to process!

As much as the parents of our younger students want their children to have fun in lessons, they also want them to learn how to ski and continuously develop new skills. The fundamentals are the foundation of those newly learned skills and all future development. Our role as instructors is to not only provide the fun, but also to interpret, break down, and deliver the fundamentals into relatable language through adventure and exploration.

My experience has shown that using simple action-based words, movement, and an occasional sound effect thrown in for good measure are key to turning the current fundamental wording into relatable language. Ever watch an episode of *Sesame Street*? If you haven't recently, I encourage you to do so. How

Sesame Street presents information to 3–6-year-old children – through modeling, repetition, and humor – is a good blueprint for teaching the fundamentals. An entire one-hour episode is dedicated to teaching one or two numbers and two or three letters. These new numbers and letters are taught through different words, scenarios and movement. (Watch Grover or Elmo, they very rarely stop moving!) Those scenarios use language that is understood by young watchers and promote learning while having fun. Sound familiar? It should; the only difference is we are not furry, googly eyed, cookie chomping monsters!

So, what exactly is relatable language? During Spring Rally, the group I had for the Children's Focus Event explored this while on snow. Collectively they came up with words that were movement based, easy to understand, and familiar to younger students. Big, boing, bounce, creep, crouch, easy, excited, expand, fast, flow, gentle, heavy, hop, jump, lean, light, little, neat, reach, run, scoop, skip, sloppy, slow, small, smear, smooth, splat, soar, squat, sweep, swing, swoosh, tall, twist, weave, and wave are a small sampling of words that can

continued on next page >>

All the World's a Stage...

By Kerri Petrillose

PSIA-AASI E ACE Team member, AASI Level III, CS2

Mount Peter Mountain School

Do you find teaching Littles to be intimidating? Since teaching kids is all about “play,” why not reframe the lesson experience with creativity and imagination?

I like to think of lessons with Littles as theatrical productions. Your four-year-old might be the Producer (the big picture person) of the show while you are the Director (the idea person, the creative visionary). The Director's job: to shape the next hour/half-day/full-day into an engaging and entertaining adventure and educational experience.

Think about breaking your lesson into the following framework: **Setting the Stage**, (to understand the Little and their interests), **Showtime** (where you craft and implement lesson content), and **Curtain Call** (your wrap up and conference with parents/guardians).

Setting the Stage. You can't enter the stage with the same script you use with your other clients even if your other clients were children. Throw that script out the window, because you'll be doing a full re-write. Your new storyline is dictated by the Littles in front of you: their motivations, interests, hobbies, favorite characters etc. These are your inspirations as you draft your lesson. Don't hesitate to combine ideas that may not belong together -- sneaking ninjas pair wonderfully with Cars' Jackson Storm. Remember that Littles don't follow the same imaginary rules that adults do, so anything goes. Once you have a storyline in mind, then you can start to think about how to weave the sliding in.

Showtime. Remember this is not a bespoke drama; you and your Little are the leads in the most outrageous, colorful, hilarious production ever – think Hairspray, Xanadu, Spamalot, Aladdin, and Suessical the Musical all rolled into



one. Build a world where the rules that govern adult minds have no place. And don't forget your props! Real or imaginary, these can help to bring the show to life and help develop sliding skills. Snowballs, ski rings, hula hoops, cones, dye, magic wands, and snow monsters can all help Littles learn how bodies and equipment work. All choices should be purposeful and prescriptive – and not just made for the smiles they bring (though smiles are often indicators that you are on the right track). Props and drills shift your Littles closer to “ideal” movement patterns – and they make up the action in your plot.

Curtain Call. When the curtain falls, it is time to face the scrutiny of the reviewers of your show (that is, parents/guardians). Be sure reviewers grasp the meaning of the show's story. Have your lead share the adventure; meanwhile, you can translate the technical reasoning behind your decision-making. As your Little recounts drifting through turns and raising hands-high to celebrate Jackson Storm's win around the track (*Cars 3*), you can explain how these movements correlate to getting tips down the hill while keeping weight centered across the traverse. This is where you satisfy two separate demographics – kids, who wanted to have fun, and parents, who wanted fun but also expected to see skill development and improved performance.

The show has been a success and the audience went wild for your custom storyline and (fingers crossed) it's time to prepare for the sequel. Your next lesson with this Little can build from this established storyline as a continuation scaffolding both the learning and themes. This approach will make the process of working with Littles fun for you as the instructor, it will be engaging to students, and parents can be brought into to understand all the reasoning behind everything you did. Take breath and a bow your production is ready for Playbill; and remember there is no business like snow business! ⚡

» Fundamentals, continued from previous page

be used as relatable language. The next step was to put the relatable language words in to use. We selected one of the fundamentals, reworded it, took one of Gardner's Multiple Intelligence's, and came up with an activity that promoted the chosen fundamental.

We chose the fundamental: control the relationship of the Center of Mass (COM) to the Base of Support (BOS) to direct pressure along the length of the ski. Nature Smart was the Multiple Intelligence (MI) chosen. To start, I asked the group to pick a tree on the side of the trail that they thought was tall and strong.

- “Control the relationship” became “stand tall and strong.” (“Stay big”, “reach high”, and “stretch up” were other phrases we thought would be just as effective too)
- “COM” became “chest/hips/butt” (tree trunk)
- “BOS” became “feet” (bottom of tree trunk)
- “Direct pressure along length of ski” became “keep your whole ski (roots) stuck/attached to the snow”

While skiing, the goal for everyone was to stay standing tall and strong just like their tree. By standing tall and strong their chest/hips/butt would more than likely be over their feet. Skis, tip to tail, became the roots and had to stay stuck/attached to the snow, much like the roots of a real tree stay in the ground. Wherever our adventure and exploration took us, we would model that tall strong tree. By exploring different pitches, varying our speed, and adventuring through a plethora of snow conditions, we used repetition to enhance and build a better skill set related to that fundamental. We added to the situation by making our arms become tree branches and fingers become leaves. We agreed

our leaves would blow from the wind we created by going fast, but our branches could only slightly sway. Everyone in the group had a different interpretation of a skiing tree, and that's where the humor came in, no two “trees” were alike. Additionally, I used “whoosh” as a sound effect as I made my turns. We certainly got some interesting looks from the other Spring Rally groups we encountered!

Once last thing to consider when teaching the fundamentals is, Real vs. Ideal. Keep in mind: how the fundamentals look may be a little different from adults, based on where our young students are in their current physical development. Ideally, pressure control movements are achieved through the flexion of ankle, knee, and hip joints. Realistically, the small muscle groups and fine motor skills it takes to flex the ankle joints are not yet fully developed or refined in children 3-6 years-old. The flexion of those joints is what helps put our COM over our BOS – often referred to as getting forward. Young students generally lever against the back of their boots – often referred to as in the back seat. Having young students stand tall and strong like a tree promotes a more neutral stance and less of an in-the-back-seat position. That neutral stance is the “real” for younger students.

I encourage you to use the off-season to create your own list of words to use for relatable language. The above list is just a partial list and I'm sure there are many more words that can be added. Even better, create an additional list of sound effects. Using the fundamentals, creating a relatable language, and a whole lot of creativity are all ways we can accomplish both of those parent goals for their children – having fun and developing skill sets. Remember, kids are the reason there's fun in the FUNdamentals! ⚡

Teaching Your Toddler Snow Sports Indoors

By Maureen Harrington Drummey

Senior Manager, Ski and Ride School, Mount Snow, VT

Alpine Level III, PSIA-AASI E ACE Team, PSIA-E Development Team

Summer's here, which makes it the perfect time to teach your toddler to ski or ride.

How, you say? It's simple, and you can do it in the comfort of your own home. My husband and I did a few activities with our youngest sons starting at ages 15 to 18 months. We involved our oldest son, so that he could be a part of the process too.

The results of our labors: by age 2.5, they were skiing greens, and by 4.5, they were carving parallel turns on blues and some easy blacks.



Here are the steps you can take before a small child hits the slopes to help them develop balance while in motion and to enjoy the fun of sliding.

- **Familiarize your child with boots.** Let your child put ski or snowboard boots on and walk around the house just as we would when we are teaching a first-time lesson. The difference? No cold temperatures, Arctic winds, or unfamiliar territory of any kind! Practice walking in circles, tipping from side to side, and fore-aft balancing movements. For skiers, add side-stepping. Make it fun using games and activities, just like the kids you teach on-snow. Do this a few times until they are comfortable. Let the child wear their helmet while walking around in their boots. It's not only a good safety measure but allows them to



acclimate to the helmet. Leave a ski boot and helmet in your child's play area; if you're lucky they'll even learn to put them on themselves.

- **Add skis or snowboard.** Wait, you say. How is my toddler going to ski in my house? Once your child is comfortable in boots, you can introduce them to balancing while in motion. If you have a house with carpeting, find a heavy-duty tablecloth, turning the plastic side down and the fuzzy side up. If you have wood or linoleum floors, a throw blanket or large beach towel works well. Once you have your sliding surface figured out, put the skis or board on the tablecloth or blanket. Have your child don boots and helmet. Then they can click into the equipment. It is best to have two people for the first few slides – a hand-holder and a blanket-puller. Pull your child straight or in large gentle circles as they adjust to balancing while sliding. After a few sessions, you can make different size turns and go for longer periods of time. Once they are comfortable and showing good balance, you can eliminate the hand-holder.

Remember your Safety-Fun-Learning principle – in that order. After several indoor sessions (and if your kids are anything like ours, “one or two” sessions will quickly become “many”), they will be well-prepared to hit the slopes when the snow flies. When you do hit the slopes, repeat all the boot games and sliding activities, as this is a slightly different experience on the slippery snow.]

The kids who do this will be ahead of the game because they've had the experience of wearing boots and helmet, and they will be familiar with sliding sensations. All of this is accomplished without the distraction of snow guns, lifts, people and the cold temperatures. Who said skiing and riding is just for the winter? <<

xx-ploring

Season in Review

By Mickey Stone

PSIA-E Nordic Examiner

Nordic Coordinator

Finally, a season where you can talk freely in front of people and be able to go out and slide with your friends. Although, the season didn't start off that way. The December events were successful and gave us the impression that it was going to be a normal season. Pro Jam, Mini Academy, Early Season Primers and a XC event at Lapland all went well. Then, in early January, there were a lot of COVID outbreaks right when we thought we were almost back to normal. Unfortunately, life was not quite ready for normal. Our Nordic trainings were the first week of the month and two days before our training, several team members had positive COVID tests. So, we had to cancel due to safety and do the right thing so our teammates would stay healthy. Due to COVID, it has been two seasons now since the Nordic ed staff has had an on-hill training together.

Despite COVID, we accomplished great things this season. We had to revamp all of our previous study guides to comply with the new educational National Standards, incorporate the new manual's pedagogy, update the Fundamentals, weave in the People Skills and get the new Assessment Forms up on the website along with the new Assessment Guides (what we used to call the Exam Guide). The new Assessment Forms are very lengthy and very specific. The scores are compiled and the forms are sent to participants and posted in member's accounts electronically. So, as you might imagine, this year's training for the Cross Country and Telemark Ed Staff turned out to be a lengthy Zoom call educating and training the Nordic Ed Staff on all of the new updates.

I cannot thank our entire Nordic Staff enough for all the assistance and feedback, plus a lot of the staff helped with the technical computer side of things. All of that was extremely helpful. I/We were very proud to have all of the new material up on the website by February. The office staff, especially Jodi Bedson and Melissa Skinner, made their time available to really make this all happen along with their regular daily work. It was a great TEAM EFFORT. Thank-you to all! We are used to working together on the hill but we haven't had as much experience working through all of the educational and assessment material with the entire team on the phone, Zoom calls, emails and Google Meet. The changes caused by a global pandemic allowed us the time to get the job done for our members. We made the best of a bad situation and it allowed us to achieve great



Spring Rally Synchro at Stowe

things. Check out all the Nordic materials on the website and familiarize yourself with new verbiage, outlines, topics and assessment processes.

We had a great start, a little blip in January and then the season took off. Numerous events had double digit numbers for us this season: Mini Academy, Pro Jam, XC ITC, XC Lapland Upgrade, Canaan Valley Hoedown, XC Jackson Touring, Holiday Valley Upgrade, Mt Abrahms Alpine/Tele, Tele Fling, Mt Snow Level I Tele and the Spring Rally. All in all, we had a total of 282 participants with 82 of them in the XC discipline. It was a solid year with good numbers for Nordic.

The National Woman's Summit at Stowe in Early March brought Emily Lovett, National Team XC Coach, to Stowe. We created two pop up events for her, one at Stowe XC Center and one at Trapp's Family lodge. Both events included some of our Nordic Ed Staff and our membership. Our XC Exams were that weekend and Emily stayed to observe our (Eastern Division's) assessment process, assist and ski with the group. It was a great experience for all and a chance for the Western skiers to see what the East does in XC. We were very proud to have our new Assessment Guides posted on our website and to be utilizing the new Assessment Forms. We had a successful XC Exam with Gail Jaques passing Level II and Jane Henry and Marianne Lucy passing Level III. Congratulations ladies on a job well done. A big shout out to Trapp's Family Lodge for hosting and for the great conditions.

Our Tele Exam was at Killington during a freeze/thaw session, so the conditions were frozen hard in the morning and corn snow after lunch. These are challenging conditions in which to perform your best. We had only one Level I candidate and we put him with the Level II candidates. Congratulations Gene Zaretskiy from Hunter and originally from Ukraine. Great Job, Gene!



Successful Level I candidate Gene Zaretskiy with Mickey Stone

All of our Level II candidates were successful; congratulations to Erika Breton, Jake Crawford and Chris Kovaly.



Chris Kovaly, Erika Breton, Mickey Stone and Jake Crawford

Also, our Level III candidates were all successful too, congratulations to Paul Kotchey, Mike Maher, Chip Martin and Matt Ruddy.



Matt Charles, Chip Martin, Paul Kotchey, Mike Maher, Matt Ruddy and Keith Rodney

We had four Development team candidates and we would like to congratulate Kurt Byrnes from Seven Springs as our new ed staff member. Seven Springs is the current powerhouse in tele and a big thanks to Jay Nation and the Appalachian Telemark Association for having their own events, hosting ours, Tele Tuesdays and lots of training. This telemark seed was all started by Jim Kapp who we acknowledged with the Kare Anderson Award for his extraordinary commitment to promote free heel skiing and inspire others in living the Nordic life. Jim's daughters accepted the award on his behalf. RIP Jim.



Karen Dalury, Matt Charles, New Dev Team Kurt Byrnes from 7 Springs, Keith Rodney (Notice he is standing on his tip toes to out flank me) Mickey Stone and Ali Pirnar



Kurt Byrnes (Seven Springs) – New Tele Development Team member

Here's a little about new Telemark Development Team member, Kurt Byrnes:

Kurt Byrnes has been sliding on snow since he was 7 years old. He switched from alpine to tele gear when he was 25 and after 30+ years, his heel is still free. Kurt has embraced the skiing community and discovered he not only has a passion for skiing, but also for teaching others. Kurt has been an instructor since 2016 and has progressed from a level one instructor to the development team as well as a staff trainer at Seven Springs in PA. Kurt is highly motivated to help keep Telemark skiing alive by encouraging and inspiring the next generation through his involvement in the Appalachian Telemark Association (ATA).

ATA puts on the Telepalooza Telemark Festival at Seven Springs in PA. ATA has been privileged to host many guest instructors at Telepalooza including current and former National Demo Team members, numerous examiners, and dev team members. In addition to Telepalooza, ATA runs free monthly telemark clinics and has a fleet of loaner equipment.

Long Live Telemark!

Kurt's "real" job is being an IT geek, and he's been doing that practically as long as he's been skiing. When Ski season is over, Kurt breaks out his running gear and heads back into the woods as a long-time ultra-runner. When he's not out running in the summer, he's out racing (or fixing) his vintage MG race car. Kurt lives in a suburb of Pittsburgh with his son Connor (who is also an IT geek, avid Tele Skier, and budding race car driver), his tolerant wife Sharon (just an IT geek), and Tango, their big yellow dog.

Kurt offers a few thoughts on the exam/tryout process:

Skiing examinations can be very stressful events. Every aspect of your skiing, teaching, and people skills are meticulously watched and critiqued. I successfully tried out for the Eastern Telemark Dev Team this season. Preparing for the exam, I tried to make sure I was able to perform every skiing activity listed in the assessment guide in as many conditions as I could. I had envisioned an examiner standing along a slope as we skied past, performing a variety of skills. To my surprise and joy, the process was nothing like that. The examiners made the two days FUN. Our assignment was simply to watch each other ski and make ourselves and everyone in the group better skiers and teachers. We skied, a lot. We coached, critiqued, encouraged, and pushed each other for two days under the tutelage of the examiners. Sometimes we taught to the group, sometimes we paired up and taught each other. At the end of the two days, we had all improved our skiing and learned a lot about teaching.

One more season-ending statistic:

Here is an interesting stat. This might be good or it might be bad, but I think it shows we have all been penned up for too long. Between Pro Jam, Mini Academy, Canaan Valley Hoedown, Spring Fling, Spring Rally and the Tele Exam, the ed staff and participants drank a total of 28 bottles of AQUAVIT, "The Water of Life." We had some great parking lot parties this year and many thanks to all who brought gravlax, aquavit and other food items to the parties. Dave Berger thanks to you for all you do.

Enjoy Mud Season and the summer. We appreciate all the support and participation in the Nordic arena. ☞

Reflections on the Season

By Keith Rodney

PSIA Telemark National Team; PSIA-E Telemark Examiner
US Telemark Ski Team Head Coach

What a great season it has been. We've been able to host many clinics and exams, thanks to loosening restrictions countrywide. I've had the pleasure to be able to travel representing both eastern and national. I've been able to travel as far south as Pennsylvania for Telepalooza and as far west as Big Sky for the National Academy. I was able to visit the Rocky Mountain, Central and Intermountain Regions for information exchange. We have such a passionate group across the country. My first event of the season was the Eastern Region Master's Academy and Pro Jam. This large multi-discipline event is a great way to start your season off on a high. My next event was the first of what will be many trips to Telepalooza. This Telemark Festival had over 30 participants during the two days, even with heavy rain. I finished the Eastern season with the Norwegian Tele fling at Sugarbush and the Spring Rally at Stowe. We had multiple groups at both events. Our Tele fling both on and off the snow brings in a phenomenal Norwegian/Telemark experience. On the flip-side, the Spring Rally which includes all the disciplines is a great event and it allows you to see the fun from many different sides. What a wonderful way to end the Eastern event season! This winter has been a great ride. I am so looking forward to seeing what next season brings.

At the national level the new assessment process has been going well as each region of the country introduced the new National Standards, Performance Guides and Assessment Forms. Nationally, we will be spending the summer reflecting and reviewing everything that's happened this winter for the purpose of continuing to develop tools to better help you with your educational journey. The National Team members will be working hard on what we will be sharing at Interski in Levi, Finland next season. ☞

your turn

This section is an opportunity for member's voices to be heard. Opinions expressed may not reflect the views of PSIA-AASI or all of its members.

A Day in The Life of a Ski Instructor

By Karen Armour

Alpine Level II

Hidden Valley Resort, PA



Walking into the Learning Center to meet my private lesson, I saw him. *Oh no. It can't be.*

He was the same gentleman I'd seen the last three days skiing on the easiest beginner's slope and using the Magic Carpet. Other instructors had commented on his apparent lack of coordination. I admired his perseverance. He sported the biggest, widest smile. At least he was having fun.

José was still smiling when I introduced myself. He looked like he was in his early 40s. "I've noticed you on the beginners' slope," I said. "You're skiing well enough that we can start on the handle tow." His smile grew even wider. *I hope this isn't a mistake.*

After making a few runs on the handle tow and teaching him to turn, control his speed, and stop, it was time. Time for the chair lift. His smile disappeared. *Keep him talking on the chairlift, so he doesn't worry about the steepness.* Riding the lift, he told me he was a plastic surgeon in Venezuela. He was visiting for the Christmas holiday. He said he wanted to make it an annual event.

After getting off the chairlift, I said, "Do what I do. Just follow me. No passing and no running into the instructor or anybody else." He laughed. We made one turn and stopped. And another. And another. Near the bottom, we started making linked turns. His smile returned.

As we rode the chairlift, José repeatedly thanked me. "If you come to Venezuela, I could do a breast enhancement for you for fifteen hundred dollars." *Are you kidding me? I'm wearing an oversized unisex uniform. What makes him think I need an "enhancement?"*

We made a series of linked turns on his next run, and he skied without falling or stopping. On the chairlift, he thanked me again and offered, "I could do your eyes for another fifteen hundred dollars." *Are my eyes that bad? I'm wearing goggles with tinted lenses.*

José excitedly said, "I'll see you next year. I can't wait to come back." Fortunately, he didn't mention plastic surgery.

During lunch, I shared my experience with the other instructors. The female instructors asked, "Can we go to Venezuela with you? Do you think he'd give us a quantity discount? Normally, a breast enhancement costs between six and ten thousand dollars." *How would they know?*

My husband Bob was the supervisor, which meant he was my boss (in theory, anyway). At the one o'clock lineup, he gave me my next assignment. "It's a couple who was unhappy with their previous lesson."

When I introduced myself, the woman immediately complained about her last lesson. "He was young and athletic and could do all the drills." *Of course the instructor could do the drills.* "We are older, so we couldn't do them." They looked like they were in their late 30s to early 40s. *So they think 40 is old?*

The instructor she referred to was one of the best on staff. He was personable, enthusiastic, compassionate, and an alpine Level III. *This is going to be a challenge.*

In my attempt to relate skiing to an activity they participated in, I asked, "What do you do in your spare time?"

The woman spat angrily, "Spare time? Who has spare time? I have a family to take care of, a household to run, and a full-time job." *Oh boy.*

Bob had walked in during her tirade. I looked at him sideways, and he knew what I was thinking (how could you do this to me?) Diffusing the situation, he asked, "Why did you decide to take up skiing?"

"We used to bowl in a couples league, and our friends quit," the husband replied. "So we wanted to take up another sport." *Now, all I have to do is relate bowling to skiing.*

"Great," I said. "Bowling will help with your skiing! In bowling, while you're releasing the ball, you're transferring your weight from one foot to the other. Timing is everything in bowling, as it is in skiing. We will be transferring our weight from one ski to the other as we turn."

We went out on the hill, and the woman's anger dissipated as she successfully performed some simple exercises. *I wonder if it was her husband's idea to take up skiing.* She would revert to skiing in a wedge when the terrain got slightly steeper. Her husband had a different issue. He tried to muscle his way through the turns by using his shoulders, even though his skis were on his feet. I told them, "Turning is like my hair color, Nice'N Easy."

After a few more runs, her skiing improved. She was smiling when she got to the bottom, and her husband was beaming.

At the end of the lesson, Bob was waiting for me.

"How did it go?" he asked hesitantly.

"It was great," I told him.

"Would you mind teaching one more lesson? She's an older woman, and I think she would be comfortable with you."

When I met her, she appeared nervous so I asked her, "Have you skied before?"

"My friends took me skiing when I was in my twenties, and it didn't go well." *Isn't that often the case when friends try to teach friends?* She continued, "I'm the vice president of a bank. I'm 70 years old, and I've always wanted to try skiing again." Looking at me, she said, "I'm so happy they gave me an instructor who is my age."

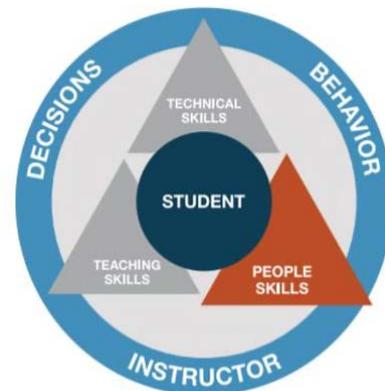
What is she talking about, her age? I'm 58. Do I look like I'm 70? Maybe I should take José up on his offer of plastic surgery. ☺

The Power of the People Skills

By Joe Forte

AASI-E Development Team

Blue Mountain, PA



I think we all know that instructor who gets dozens of requested private lessons, despite not being the best slider or having the highest certification on the hill. Their teammates often ask, "how do they do it?" The answer is in the personal connection that they develop with the guest. The people skills fundamentals provide a great framework for understanding how to better connect with our guests, our teammates, and our leadership.

As snowsports instructors, we learn about many different teaching concepts such as the CAP Model, Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, and Gardner's Multiple Intelligences. However, many instructors struggle with the *application* of these concepts. This is why the people skills are so critical. By developing a closer connection to our guests, we can gain their trust. Learning more about their motivations, behaviors, and emotions, helps us gather a more accurate student profile. From there, we utilize meaningful two-way communication to deliver our lesson plan. By having an awareness of our own behaviors, we can realize the full potential of our personalities and create an optimal learning environment for our guests.

The people skills fundamentals also help us connect with our teammates. Snowsports schools are an amazing mixture of people from all walks of life. Sometimes these differences can cause interpersonal challenges. The people skills remind us to create an awareness of ourselves and of those around us. This awareness helps us become more empathetic to our teammates and their individual perspectives. Seeing the world through various viewpoints gives us a more complete picture and we realize that our differences and diversity actually makes us stronger as a team!

Communicating with management is a key component of all snowsports schools but can sometimes be intimidating or frustrating. The people skills remind us to recognize the motivations of others. By gaining an appreciation for their objectives, we learn to frame our goals with those of our leaders. This creates a win-win situation and leaders are far more likely to see our perspective once we've considered their perspective.

The people skills fundamentals provide a framework to help us better connect with the people around us. They help us identify and manage the behaviors and emotions that hold us back as well as highlight the things that make us awesome and unique individuals! So, drop in, connect, and unlock the power of the people skills!

The People Skills Fundamentals:

- Develop relationships based on trust
- Engage in meaningful two-way communication
- Identify, understand, and manage your emotions and actions
- Recognize and influence the behaviors, motivations, and emotions of others <<

Freestyle for Instructors: Using Freestyle Every Day

By Tyler Sullivan

PSIA-E Alpine Development Team, Rocky Mountain Freestyle Trainer, Freestyle Specialist 3, Children's Specialist 2, Snowboard Level 1 Bristol Mountain, NY



Chatting with a fellow instructor, the topic of freestyle versus non-freestyle skiing came up. “Why do people even engage in freestyle skiing?” my colleague asked, in a tone I can only describe as pure disapproval for the term “freestyle.” For me, the connection between the two is the same as your boots connected to your skis. Let's explore the connection between freestyle and non-freestyle skiing, and I'll share my personal twist on how to use freestyle skiing. Finally, what do clients want in a “park lesson” and what does that mean for freestyle in PSIA?

The connection between freestyle and non-freestyle skiing. In modern skiing, instructors work extensively on perfecting rotational control, edge control and pressure control skills. Freestyle and non-freestyle skiing share these fundamentals, which can be interchanged to enhance overall skiing ability.

For starters, athletes balance over the base of support and move along the length of the ski every time they approach a jump, ascend a ramp, and take flight. If they're out of balance, then once they are in the air they will most likely be looking up at the sky or down at the snow and not in a good position for a smooth landing.

One example of rotational control occurs on a box. As athletes approach a box they are going straight, right before they make contact with the box, they rotate their body perpendicular to slide it. Then, at the end of the box, they rotate back to face downhill for a smooth landing.

An example of edge control is when an athlete sets an edge and carves up the take-off of a jump to perform an off-axis maneuver. This is a similar sensation to what ski racers feel when they are in the middle of a carved turn.

Pressure control is used any time athletes choose to change the pressure point on their skis, which is usually done during the approach to a feature; or while performing a butter maneuver. Pressure control is also used when athletes go off a jump and pop to get air, as well as when they land. On the landing, athletes time flexion movements to absorb the impact. The flex of the ski creates pressure that needs to be controlled in order to ride away smoothly.

My personal twist on freestyle. I use freestyle in the way the elements were highlighted earlier in this article and incorporate them into every run down the mountain. For example, take skiing down a mogul run. I enjoy jumping off one mogul and landing on the backside of the next. This jump is an example of the freestyle term “projection of primary” (aka “POP”) – defined in the PSIA-AASI Freestyle Manual as how a skier or rider projects their center of mass to change the path, rotation, and orientation of the body through a combination of tipping, turning, flexing and extend-

ing movements at the instant of leaving the ground, snow, or rail feature.

I also use the skills highlighted when sliding a box, in the moguls. I do this by sliding into the mogul then rotating around it. I move my center of mass over my downhill ski to get it to grip, allowing me to turn the skis down the fall line in a fluid motion and continue downhill.

What do clients want out of a park lesson?

For the past 10 seasons, I was a Freestyle Trainer in the Rocky Mountain Division based out of Beaver Creek, CO. While there, I came up with the idea to have “Freestyle Fridays” as part of our training program at Beaver Creek. Each Friday, I would go out with 6-10 people who wanted to go through teaching scenarios and work on skier improvement. After leading many of these clinics, the same ambitions from instructors would show up each week. Many would want to learn to slide a box sideways, be able to clear a small table top jump, and maybe learn a 180 degree or 360 degree spin over a jump.

This process directly ties into the question “What do our clients want out of a park lesson?” Often students taking park lessons are between the ages of 7-17. At times parents (understanding the risks inherent in park-riding) want to tag along to see their child is being taught how to be safe in the park. They also want to understand what actually goes on in the park – the features, the rules, and the flow (specifically, how a park's flow might differ from other trails). As for the student, we already know what they want: to be able to show off to their friends, of course. That said, students want to learn, similar (if not exactly the same) skills as instructors at my Beaver Creek clinics.

What does this mean to members and the certification process? According to the Winter 2022 issue of *32 Degrees*, 5 percent of PSIA members got their Freestyle Specialist 1 accreditation in 2019, 8 percent in 2020, and 6 percent in 2021. 1 percent or fewer got their FS2 or FS3.

As an organization we should continue to grow the understanding of freestyle fundamentals through FS1 accreditation and how they directly relate to non-freestyle skiing. Programs such as Freestyle Fridays, focusing on what students want out of a freestyle lesson, and using my twist on freestyle will create more versatile skiers and guests who continually want to learn more in the park and out. Spreading this message will help us reach younger members and inspire them to continue with PSIA, as well as give our long serving members a new understanding of freestyle and another reason to stay current. <<

continued on next page >>

Snowsports for All

By Daniel Rodriguez

PSIA Level I

Blue Mountain Resort, PA



It is not news that the cost of skiing is beyond the means of many, especially people from marginalized communities. If our industry is to survive, we need to expand our base. If we want skiing to be more than a bucket list item for most, we must invest in innovative means to bring non-traditional skiers to the mountains.

My first experience skiing was when I was 18. My family didn't ski, nor could we afford many extra-curriculars. As a child, I would browse the pages of *Skiing* magazine at the drugstore, and imagine myself skiing at some mystical resort. My first ski trip came courtesy of an inexpensive trip organized by my local YMCA. Late starts are common for individuals raised in lower socioeconomic status families.

I skied during college but then stopped. I didn't ski again until my Forties when I sought a sport for my son and recalled the joys of sliding down a mountain. Back then, I did little more than wedge my way down runs, most of which were above my level. My friends brought me to black diamonds much to my displeasure (and to the chagrin of expert skiers looking for safe fun). Though memorable, those experiences did little to build my love for the sport. Indeed, they are emblematic of the problem most first-timers face when heading to the mountains. People get bad advice from well-meaning friends who persuade them to boot up without lessons, and they go down slopes for which they are ill-prepared. While they have stories to tell about the time they went skiing, it ends there. To love this sport, one needs to learn appropriately and spend many hours practicing what one learned. The rewards of the learning process far exceed the entertaining stories about checking skiing off of one's bucket list.

Learning is a process. Instructors know this, but we are limited in our group lessons by the need to meet each skier at their level of experience and comfort. We give students the fundamentals (edging, rotation, pressure, and balance). Yet, once students leave

us, it's hard for them to progress without additional lessons, for one cannot watch oneself ski, and provide oneself knowledgeable feedback. However, lessons past the first-time experience are not always available, and private lessons can get expensive.

Skiing is an expensive sport, making it quite exclusive. Progressing from a first-timer to intermediate requires lessons and feedback. Too few mountains offer adults learning opportunities beyond the initial lesson. For children, the opportunities are vast and affordable. Not so for adults. To help adult skiers advance from the bunny slope to the mountain, we need additional and affordable lesson options. In sports like tennis, there are drill sessions segregated by skill level. Coaches feed students buckets of balls and help students refine skills learned in lessons. Drill sessions are rewarding and affordable. We need the same for skiing, especially if we desire to bring more diversity to the mountains. Beginner skiing lessons are affordable, with most including equipment and lift tickets. Beyond that, the cost often increases exponentially. It's hard to convince individuals, especially those with limited disposable income, to spend scarce resources on private lessons. Currently, many resorts offer discounted lesson programming on weekday mornings when most are working instead of on weekends or afternoons when people have time off.

Bringing new skiers to the mountain requires investment. First, we must invest in inexpensive lesson formats when working people have time off, designed to advance beginners to the mountain. These programs must be low-cost and include equipment. The cost to the mountain for running inexpensive programs will pay dividends as participants become lifelong skiers.

Second, we must provide transportation to the mountain from major cities. This could include weekly charters from a center city location, with packages including lift tickets, lessons, and equipment. Not everyone living in a city has a car. If it wasn't for the YMCA, I would never have had the opportunity to ski. We shouldn't depend on outside organizations to organize trips.

Third, train staff to understand diversity. Minority individuals often feel unwelcome in mountains, especially when there are few staff and customers who look like them. Even if we welcome everyone warmly, people may not feel welcome. We must learn to empathize with marginalized individuals to make them feel welcome.

I love skiing. I am fortunate that someone at the YMCA had the foresight to organize a trip introducing me to this beautiful sport. It's sad though that so few can experience what I now do regularly. Skiing shouldn't be exclusive. As John Muir famously penned in the late 19th century, "The mountains are calling and I must go..." The call applies to everyone, not just the well-off amongst us. <<

who's got next?

NextCore News

NextCore is a dedicated group of young members age 16-39 who are working together to promote the change and develop the programs and benefits vital to long-term engagement of the "next core" of PSIA-AASI membership.

NextCore Update

By Matt Lyerly

NextCore Program Director

A2, CS1, FS1

Massanutten Resort, VA



reetings eastern members,

I hope everyone had a fun and productive '21-'22 snow season.

The NextCore team enjoyed a productive season as we have grown our social media membership and added new members to our steering committee. In addition, we finished up our inaugural 'Next Steps' Mentorship Program where we paired members of the ed staff (mentors) with members of the 16-39-year-old demographic (NextCore) for collaboration and mentoring during the snow season. We are in the process of completing an exit survey, so stay tuned for that in a future edition of the Snow Pro.

Are you a young member of the organization looking to learn more about NextCore and connect with us? Check out our Facebook page below or shoot me an email. Think snow everyone, it will be here before you know it

mwlyerly@gmail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NextcoreEast> <<

This winter we created a video to share why we love PSIA-AASI.

CHECK IT OUT AT:

<https://youtu.be/LYAIvP9J--g>

adaptive airtime

Meet the New Adaptive Advisor

We are pleased and proud to announce that Ed Meltzer has been named as the new PSIA-AASI Eastern Adaptive Advisor.

Among his many duties in his role as the Adaptive Advisor, Ed will chair the Adaptive Steering Committee and work with the Education and Programs Department to create the Adaptive Event and Assessment Schedule. He'll work alongside the Adaptive



Examiner Coach to help plan the Adaptive Education Staff training and his input will help to guide the Eastern Adaptive discipline into the future.

Ed started his career in Adaptive ski teaching in the fall of 2005 by volunteering for New England Disabled Sports at Loon Mountain. A group of coaches were going to a Level I exam at Bretton Woods that March and Ed tagged along to see what it was about. "I wanted to become a student of the subject and I thought the best way was to jump in the deep end, read the material and put myself out there." That experience led to a commitment to Adaptive certification with some Alpine sprinkled in at first. "Had I known what I know now I would have prioritized the Alpine certification process. That knowledge makes Adaptive teaching much more relevant." Ed joined the Adaptive Board of Education in March of 2015, a year after achieving Level III Adaptive and became fully certified in Alpine in February 2018. "This journey has been life changing for me personally and I look forward to working closely with our membership to enhance the journey for all who seek it."

As we welcome Ed, we want to once again thank Kathy Chandler for her many years of leadership, her extensive knowledge of the adaptive discipline and the countless hours she spent working with and inspiring others to become great skiers, riders and snowsports teachers. Kathy will continue to work as an Eastern Adaptive Examiner and we look forward to many more years of her contributions to PSIA-AASI and the adaptive discipline. <<

New Adaptive Development Team Members



(L to R) Kevin King (Wintergreen Adaptive), Shawn Russell (Wintergreen Adaptive), Brian Donovan (Current AASI National Team member and selector), Tera Adams (Adaptive Sports at Mount Snow), Geoff Krill (Current PSIA-AASI Adaptive National Team Coach and selector)

PPSIA-AASI Eastern Division Adaptive Development Team Tryouts: On April 4-5, 2022, the Eastern Division hosted a tryout to select the future clinicians and Education Staff members for Adaptive discipline events. Embracing the One-Team concept, the candidates and the selectors represented a variety of disciplines. The candidates worked with each other in a variety of situations, focusing on the performance of the tool (equipment) the "student" was on, and the body movements required to improve that performance. After demonstrating their skills on snow for 2 days, we are pleased to announce the newly selected PSIA-AASI Eastern Division Adaptive Development Team members:

- Kevin King (Wintergreen Adaptive)
 - Shawn Russell (Wintergreen Adaptive)
 - Tera Adams (Adaptive Sports at Mount Snow)
- Congratulations! <<



What a Ride!

By Kathy Chandler
PSIA-E Adaptive Examiner
Eastern Adaptive Advisor



What a ride this has been. It all started so long ago, when we were using sit skis (kayak type ski with hand picks for turning) and certification was done by Disabled Sports USA. "Disabled skiing" as it was called, used to be its own progression for each of the disciplines. Over many years we have learned from each other, we have all grown personally and we have developed many programs for people with disabilities that are far reaching across this country. To be a part of this development and growth over the years has been my passion and given me an outlet to help others to enjoy the sport that I love. It has also been such an exciting ride watching so many others get involved and grow into incredible instructors.

Teaching adaptive skiing and snowboarding has become a specialty that has all the same skills and learning outcomes as other disciplines. We have grown from a discipline that was its own path to one that mirrors all of the others. The more we do it, the more we realize that we are all doing the same thing. We all need to have the sensitivity, empathy and clarity to recognize differences in each person's learning and create learning situations for them all. Creating the processes for us to embrace the differences and teach to them is the exciting part of teaching skiing or snowboarding. We are all one.

As I step back from my role as the Adaptive Advisor for PSIA-E, I do so with pride in how far we have come and the knowledge that this learning and developing will continue. The next generation is so ready to take over and move forward with gusto. The technology of adaptive equipment will continue to grow and become more user friendly. Teaching for everyone has taken on a new meaning that reaches individual needs. It is exciting to be a part of a discipline that embraces differences. Thanks to all for the support over the years. <<

Seeing Is Believing

By Sue Kramer

PSIA-E Alpine Examiner Coach

ACE Team Member

Each spring is a time for reflection on the past season. With COVID mostly in the rearview mirror my husband, Eric, and I decided to venture far and spent a week in Alaska. Alyeska is one of the most scenic resorts I've ever been to, with views of Turnagain Arm to the southwest and surrounded by the Chugach Mountains to the west, north and south. It boasts 2,500 vertical feet and this year has received a whopping 750" of snow! Springtime hours of operation are 11:00-6:00, which is fine but for a pair of Eastern Time Zone early risers, 11:00 couldn't have come soon enough. Day one and we were first in line for the first tram, only to discover on the first run the real reason for the late opening: the snow is like skiing on iced-over corrugated metal.

So what does a ski professional do when the snow stinks? Video of course. My poor husband had to spend his vacation catering to my need for personal development. Fortunately, we share the same interest in analytics and as we know from video, it doesn't lie. Due to the terrain, the time of year, and the anticipated snow conditions I brought my wide skis. Little did I know I'd be on hard Eastern snow for the better part of each day. Being a slalom-biased skier, of course I blamed the lack of ski performance from my wide skis on, well, the skis. But as I mentioned earlier, video doesn't lie and I took the opportunity to get coached by Eric. He's been with me long enough to know what to look for and it took all of 3 seconds for him to tell me I was "A-Framing". He might as well have said that I looked old.

Sucking up my pride I pulled on my big girl boots and reflected on the video. Wide skis are a challenge for those whose alignment includes a larger Q angle (see diagram), which refers to the angle made by drawing a line from the ASIS of the pelvis to the center of the patella and another line vertically drawn through the center of the patella and tibial tuberosity and contributes to lower leg misalignment. While it's more common for women than men, some men do have a relatively large Q angle. Evidence of this is seen when a skier appears knock-kneed or A-framed. In boot-fitting terminology this person would be considered undercanted.



Retrieved from <https://boneandspine.com/q-angle/>

In my estimation, the A-frame as observed, is magnified when trying to edge the skis in that the inside edge of the outside ski bites all at once or not enough, resulting in the outside ski washing out after the shaping phase. Ron LeMaster, RIP, describes this movement pattern to a "T" in *Ultimate Skiing* (p. 168):

"Try as [the severely undercanted skier] might, their skis won't hold because they can't achieve a platform angle of 90 degrees or smaller in the mid-body of the ski. Moderately undercanted skiers have problems too, because they use too much of their range of motion in angulation simply to get the ski to hold, leaving them no ability to tighten the turn by angulating more, and they can't flex the leg at the knee and hip smoothly while making the ski grip. The tails of their skis often slip at the end of the turn, and their excessive knee angulation commonly leaves them facing their tips rather than countering as they go through the turn. Because most skiers naturally push their knee forward as they rotate the leg inward, undercanted skiers also often end up with excessive forward pressure as they go for more and more knee angulation."

It's no surprise that my ski preference tends toward the short radius, narrow-waisted. With this type of ski, the knee doesn't have as far to travel to the inside edge of the outside ski. The wider the ski is underfoot, the further the knee has to travel and therefore the more difficult is it to get the ski to bite. Of course, if the snow is soft and/or deep, this edging challenge isn't as problematic. On hard snow, as it was at Alyeska, the more I tried to get the edge to bite, the worse the skis performed. Looking at my video through the lens of the alpine fundamentals, it appeared (and *felt*) like I was trying to establish early edge engagement through knee angulation (just as described by LeMaster) when ideally I wanted to use *inclination* at the top of the turn.

Now the question was how can this be corrected? What solutions could I prescribe for myself? The first step to correcting the alignment challenge was to play with canting. Fortunately, I did bring some temporary cants with me (hot pink of course), applying .5 degrees to one ski and 1.0 to the other. (Make sure you check with a professional boot fitter before trying this yourself.) The change was immediate and ski performance felt more accurate. This being only part of the equation, I considered how I was applying the fundamentals, especially on steep terrain with hard snow. As mentioned above, the familiar "go to"

move was to dig in using knee angulation, just as LeMaster described and on a longer radius, wider ski this only caused a great deal of knee and hip pain with little gain in ski performance.

As we also know, good skiing involves *all* of the fundamentals. By first sorting out the stance issue, I was then able to play with the fundamentals and it became clear that controlling pressure to the outside ski early in the turn was also part of the solution. Once better aligned to both skis, I was more able to direct force to the new outside ski by *reducing* pressure on the old outside ski. I played with this in a pedaling-type fashion and discovered how responsive the skis were and how well they tracked throughout the arc. In addition to identifying which fundamentals to focus on, it became clear that to achieve the desired outcome of smoothly tracking skis, careful metering of duration, intensity, rate and timing of the pedaling action was necessary so as to minimize pressure spikes and to achieve the "clean edges" that I was seeking.

Through careful reflection I was able to make adjustments to body performance that had a positive impact on ski performance. Using video and the LCM Technical Skills as tools for movement analysis were extremely beneficial to this process. It's my belief (and advice) to anyone wanting to "get to the next level," to use these resources:

- Get videoed by a trusted friend or colleague
- Be specific with what to film i.e. choose an activity and film that in varying terrain, snow conditions and speed
- Use the *Alpine Technical Performance Guide* and *Eastern Alpine Assessment Guide* to compare "real" performance with the "ideal"
- If alignment is problematic, find a master boot fitter for advice
- Experiment with each fundamental until the correct blend yields the best result for the desired outcome
- Record findings

By the time this article is read we'll be well into the off-season and that's okay. It's my hope that if the experience shared here strikes a chord with you, re-read this next fall and get your alignment checked out. Make a plan to get videoed in the beginning of the season and set time aside to evaluate the performance. Then you'll have the entire winter to work on making changes. Let's remember that we strive for great ski performance in a variety of settings, after all, no two turns occur on the same surface.

Sue Kramer
Alpine Examiner Coach
ACE Team <<

Some Reflection on Implementing the New National Standards

By Chris Ericson
 Certification Chairperson
 PSIA-E Examiner

Never in my life did I think that a laptop and a Wi-Fi connection would now be part of my boot-bag assembly when working a PSIA-AASI Alpine Assessment event. However, here I was, at the end of the day, finding a quiet place to open my laptop and input data for dozens of candidates. Oh yes, this season was going to be very different.

When years of work were ultimately unveiled at the beginning of this season with the implementation of the new National Standards, there was, of course, some anxiety in the air for everyone. Add to that the use of an internet-based, and standardized National Assessment form that Examiners had to complete, and the potential stress of this year's assessments was enormous on all levels. The growing pains of standardization as a national organization were felt this year by everyone, but the gains are already apparent.

In the 2021 Fall issue I wrote about the National Standards coming out for all the disciplines, and how this was the culmination of years of work with various committees and conferences. Alignment with all the divisions across the country is now closer than ever, ultimately adding more value to what certification means from division to division. Going into the 2021-2022 season we had lots of unknowns. Making sure that the Educational Staff were trained on the standards and the process for making that assessment, were a top priority. As we got into the season and started getting a few assessment events under our belt, we were able to find areas where efficiency and procedures could be modified, ultimately making the process more comfortable for everyone.

Exam Tasks vs. Fundamentals and Activities

One of the biggest differences everyone saw this year was that candidates were no longer getting a score for a particular activity. A Level II or III Skiing Assessment was essentially just a day of skiing around the mountain, with the Examiner using different activities to see if ultimately the skier could adjust and adapt the Alpine Skiing Fundamentals to demonstrate specific outcomes. It wasn't about doing a perfect Wedge Christie or Leaper or any of the other activities, but more about showing and understanding the application of fundamentals in those activities. When a group was asked to do Short Radius Turns, then to do them again in the same size corridor except only slower, it was up to the candidate to determine what had to be done with the fundamentals to succeed at the activity. At the end of the day, all of the skiing of various chosen activities and free-runs were boiled down to three assessment scores, not nine as in years past.

The same simple number of scores could not be said for the Teaching Assessment. When scoring a candidate's Teaching Skills, Technical Knowledge, Movement Analysis and People Skills, the number of assessment criteria that an Examiner had to evaluate increased up to twenty-four for a Level II or III Assessment. This is the reason we've had to limit the number of people in group for a Teaching Assessment, as it's a lot to keep track of and observe. This assessment is full of opportunities for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and the skills they've acquired, resulting in great coaching and teaching. Not to simplify it too much, but it is a time where candidates ski through some activities, make some observations of each other and share information with regard to changes of performance where needed and coaching more efficient use of fundamentals. It is a format that allows us to evaluate the National Assessment Criteria in an environment that is fluid and changeable.

The National Standards are here to stay and as more data is collected and conversations happen over the summer, your organization's leadership will continue to work on educational opportunities that help to develop the skills you need to be a great instructor. We are excited about the changes that are happening, even if it means making more room in my boot-bag for a laptop. <<



A typical end of the day inputting assessment scores
 Photo Credit – Suzy Chase Motzkin

Member Cards

Member Services receives a lot of questions about member cards. One question we hear often is: “How do I get my membership card?” With our new system in place, members now have easy access to their digital membership card which is always updated. This is an advantage for members who get certified, or achieve a higher level of certification, because new certifications show up quickly on the card. Or if a member catches up on their education credits, the digital card will reflect the change in education status from “Inactive” to “Active.” (Please see the article in this issue titled “Important Changes to Your Education Requirements.”) This digital card is printable or can be stored on your phone as a pdf. Resorts and vendors will accept the card in this form.

You can access your card by signing into your member portal at <https://members.thesnowpros.org/>. Click on **My Membership Card** to see your card.

You'll have the option to download the card and you can save it on your computer or phone. We encourage members to use the digital card to save resources – not just for PSIA-AASI, but more importantly, for our planet.

Members on quarterly auto pay will use the digital membership card. However, we do understand that some members still like to carry a physical member card. If you would like a physical membership card and you are not on quarterly auto pay, **when you renew your dues, make sure you opt in to a physical membership card** which will be sent by mail. Even if you have opted in to the physical membership card in past seasons, you should still plan on opting in again when you renew your membership if you want a physical membership card. Usually, new physical cards are mailed from the National office in Colorado at the end of the summer. <<

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following members who earned their new Level I, Level II or Level III certification or their new Children's or Freestyle Specialist accreditation during this past season!

Alpine Level 3

Simeon Bayles
James Billingslea
Gary Ciocci
Kathleen Cirelli
Gary Cook
Charles Goller
Colin Gully
Eduardo Guzman
William Humber
Alan Kelsey
Keith Lawrence
Mark Linker
Steven Melamed
Christa Miller-Shelley
Brendan O'meara
Linsey Phelan
Eric Phillips
Nicolette Pocius
Karen Anne Riley
Michael Ryan
Dylan Sim
Matthew Walters

Alpine Level 2

Eric Aborjaily
Scott Albee
Campbell Andersen
Matthew Annis
Summer Austin
Judy Bechard
Walter Bischak
Daniel Bois
Richard Bray
Daniela Brozkova
Ryan Burrow
Kristen Butler
Tess Chang
Jennifer Cleveland
Brenten Conklin
Russell Crawford
William Curley
Samantha Curtis
Karen Danko
Mary Davis
Robert Deutsch
Fred Dieffenbach
Duncan Dobbeltmann
Leonardo Drake
Paul Epsom
William Erickson
Quinn Ferguson
Isabella Fernandez
Santiago Fernandez
Gail Ferreira
Robert Frederick
Bart Gabler
Kalyan Ghosh
Albert Giannino
Daniel Goldman
Jennifer Graham
Myles Hamilton
Kevin Hawthorne
Gillian Hayden
Christopher Herrick
Slayton Johnson
Kristin Knox
Richard Lambert
Phil Latinski
Michelle Leibowitz
Michael Mafodda
Stephen Maire
Gordon Marron

Valeriy Matveev
Charles Mcneeley
James Monefeldt
Charles Mulloy
Cory Munsterteiger
Norman Neumayer
Cheryl Norton
Matthew Noviello
Wyatt Nowak
Mike Oleksinski
Blake Olson
Susan Page
Robert Platz
Harry Riggs
David Rosenberger
Shawn Russell
Emilia Sadonis
Joseph Savitch
Michael Schaefer
Brian Scheffler
Julia Schneider
Justin Schwab
Thomas Severance
Stewart Sheppard
Daniel Shields
Brett Shuster
Goran Smiljic
Carrie Smith
Marc Smith
Jan Steckel
Sebastian Sweatman
Miroslav Vytrisal
Weiren Wang
Frances Warren
Shawn Watkins
Katherine Weaver
Deborah Wheeler
Joseph Williams
Arthur Wise
Yubo Zhao

Alpine Level 1

Jason Aceto
Laura Adam
Calvin Adams
Ethan Adner
Luis Aguirre
Cameron Allembert
Chris Allen
Peter Anderau
Anna Anderson
Chip Anderson
Gary Anderson
Merrilee Anderson
Monika Andrzejkiewicz
Nicholas Andrzejkiewicz
Stephen Annino
Kelly Anthony
Ian Apruzzese
Francisca Araya
Kian Arbabi
Garrett Arrington
Arianna Asquini
Cleo Austein
Alyssa Austin
Nancy Azzaretto
Kira Bacon
Zoe Badner
Fran Bain
Austin Baird
Anna Banyard
Brandi Barclay
Jackson Barngrover

Leslie Barrow
Charles Bateman
Thomas Bausano
Brent Beauchene
Nate Beck
Peter Bellek
Mary Bergan
Evan Berthiaume
Karl Bertrand
Ran Bickel
Kayla Bildner
Andrew Birchenough
Walter Bixby
Russell Blair
Daniel Blasbalg
Quincy Boardman
Keith Bobrowiecki
Jose Boetsch
Beata Bogdanowicz
Mason Bolton
Madeleine Bonnes
Todd Borgus
Jeffry Borick
Hannah Borski
Brendon Bossong
Caden Boutwell
Ann Boxler
Lena Brady
Adelyn Breault
Amy Breininger
Rebecca Bristol
Jordan Brofsky
Emily Brooks
David Buchanan
Meghan Bundick
Mike Burke
Elias Burkholder
Andrew Burling
Frankie Burns Cohen
Peter Butler
Beth Buvarsky
Alan Byford
Yiwen Cao
Cameron Caouette
Ann Cappio
Emma Carder
Michael Carrillo
Marcus Chang
Aidan Chase
Jack Chennault
Diana Chiarella
Davis Choi
Ethan Chow
Leo Clary
Anna Clement
Jared Clemons
Jesse Cleveland
Lydia Cleveland
Kelly Clifford
Jesse Colchamiro
Christopher Colgan
Andrew Connell
Janine Connell
James Connors
Oliver Conrad
June Cook
Laura Cooper
Jennifer Coppit
Paul Coster
Jon Crane
Alicen Cruice
Ned Crystal
Sean Cunningham

Javiera Curilemo
Seth Cushinsky
Yifan Dai
Patrick Daly
Christian Dam
Olivia Dame
Lauren Dameron
Aaron Damon
Sasha Dance
Margaux D'arbeloff
Jennifer Davidson
Anthia Davis
Maurizio Del Poeta
Russell Demanche
Patricia Demiglio
Lisa Denardo
Martina Dinnocenzo
Adrianna Dong
Kerry Dontchos
Nancy Dorrans
Maximo Doyharzabal
Rhys Draper
Shane Draper
Jeffrey Dumars
Peter Dwyer
Grant East
Lauren Enright
Peter Estill
Mathew Evanitsky
Gerry Fabrizio
Lillian Feldman
Jing Feng
Francisco Fernandez
Madeline Festa
Camilo Figueroa
Mark Filippis
Lisa Flaherty
Michelle Foley
John Ford
Amy Fox
Jeanne Fox
Mary Franco
Ruben Freixenet
Michael Fuerst
Karen Fulcher Scholz
Avery Garrett
Brynn Garrett
Alicia Garza
Kathryn Gearhart
John Gebbie
Howard Geller
Zeki Ghazoul
Ashley Gilmartin
Jonathan Gleason
Samuel Gohl
Rose Goldman
Luc Gordon
Francesca Gorini
David Granger
Eric Grant
Tim Grant
Arne Grette
Mike Griffin
Chenyu Gu
Peter Guarascio
Ultan Guilfoyle
Sophie Guillemette
Ford Guo
Philip Hahn
Joseph Hallow
Amelia Hamby
J Hanes
Claire Hanley

Margaret Hanlon
Isabella Hanna
Edward Hanrahan
Christine Harrington
Stephen Harrington
Jay Harrison
Kristin Hart
Elisabeth Hartnett
Emma Harwood
Jake Hascup
Caitlin Hay
Erin Hayes
Xiaowei He
Aurora Heanue
Jeffrey Heanue
Susan Hebert Gormley
Kevin Hennessey
Sophia Henry
Caitlin Hensley
Matthew Herbster
Joshua Herman
Brooklyn Herron
Kief Hess
Karen Heston
Michelle Hewryk
Mark Higgins
Zachary Hill
John Holman
Vi Holmes
Bob Hoover
Hailey Hopkins
Stephanie Hopkins
Luke Hottenstein
Ashley Houde
Carolina Hovelmeyer
Logan Hoyt
Kimberly Hronec
Pippa Huffard
Hayden Husser
Jackson Husser
Luca Hyatt
Miki Inoue
Lee Ivory
Eric Jackson
Grace Jacobs
Darcy Jaskwich
Katherine Jenkins
Eloise Johnson
Emma Johnson
Cutler Jonathan
Aidan Jones
Nigel Jones
Elias Jordan
Shaylin Juhola
Diane Jutras
Alexandra Kaiser
Jennifer Katz-Borrin
Larry Keba
Martina Keeler
Jennifer Kelley
Madison Kelly
Sabrina Kennedy
Henry Kerr
Rowan Kidder
Adam Kimball
Lisa Kimball
Jordan Kincaid
Ben King
Owen King
Elivia Kingsley
Ryan Kipp
Kaitlyn Kirby
David Kirk

Sophia Kohmann
Charles Kollmer
David Krueger
Emi Kubota
Anton Kukharev
Sofia Kulynych
Nathan Lampshire
Jean Landry
Mercedese Large
Mountakha Latif
Phillip Latinski
Santiago Latorre
Megan Laws
Adelaide Lenz
Caitlin Levene
Charlie Levens
Richard Levis
Scott Lewis
Tyler Lewis
Carol Li
Enze Li
Jiening Li
Linliang Li
Alison Liedkie
Chanu Lim
Peizhen Lin
Caroline Linz
Tom Little
Kimberly Lloyd
Scott Lockhart
Cooper Loisel
Alexis Long
Chloe Long
Ryan Lothrop
Mamie Luogameno
Ken Lyons
Ding (Martin) Ma
Situ Ma
Xiwei Ma
Olivia Mackwell
Euan MacLachlan
Benjamin Magasich
James Mahon
Jillian Mahon
Matt Majka
Roman Malachevsky
Laurel Manville
Matty Marks
Justin Marsh
Alexander Marshall
Peter Martinez
Charlotte Martocci
Jessica Marullo
Caroline Maurer
Liam Mccarthy-Edwards
Daniel Mccluskey
Finlay McCormick
Sage Mccoy
Emily Mccutcheon
Samantha Mcdole
Liz Mcdonnell
Rowan Mcgrath
Lori Mclenithan
Charles Mcneeley
Christopher Merenlander
Kayla Messina
Orion Metheny
Antonia Millas
Eric Miller
Mitra Minovi
Kylie Mitchell
Jean-Pierre Mittaz
Paul Mitts

Kristin Moffa
 Karen Moore
 Benjamin Morris
 Christopher Muller
 Charles Mulloy
 Avery Murphy
 Madelaine Murphy
 Sean Murphy
 Serena Naraval
 Diego Navarrete
 Liz Nealon
 Jack Nedrow
 Allison Needham
 Christa Nehil
 Eleanor Neu
 Marc Nichituu
 Cody Nichols
 Amelia Nick
 Matthew Niemaszczk
 Wanda Nigro
 Jennifer Nilsen
 Agnieszka Noel
 Charlotte Nolan
 Joey Normandeau
 Michael Novemsky
 Alice Nuytens
 Lieven Nuytens
 Liam Obergfoll
 Sean O'brien
 Karl Ocepek
 Edward Oconnell
 Nancy O'connor
 Isabelle Oddy
 William Ogle Smair
 Melissa Oliver
 Max Olsson
 Michael Oot
 Richard Orlicki
 Paul Pacenka
 Luke Paciocco
 Hao Pang
 Stephen Paquin
 Tyler Paquin
 Robert Paradise
 Gordon Pate
 Sughey Paucar Izaguirre
 Michael Pearson
 Wenbo Pei
 Yue Peng
 Melina Petenatti
 Calvin Peters
 Joseph Peters
 Bill Petruccelli
 Scott Petrucco
 Cole Pettengill
 Gene Peyroux
 Paul Pien
 Simon Pierce
 Gillian Pineau
 Michael Pittman
 Thomas Pokorny
 James Polen
 Kevin Poli
 Kai Polozie
 Jeremy Poster
 Kimberly Price
 Michael Putera
 Lily Quant
 David Radeschi
 Alicia Rainville
 Jennifer Randolph
 Ethan Rapkin-Stiles
 Chloe Rayner
 Jared Reed
 William Reed
 Jennifer Reenders
 Carmela Reig
 Brennan Reiner
 Karl Rempe
 Cameron Reynolds-Beer
 Mark Rezendes
 Garrett Rinehard
 Armen Rissmiller

Gonzalo Rivera
 Gregg Rodenhiser
 Rachel Rodriguez
 Hanna Rohani-Wilson
 Christopher Rosato
 David Ross
 Allan Rotman
 Bridget Rourke
 Thom Routt
 Samantha Rowden
 Alexandra Rubinstein
 Emily Rusen
 Rachael Rushworth
 Gabriel Safar
 Robert Samp
 Christina Saros
 Paul Saulnier
 Hana Saydek
 Liam Schifferli
 Jade Schnauber
 Bernhard Scholz
 Steven Schotz
 Jack Schroeder
 Margot Schroeder
 Leora Schwartzbach
 Jeffry Scott
 Peter Semerad
 Renata Senatore
 Celeste Seto
 Liddell Shannon
 Alex Shapiro
 Garrett Shatzel
 George Shavel
 Maggie Shaw
 Michael Sheinkman
 Tanya Sheinkman
 Forrest (Moshe) Shenny
 Jack Sherwood
 Melvin Shoemaker
 Charles Shoup
 Eugenio Silva
 Kara Silverman
 Valentina Sisljan
 Sandra Smith
 Jeffrey Songhurst
 Hayden Sousie
 Nicholas (Niko) Spano
 Carl Sparacino
 Sonia Spirling
 Blake Spivey
 Claire Steffe
 Alexander Stefurak
 Leslie Stengel
 Lily Stoltz
 Roger Strane
 Lily Strehlow
 Josie Strife
 Gilbert Stringer
 Michael Stunja
 Yafan Su
 Wenyang Sun
 Brian Susko
 Colton Swan
 Victoria Taft
 Maria Tagni
 Yann Tanini
 Deborah Taricano
 Jackson Taunton
 Ismar Terzic
 Caleb Thibodeau
 Sean Thomas
 Craig Thompson
 Kris Tierney
 Emilia Todorovic
 Abby Torres
 Amy Trembly
 Christoff Trexler
 Olgierd Urbanski
 John Van Dijk
 Peter Vansickler
 Scott Vant
 Milos Veljkovic
 Amy Vickery

Santiago Viel
 Pablo Villanueva
 Lillie Villenave
 Carolyn Von Schenk
 Miroslav Vytrisal
 Eduardo Waddington
 Brie Waldron
 Rick Walker
 Wai Wong Wan
 Tanya Washington
 Charles Wason
 Yiyen Wei
 Jody Weinreich
 Adelaide Weir
 Chris Weis
 Michael Wellspeak
 Ann Wendle
 Erika Wentz
 Jeffrey White
 Courtney Wilday
 James Wilhelm
 Peter Williams
 David Wilson
 Alex Witheiler
 Kylie Wright
 Melissa Wright
 Evan Wu
 Yizhou Xiang
 Linshen Xie
 Boxin Xu
 Hao Yan
 Jialu Yan
 Zhaoyang Yang
 Jeremy Young
 Andrey Yunusov
 George Zavis
 Andres Zeballos
 Jenna Zellner
 Jean Zhang
 Jiarui Zhang
 Jingxiang Zhou
 Meurcie Zignoli
 Kiki Zinycz
 Dean Zorn

Snowboard Level 3

Clayton Ayers
 Jesse Cleveland
 Shannon Desilets
 Curtis Fearington
 Ryan Hayes
 Scott Johnson
 Kurston Kelly

Snowboard Level 2

Derek Blodgett
 Stephanie Breen
 Joel Callison
 Vincent Chisvette
 Charles Dagaino
 Adaline Dailey
 Anthony Deperrio
 Zhi Dou
 Clayton Edwards
 Elizabeth Hyde
 Joshua Ionno
 Luke Irmiter
 Chengdong Liang
 Lihao Liu
 Caleb Mckittrick
 James Mooney
 Connor Mulligan
 Felix Revoir
 Collin Schultz
 Steven Wanamaker-
 Hebebrand
 Joseph Weeks
 Daniel Wyllie

Snowboard Level 1

Noel Abraham
 Paul Aherne
 Hayley Almes

Victoria Almqvist
 Guillermo Carcamo
 Zachary Amelotte
 Amanda Amos
 Jacob Anderholm
 John Anderson
 Cade Andres
 Jeffrey Armstrong
 John Armstrong
 Collin Astholz
 Nicolas Astorga
 Summer Austin
 Paul Babineau
 Riley Bak
 Nfn Baolidao
 Reuben Beasley
 Xander Beck
 Heidi Beemer
 Johanna Beguin
 Orson Bell
 Jeremy Bensen
 Karl Bertrand
 Michael Bertrand
 Andre Boily
 Richard Bratton
 Joe Brendlinger
 Evan Brown
 George Buntzen
 Nora Butler
 Taylor Carty
 Maggie Chalifoux
 Taylor Champagne
 Jackie Cheever
 Jee Jay Chen
 Jianan Chen
 Qiang Chen
 Xiang Cheng
 Charlie Clark
 Gabe Coheley
 Jonathan Conway
 Ethan Cooper
 Andrew Corbett
 Dave Cornelius
 Rachel Cutler
 Karen Danko
 Erik Danvers
 Michael Davidson
 Austin Davis
 Amy Decker
 Aj Delauder
 Everett Denny
 Grady Dionne
 Jason Donahue
 Lindsay Donahue
 Stephen Dushenko
 Christopher D Eadie
 Stephen Eggly
 Steve Eggly
 Steven Eltringham
 Jacob Etherson
 Chase Ewalt
 Jean Yves Fabre
 Erik Fenton
 David Filippi
 Elliot Fineman
 Griffin Fitzgerald
 Tyler Flannelly
 Riley Ford
 Ethan Fountain
 Eileen Freedman
 Caitlin Frey
 Lucas Gatterman
 Patrick Gaydos
 Jake Geffner
 Abrihanah George
 Alexander Gervasio
 Philip Giamportone
 Shane Govoni
 Paige Gray
 Meadow Gregory
 Zhenxiang Guan
 Heng Guo
 Jason Gurley

J Hanes
 Adam Hanlon
 Jessica Hannah
 Carson Harmon
 Duncan Harris
 Delaney Hartgen
 Alan He
 Zachary Hearn
 Ophelia Hill
 Matthew Hohmann
 Ian Hutchings
 Connor Igal
 Kendall Jansen
 Carter Johnson
 Conner Jones
 Jessee Joo
 Stella Jorgensen
 Allen Kincaid
 Travis Kniecik
 David Krueger
 Avela Krull
 Richard Lamp
 Mountakha Latif
 Clifford Lau
 Meg Lawrence
 Daelynn Leach
 Roberto Ledo Zulaica
 William Lewis
 Runnan Li
 Shilong Li
 Weiheng Li
 Xinhang Li
 Xinyi Li
 Yifei Li
 Hanzheng Lin
 Jocelyn Lin
 Yuanchunyu Lin
 Kainan Liu
 Pai Liu
 Yangming Liu
 Joseph Lopresti
 Ryan Lothrop
 Elizabeth Lozinger
 Hongyu Lu
 Ziyi Lu
 John Lugo
 Hanqing Luo
 Xuwen Lyu
 Chaoqun Ma
 Sean Ma
 Situ Ma
 Mathieu Maertens
 Brian Manley
 Xingqiang Mao
 German Marquez Lopez
 Michael Martin
 Madisen Mcbride
 Liam Mccary
 Henry Mccaughey
 Victoria Mercado
 Max Merryman
 Chengyang Miao
 Zhaoyuan Miao
 Terry Miller
 William Mills
 Paul Mitts
 Mikhail Mouravski
 Declan Myers-Brown
 Christina Occhipinti
 Patrick Orloff
 Lauren Lambert
 Luke Paciocco
 Robert Padowicz
 Killian Page
 Tatum Palmer
 Jung Soo Park
 David Parsons
 Rene Patterson
 Jason Pearson
 Edward Peck
 Zachary Pellikan
 Mingchuan Peng
 Yue Peng

Noah Pietzyk
 Wyatt Pitcher
 William Powell
 Aaron Pringle
 Ryan Pysker
 Tyler Rand
 Giavanna Randich
 Chloe Rayner
 Zhixuan Ren
 Keegan Reynolds
 Jared Rice
 Christopher Richards
 Christina Richette
 Jessie Riess
 Sabrina Robaczynski
 Andrew Rosenfeld
 Alexandra Rosewicz
 Sophia Saavedra
 Brianna Saunders
 Sanne Schouten
 Stefan Sevi
 Weipeng Shao
 Sienna Shaw
 Donovan Shea
 Brooke Smith
 Manlun Song
 Xin Song
 Rosalie Sowers
 Zoe Spiliadis
 Sonia Spirling
 Thomas Stewart
 Paul Stolar
 Nick Summers
 Dandan Sun
 Xuan Tan
 Yinzhong Tang
 Thomas Thomas
 Pablo Torres
 Rosario Torres
 Min-Chi Tsai
 Tobias Unger
 Tony Vasile
 Chi-Ping Wang
 Dingyu Wang
 Xu Wang
 Yebai Kingsley Wang
 Yu Fei Wang
 Dong Wei
 Jasmine Wells
 Lesley Wells
 Ann Wendle
 Xuyang Weng
 Michael Westwood
 Macie Whalen
 Dennis Wilson
 Lori Wilson
 Jake Wlochowski
 Mark Wojciechowicz
 Jeff Wojtkiewicz
 Corey Wolf
 Hunter Woodzell
 Tyler Woolridge
 Yang Wu
 Yanzi Wu
 Meng Xiao
 Chao Xie
 Yuan Xie
 Ming Xin
 Xilin Xu
 Jialu Yan
 Li Yan
 Carl Yang
 Ying Yang
 Dominic Yestranski
 Han Yang Yip
 Kristyna Yang
 Siqi Yuan
 Anqi Zang
 Ye Zhang
 Zhida Zhang
 Lan Zhou
 Shaoyou Zhu

Telemark Level 3

Paul Kotchey
Mike Maher
Chip Martin
Matt Ruddy

Telemark Level 2

Alejandro Bravo
Erika Breton
Joseph Cetola
Jake Crawford
Christopher Kovaly
Matt Ruddy

Telemark Level 1

Chandra Anderson
Jonathan Anderson
Brendan Burdick
Diane Cafarelli
Andy Cho
Donnamarie Colasurdo
James Connors
Ryan Davis
John Deddens
Peter Dragon
Stephen Feldbauer
Allison Fischang
Gregory France
Leo Greenberg
Pamela Greene
Robert Horrell
Matthew Jardine
Jeanne Langan
Patricia McLaughlin
Lois Nardo
Finbarr O'connor
Karen Parysek
Kevin Poli
Paul Rainey
Aidan Riggle
Angelo Ross
Mark Sauers
Kyle Senko
Marc Smith
Erik Sointio
Don Tompkins
Travis Widger
Gennadiy Zaretskiy

Cross Country Level 3

Marianne Lucy

Cross Country Level 2

Gail Jaques

Cross Country Level 1

Shalagh Blanck
Kristen Cartwright
Tim Emmerick
Joshua Febbie
Edward Fouhey
Dale Fox
Gregory France
Matt Keating
Michelle Lloyd-Dedischew
Jack Mills
Jamie Mills
Bernadette Obrien
Emma Peck
Judith Ritchie
Kristen Roos

Adaptive Level 1

Donna Balutski
Robert Boothroyd
Mikayla Briere
Patrick Brown
Raymond Burlett, Jr.
Kelly Clifford
Joan Coffey

Christopher Collin
Stephen Cook
Thomas Damon
John Deguardi
Melanie Deguardi
Darlene Desroches
Greg Durso
Peter Edwards
Molly Farrell
Luke Fiorino
Frederick Gaudette
Cassidy Hayes
Janice Hobba-Glose
Betsy Hoffmeister
Hannah Kitchen
Katryna Kofton
Stephen Kollmer
Ashley Labounty
Jared Lewis
Michael Lyden
James Mcandrew
Mary Mcdermid
Gus Molina
Kathi Noble
Kristopher Sigeti
Grace Simmons
Stephen Styer
Kathryn Theisen
Molly Tobin
Daniel Weisberg
Alan Wood
Chris Young

Adaptive Snowboard Level 1

Carly Bascom
Pia Dechamps
Cynthia Fitzgerald
Amy Herrmann
Marilyn Jarriel
Jake Levine
Erin Mcgeggen
Nathan Smith

Children's Specialist 2

Dara Aber-Ferri
Matthew Annis
Zachary Berzolla
Brendan Burdick
Jennifer Cleveland
John Dewitt
Luke Doris
Curtis Fearrington
Isabella Fernandes
Paul Ferrari
Angel Fraile Lax
Richard Goff
Thomas Hazel
Brian Koeller
Susan Lehman
Carter Mardiney
Clinton Mccarthy
Davidson Miller
Anne-Sarah Nichituu
Mary Nitschke
Eric Phillips
Eric Phillips
Lauren Remes
Jose Rodriguez
Nancy Spier
Paul Stolar
Max Tiffen
Patricia Tompkins
Alexandra Wallace
Eric Winter
Gennadiy Zaretskiy

Children's Specialist 1

David Africa
Stephen Ahlcrona
Jennifer Alden

Julianne Allen
Katherine Anderson
Rod Andrews
Kian Arbabi
Darryl Arbesman
Pamela Babcock
Matthew Baetzhold
Thomas Barnes
Bennett Baruch
Peter Bellek
Kristen Berger
H. Edmund Bergeron
Maggie Bergin
Amar Bhala
David Binford
Malcolm Blackwell
Lee Ann Blascovich
Brian Blum
Richard Bratton
Katherine Brundage
Daniel Bruns
Jenan Bubalo
Diane Cafarelli
Christine Campbell
Thomas Carr
Zachary Case
Lisa Chatham
Daniel Ciarla
Gary Cleland
Samuel Cochrane
Elizabeth Cole
Wilford Corbin
Aaron Cornell
Samantha Curtis
Gene Darin
Mary Davis
David Day
William Degan
Edward Denicola
Edward Devine
Robin Diamond
John Dillon
William Dixon
Duncan Dobbelmann
Dana Dodge
Christopher Dominici
Lindsay Donahue
Catherine Dorsett Schuler
Damon Dosch
Zhi Dou
Alessandro Drake
Isaac Drury
Cassidy Dunn
Carol Durkin
Frank Dwyer
Thomas Earley
Margaret Eastman
Nicholson Eastman
Jacob Etherson
Michael Farley
Katrina Farmer
Seth Farmer
Karen Feisullin
Taras Ferencevych
Quinn Ferguson
Courtney Ford
Nichole Foy
William Freda
Michael Freedman
Joseph Froetschel
Len Fromzel
Brian Galuska
Heather Garland
Marvin Garrett
Nancy Geller
Zachary Ginsburg
Jonathan Gleason
Sarah Goldberg
Daniel Goldman
Shane Govoni
Payton Grande
Denis Guyer

Zechariah Hahn
William Hall
Victoria Harms
Brayden Hascup
Louisa Hayes
Joann Healy
Peyton Hedrick
Katarzyna Hefflefinger
Laura Heian
Douglas Heimlich
Donald Herr
Timothy Hiner
Meili Hoffman-Smith
Diane Hoskins
William Houk
Anthony Hruska
Joseph Hurley
Ann Iacuzio
Vivian Jonessmith
David Jordan
Sarah Jorgensen
Jennifer Kalt
Kerry Kantscheidt
John-Paul Kelly
Sabrina Kennedy
Andrew Kimpton
Alexander Klein
Kristin Knox
Audrey Kopich
Andrea Kornbluh
Jenny Kotowski
Julia Kuzan
Richard Lambert
Jon Laplante
Mercedese Large
Phil Latinski
James Lawler
William Lee
David Leslie
Carol Li
Anna Lincke
Cindy Lindemann
Robert Lodge
Joe Lohre
Chloe Long
Yang Lu
Katherine Lukes
Nicholas Maguire
Alexander Mahaffy
Juan Mancilla
Laurel Manville
Tanya Marhefka
Lauren Marin
Gordon Marron
Konrad Martin
Timothy Mathisen
Kati Matthews
Audrey Mazzaferra
Madisen McBride
Lucy Mccabe
Barbara Mccay
Claire Mcivor
Charles Mcneeley
Wesson Miller
Ross Monroe
Austin Moody
Kevan Mullen
Liz Muller
Charles Mulloy
Mike Nardone
Any Nawrocky
Maura Nee
Travis Newell
Michael Norris
Shawn Norton
Wyatt Nowak
Kevin Olivera
Jesselynn Opie
Aiden O'toole
Virginia Owings
Diane Pabst
Alex Paddock

David Parsons
Stephen Paulson
Yue Peng
Catherine Peterson
Sarah Phillips
Abby Polk
Johanna Polsenberg
Catiana Porter
William Potter
Kimberly Price
Lisa Reece
Ely Remes
Jeffrey Rininger
Gonzalo Rivera
Cullen Robinson
John Roche
Frank Rodenbaugh
John Rogers
Alex Roginski
David Rosenberger
Shawn Russell
Douglas Sandler
Elizabeth Sandler
Kelly Saux
Steven Schotz
Richard Sedlar
Stephen Selwyn
Thomas Severance
Jason Shao
Dongying Shen
Jeff Siebert
Kristopher Sigeti
Julia Silverman
Kara Silverman
Mia Silvestri
Larry Singer
Goran Smiljic
Norman Snyder
Jeffrey Songhurst
Dwight Southwick
Hannah Spencer
Katie Stengel
Keith Stephens
Daniel Stoutenburgh
Michele Sullivan
Jacqueline Susco
Peter Suzuki
Elinor Tatum
Deborah Thier
Abby Torres
William Triebel
Pui Yee Tse
Matt Tumavitch
Thomas Turgeon
Michael Usher
Matthew Van Voorhis
Chandra Vasseur
Miroslav Vytrisal
Christine Wade
Scott Wade
Meghan Ward
Claire Wayne
Katherine Weaver
Yiwen Wei
Polly Wellford
Nathaniel Welsh
Mariane Wheatley-Miller
Joseph Williams
Peter Williams
Joanna Willott
Erik Winarski
David Witmer
Haylee Witter
Yang Wu
Qian Xie
Qi Xiong
George Yankosky
Andrey Yunusov
Nicholas Zymont

Freestyle Specialist 3

Joseph Graham
William Potter
Tobin Twelves

Freestyle Specialist 2

Steven Franklin
Trevor Glenn
Griffin Logue
Josh Reitze

Freestyle Specialist 1

Ethan Arrington
Andrew Balling
Kim Bent
Riley Childs
Evonne Cho
Michael Collie
Brandon Cook
Shawn Daugherty
Harold Davidson
Mary Davis
Luke Doris
Damon Dosch
Zhi Dou
Onna Downey
David Duke
Nicole Erickson
Quinn Ferguson
Volker Fessmann
Gregory Gaspar
Elizabeth Ginexi
Hannah Greenlick-Michals
Jamie Grust
Jeffrey Hanson
William Hauda
John Helldorfer
Nicholas Hover
Michael Jacobson
Yegor Kryukov
Susan Landin
Joe Macdonough
Jennifer Mcaward
Robert Mchugh
John Michals
Joseph Moore
Shawn Norton
Erroll O'brien
Joe Paci
Jose Padilla
Manuel Perry
Julie Priddy
Rich Prunier
Astrid Rapp
Christa Ross
Jonathan Ross
Timothy Shannon
Carmel Shearer
Weston Shugarts
Larry Singer
Jan Steckel
Richard Stevens
David Stonebraker
John Straus
Michael Stunja
Daniel Sullivan
Peter Suzuki
Jeffrey Thompson
Abby Torres
Paul Volkman
Han Wang
Loryn Way
Michael Zielinski

Certification Award Ceremonies



Congratulations New Alpine Examiner Training Squad Members

A special congratulations to the newest members of the PSIA-E Alpine Examiner Training Squad! The **Examiner Training Squad (ETS)** tryout is for current or former Development Team Members wishing to further their career as an Eastern Alpine Examiner. These talented new team members were selected in a demanding and competitive tryout at Stowe Mountain in early March. ETS Team members are required to attend an annual training event and to understudy members of the Education Staff at various events and exams throughout the season. Additionally, ETS members lead many education clinics. We wish them luck in their new role on the Eastern Education Staff!

Gordon (Chip) Coxe – Cataloochee, NC
 Benjamin DeBenedictis – Stowe, VT
 Alexandra Doro – Holiday Valley, NY
 Nathaniel Mead – Holiday Valley, NY
 Keith Rodney – Mount Snow, VT
 Charles Roy – Cannon Mountain, NH
 Alessandra Spaulding – Sugarloaf, ME
 Bethany Yellis – Sugarloaf, ME
 Martin Young – Killington, VT

Congratulations to all!!! <<



Alpine Examiner Training Squad: (L to R) Charlie Roy, Martin Young, Keith Rodney, Chip Coxe, Bethany Yellis, Art Menichini, Allie Doro, Troy Walsh (Coach), Ali Spaulding, Ben DeBenedictis and Nate Mead



Congratulations New Alpine Development Team Members

A special congratulations to the newest members of the PSIA-E Alpine Development Team (Dev Team)! The Dev Team is a group of highly skilled Level III instructors who are training to become members of the Eastern Division Alpine Board of Examiners. They receive training that focuses on sharpening their skiing skills, their teaching skills, and their professional knowledge. The goal is to develop highly effective clinicians who can deliver a wide range of educational events to the membership. Development Team members are required to attend annual training events and to understudy members of the Education Staff at various events throughout the season. Once a Development Team member has completed a list of required understudies, they become eligible to try out for the Examiner Training Squad (ETS).

This year the Alpine Development Team Selection was held at the beginning of March, at Stowe, VT. Thirty-two Alpine Level III members competed for positions as new Dev Team members. After two days of an intensive assessment, twelve new Alpine Development Team members were chosen. They are:

Mark Aiken – Stowe, VT
 Martina Buckley – Blue Mountain, PA
 Maureen Drummey – Mount Snow, VT
 Austin French – Sugarloaf, ME
 Christine Garbacz – Cannon Mountain, NH
 Jenni Hogan – Windham Mountain, NY
 Laura Jenks – Sugarbush, VT
 Meghan Kelsey- Cranmore, NH
 Amy Kizak – Pats Peak, NH
 Richard Miller – Snowshoe, WV
 Ilya Stein – Okemo, VT
 Jessika Yates – Stowe, VT

Welcome to the Alpine Development Team!

Concurrent with the Alpine Dev Team Selection, but in a separate selection process, many current and former Dev Team members competed for positions on the Alpine Examiner Training Squad, and for new terms as Alpine Development Team members. Successfully earning new terms as Alpine Dev Team members are:

Katie Brinton – Okemo, VT
 John Carey – Sugarbush, VT
 Robert Gallo – Mount Peter, NY
 James Hayes – Double H Ranch Adaptive, NY, and Gore Mountain, NY
 Matt Heller – Mount Snow, VT
 Eric Kelley – Killington, VT
 Paul Mawhinney – Roundtop Mountain, PA
 Anthony Parissi – Jack Frost/Big Boulder, PA
 David Raybould – Stowe, VT
 Kyle Steinmetz – Ragged Mountain, NH
 Erik Timmerman – Stowe, VT
 Ezequiel Usle – Stratton Mountain, VT

Congratulations to all! <<

New Alpine Development Team members: Tina Buckley, Jenni Hogan, Christine Garbacz, Maureen Drummey, Ilya Stein, Laura Jenks, Amy Kizak, Austin French, Dave Capron (coach), Jessika Yates, Drew Miller, Mark Aiken, Meghan Kelsey. The following people, not pictured, also earned a new term on the Dev Team - Katie Brinton, John Carey, Bob Gallo, James Hayes, Matt Heller, Eric Kelley, Paul Mawhinney, Anthony Parissi, David Raybould, Kyle Steinmetz, and Ezequiel Usle.



PSIA-E
Education Foundation &
PSIA-AASI Eastern

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Important Changes to Your Education Requirements

If you are an Active Certified Member, you are required to earn a minimum of 6 CEUs (a 1-day event or the equivalent) every season or 12 CEUs (a 2-day event or the equivalent) every other season. Certified Lifetime, Alumni Members and Registered Members are exempt from CEU requirements, but there are some important changes to what happens if you are an Active Certified Member and you don't satisfy your education requirements.

If you're a Certified Member and haven't maintained or met your CEU requirements:

- You'll see a **\$50 Education Prepayment fee** on your membership dues renewal statement. This will create a **\$50 voucher which can be used toward an event in the following season.**
- Your membership status changes to Certified Inactive.
- You'll be required to make up your missed credits.

To return to certified active status, you'll need to complete the minimum number of CEUs. Moving forward:

- If you are 1 year behind on your education credits, you'll need to do: 12 CEUs

- If you are 2 years behind, you'll need to do: 18 CEUs
- If you are 3 years behind, you'll need to do: 24 CEUs
- If you are 4 years behind, you'll need to do: 24 CEUs

If you don't earn the minimum amount of CEUs at the end of 4 years, you'll be reassigned to the Alumni Member category or as long as you meet the requirements, **you can choose to move to the Alumni Category now.**

Options for Certified Members who were due for credits and couldn't be on-snow last winter:

There are a large number of virtual options you can use to satisfy your education requirements. Check out these three links for some great virtual courses and webinars that will help you earn your CEUs:

- <https://ams.thesnowpros.org/>
- <https://www.psia-e.org/ed/webinars/>
- <https://www.psia-e.org/ed/online-courses/>

As always, if you have any questions, feel free to email us at psia-e@psia-e.org or call the office at (518) 452-6095 – we are here to help! ☞

New Arrival

James Friedman, Eastern Division Director of Event Logistics and member. James and Emily welcomed the birth of their second child, son Milo Friedman, in April, 2022.

Congratulations James! ☞



SNOW Pro

Upcoming SnowPro Copy Deadlines

If you are submitting articles, information or ads for the *SnowPro*

September 30, 2022
for the fall issue.

Writing Guidelines

General member submissions should not exceed 1,000 words and should be e-mailed to psia-e@psia-e.org as a MS Word document. Please see additional guidelines on page 2 of this issue under General Information.

Thank you! ☞

Thank You 2021-2022 Host Resorts!

We would like to take a moment and extend a big “Thank You” to the following area resorts who hosted, or offered to host, one or more of our events this past season. Their generous support continues to assist us in providing members with quality programs at the best possible value!

Adaptive Sports Foundation
Bart J. Ruggiere Adaptive Sports
Bear Creek Mountain Resort
Beech Mountain Resort
Belleayre Mountain
Berkshire East Mountain Resort
Blue Hills Ski Area
Blue Knob All Seasons Resort
Blue Mountain Ski Area
Bolton Valley Resort
Bretton Woods Mountain Resort
Bretton Woods XC
Bristol Mountain
Bromley Mountain
Buffalo Ski Club
Camden Snow Bowl
Camelback Mountain Resort
Cannon Mountain
Cataloochee Ski Area
Catamount
Cranmore Mountain Resort
Crotched Mountain
Dartmouth Ski Way
Elk Mountain
Garnet Hill Lodge & XC Ski Area

Gore Mountain
Greek Peak Mountain Resort
Gunstock Mountain Resort
Hermitage Club at Haystack
Hidden Valley Resort
Holiday Valley Resort
HoliMont Ski Area
Hunt Hollow Ski Club
Hunter Mountain
Jack Frost Mountain
Jackson XC Ski Touring Center
Jay Peak Resort
Jiminy Peak Mountain Resort
Killington Resort
King Pine Ski Area
Kissing Bridge Resort
Labrador Mountain
Lapland Lake XC
Liberty Mountain
Loon Mountain Resort
Lounsbury Adaptive Program
Mad River Glen
Maple Wind Farm
Massanutten Resort
McIntyre Ski Area

Mohawk Mountain Ski Area
Mount Abram
Mount Peter Ski Area
Mount Snow Adaptive
Mount Snow Resort
Mount Southington Ski Area
Mount Sunapee Resort
Mount Van Hoevenberg
New England Disabled Sports at Bretton Woods
Oak Mountain
Ober Gatlinburg
Okemo Mountain Resort
Peek ‘n Peak
Pico Mountain
Plattekill Mountain
Powder Ridge
Ragged Mountain
Saddleback Mountain
Seven Springs Mountain Resort
Shawnee Mountain
Ski Big Bear
Ski Butternut
Ski Sundown
Smugglers Notch Resort
Snowshoe Mountain Resort

Stowe Mountain Resort
Stratton Mountain Ski Resort
STRIDE Adaptive Sports Program
Sugarbush Resort
Sugarloaf Mountain Resort
Sunday River Ski Resort
Timberline Mountain
Trapp Family Lodge
Tussey Mountain
Vermont Adaptive at Bolton Valley
Vermont Adaptive at Pico
Vermont Adaptive at Sugarbush
Wachusett Mountain Ski Area
Waterville Valley Resort
West Mountain Ski Area
Whiteface Mountain
Whitetail Resort
Willard Mountain
Windham Mountain
Wintergreen Adaptive Sports
Wintergreen Resort
Winterplace Ski Resort
Wisp Mountain Resort
Yawgoo Valley

In Memoriam

Chandler Pelletier

Chandler Pelletier, 29, of Hillsboro, NH, most currently residing in Belgrade, MT, passed away unexpectedly while snowboarding at Big Sky Mountain Resort on March 23, 2022. He leaves behind his parents, Guy and Sylvia Pelletier, his sister, Chantalle, and brother, Cameron, as well as extended family, friends, a snow sports community, and his beloved dog, Bear, who loved him.

In his 29 all too short years he overcame seemingly insurmountable challenges. He didn't merely survive. He thrived. From his earliest years he was spirited, adventurous, and driven. (Chandler, tables are not for climbing!) His smile was warm and genuine. And while he could be a man of few words, he didn't miss an opportunity to demonstrate his wit with a well-timed comment.

From the moment he stepped on a snowboard at the age of 8, a lifelong passion was born. For a young child for which many things were difficult, riding came to him with ease. He was truly poetry on a board.

He possessed a true appreciation for life and the beauty all around him. He was a kind and genuine soul who loved his family as dearly as they loved him. May we all be inspired to live our lives in this manner.

To honor Chandler's love of the sport, and his achievement in his profession, a scholarship has been set up through Pats Peak. It is our deepest hope that it will support and inspire the next generation of riders pursuing a passion to ride and to teach. www.patspeak.com/cpscholarship ☞



Fredrick William Schmidt Jr

Fredrick William Schmidt Jr, 86 years old, passed away on February 1, 2022. He was born February 18, 1935, son of the late Fredrick W. Sr and Katherina (Stumph) Schmidt. Fred was raised in Moon Twp. Pa and graduated from Moon High School. Fred was also a graduate of The University of Pittsburgh. Fred was employed as a Senior Master Sergeant by the Pa Air National Guard 112 Tactical Fighter Group and retired in 1990 after 36 years of service.

Teaching people to ski at Seven Springs was his passion in the winter and landscaping was his passion in the summer. Fred was passionate, fun loving and energetic and loved his family. Fred also loved his pets. Fred loved cheering for the Steelers and Pirates.

Fred will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him. He is preceded in death by sister Kathrine Mixter. He is survived by son, Fredrick W. Schmidt (Patricia); daughter, Beth Lawrence (Dennis); special companion, Luella; and 5 grandchildren, Scott, and Eric Schmidt, Denae (Dalton) Bowser, Rachel (Richard) Bright, Rebecca Lawrence and one great grandchild, Penny Bright. The family requests memorial contributions be directed to Independent Bible Presbyterian Church, 112 Dempe St, McDonald, PA 15057, in Frederick's memory. Online condolences may be expressed at millerfuneralhomeandcrematory.com ☞

Celebrity Status

By Todd Ainsworth

AASI-E Examiner

Eastern AASI Teams Coach

Think back to a great experience you had. What made it great? Was it the weather, the location, the activity? Or was it the people you were with? For me, when I think back to the best experiences I've ever had, the people stand out most for me.

As snowsports coaches, we have the opportunity every day to create one of those exceptional memories for each of our students, or to be the person who creates the perfect experience to hook someone on our sport forever. We can be the person they remember from that winter vacation they took that one time. We can change how they look at Winter and the mountains forever. I had two experiences recently which made me think about how the individuals with whom we interact has the opportunity to make us feel special and create a gratifying memory. The first was an initial visit to a local restaurant. It was later in the evening and was not very busy. The manager, joined by our waiter, made us feel like celebrities, or their most important clients, which led to feeling like we had made new friends by the evening's end. The restaurant staff did this with small gestures such as being extra attentive to our needs from the moment we arrived. They laughed, joked, and toasted with us like old friends, while making excellent menu suggestions. The second memorable experience was on a recent trip. We missed our flight due to extenuating circumstances and ended up on standby for a much longer flight. This all worked out and got us to our destination (albeit 4 hours later) after several frustrating encounters with "customer service" representatives who were less than empathetic. During our second flight, a flight attendant who was not involved with our earlier adventures heard us commiserating with some other passengers who had also missed the earlier flight. This

flight attendant was very friendly, empathetic, and provided complimentary beverages and snacks. This interaction made the last couple hours of a long day less frustrating. These individuals left a lasting impression on me and definitely had an effect on the likelihood of my return business.

We as coaches have all spent time perfecting our riding and teaching skills through practice, training, and certification exams. We have a lesson plan in our "bag of tricks" for every situation. We have spent countless hours perfecting our "method" grab, or smoothing out our "double diamond" mogul zipper-line. During all that time, how much did you focus on developing your "people skills"? If you're anything like me, it wasn't the focus of your training initially. Over time, I have learned that it could arguably be the most important piece to creating the experience our students want. If we focus on making a personal connection with our clients from the moment we meet, we may just be able to make their day that much better. Small gestures like helping students learn to adjust their boots which can sometimes have difficult buckles and laces might give us the opportunity to start the conversation that helps us find out their motivations and past successes and failures. We may even figure out which lesson from our bag of tricks fits perfectly for their learning style.

In a service industry such as ours, the experience we provide can be the difference between turning someone into a lifelong snowboarder, or turning them off to our sport forever. By creating positive memories, whether it's someone's first day, or a breakthrough in the halfpipe, we will leave our clients craving more time on the mountain, which hopefully leads to another day of riding with us. ☺

Altitude Adjustment



Tiguan

Atlas
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Atlas



Explore new roads using 4MOTION® All-Wheel Drive with a special offer for PSIA-AASI members. Log in at [TheSnowPros.org](https://www.thesnowpros.org) and click the Pro Offers link for more information.



Volkswagen

AASI Update

By Brian Donovan

AASI-E Advisor

AASI Snowboard National Team member

Greetings AASI East community! This time of the year is always very bittersweet for me as winter closes out and we get into the seasonal shift towards summer. I tend to get bummed out that another winter is closing down, and we won't see fresh natural snow again for a while. But as we make this transition, here are my observations from this past winter sprinkled in with some homework assignments to keep you fresh and ready to go for next season:

1. Don't forget to look back, reflect, and celebrate all the successes from this past winter.
 - a. Don't let winter slip away without remembering all the amazing lessons you taught and the fantastic students that you helped. Remember the little "ah-ha" moments that you helped your students achieve on their journeys towards being better snowboarders. Celebrate all of the successes you had with your students and the memories you helped them create!
 - b. Think back on a few personal riding accomplishments you had from this past winter. Did you conquer a new or harder trail with style and ease? Did you learn a new trick in the park? Reflect on your personal successes from this past winter season and smile as the memories replay in your head.
 - c. Get out a notebook or open an app and write some things down! Did you come up with a fun new progression to teach? Did you find a new way to connect with your guests during the first parts of your lessons? Write down your successes from this winter so that you can re-visit that journal next fall. This will help you to knock the rust off more easily at the beginning of the season and hit the ground running like a well-oiled machine next season!
2. Get on Facebook and join the AASI East group! There is a tremendous group of individuals who stay engaged with each other year-round through this Facebook group. In this unofficial virtual hang-out spot, you'll find like-minded Snowboard Pros engaging in conversations, sharing snowboard media, and keeping their brains sharp 365 days a year. You might even find some invitations to some summer hangouts, bar-b-ques, and mountain bike rides with the AASI East community. Keep AASI East alive this summer and stay engaged with your fellow #snowpros by joining up and staying connected.
3. Speaking of AASI East members connecting this summer... Get outside this summer and play! Whether you are learning a new sport or simply enjoying one that you've been doing for years, make sure to spend time outside this summer being active. I highly encourage you to spend time mountain biking, surfing, stand-up paddleboarding, skateboarding, hiking, rock climbing, or kayaking this summer. And better yet ... take a lesson in one of these activities. Be open to taking a lesson to improve your skills and technique in one of your other many hobbies. See what skills (Technical Skills, Teaching Skills, and People Skills) you can learn and improve upon this summer by taking a lesson in something new. Then share that experience with your fellow #snowpros in the AASI East Facebook page (see bullet point #2 above) to encourage others to do the same. Inspire others with your experiences and journeys!
4. Log into your member portal on the PSIA-AASI website at www.thesnowpros.org and check out the following sections:
 - a. Check out the "Certification" tab on the homepage. This is a newly added 1-stop shop for all your National Certification needs. Get more familiar with the Certification Standards, Performance Guides, and Fundamentals.
 - a. Click the "Pro Offers" tab to check out all the amazing discounts from our PSIA-AASI Official Suppliers.
 - a. Click the "E-Learning" tab and check out all the virtual learning opportunities that are available to us! You'll find a wide range of free E-Learning courses, webinars, and even opportunities to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) during this off-season.
 - a. Click the "Shop" tab to access the PSIA-AASI Accessories catalog. Some of my current favorite products that you'll find in my weekly rotation include:
 - i. AASI Logo Richardson 7-Panel Trucker Hat in Brown/Tan
 - ii. Custom AASI sock from WSI
 - iii. PSIA-AASI 20 Ounce Tumbler from Mammoth
5. Are you into Podcasts? Did you know that PSIA-AASI has a dedicated podcast titled "First Chair: PSIA-AASI"? Listen in as PSIA-AASI member and podcast host George Thomas chats with all kinds of #snowpros to provide an entertaining and diverse range of instructional insight. 100% free! Listen and subscribe on iTunes, SoundCloud, or Stitcher.
6. Speaking of Podcasts: Want to learn more about the Snowboard Technical Fundamentals? Search for the "The Mad Snowboard Scientist" podcast on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or Google Podcasts to get your audio fix and to better understand the Snowboard Fundamentals this summer! The current PSIA-AASI Snowboard National Team dissects the Snowboard Technical Fundamentals to help our membership better understand them and how they apply to our own riding and teaching. 100% free! Download and listen!
7. Did you hear the news? PSIA-AASI hosted the largest National Academy ever at Big Sky Resort in April! Over 450 #snowpros from around the country converged on Big Sky Resort in Montana for a 5-day event. 50 snowboarders were in attendance and took advantage of the late season powder, amazing terrain, member/sponsor events, demo tents, and many on-snow electives to earn CEUs, bond with friends (both new and old), and spend lots of time sliding on snow and learning on some of the most impressive resort terrain in the country. If you couldn't make it to Big Sky this year, check out the many articles and write-ups found on www.thesnowpros.org. And mark your calendar early to make sure you don't miss out on PSIA-AASI National Academy and Rider Rally next spring at Big Sky. National Academy and Rider Rally will be back at Big Sky next spring! Some photos to tease all the fun from Rider Rally 2022 are included below and on the following page.



#Wherewereyouatthree group ride at AASI Rider Rally 2022 at Big Sky Resort



Eastern member, Kevin Nowak, showing off the K2 snowboard that he won at the AASI Rider Rally raffle



One of the AASI Rider Rally groups taking a much-deserved break after hiking to the top of one of the many Big Sky powder fields before dropping in for first tracks. #earnyourturns

8. Congratulations are in order:
 - a. Level 3 Certification is the highest level of certification that you can attain in our organization. At the completion of the Level 3 Certification Exams this season, I'd like to proudly recognize and congratulate our newest AASI Level 3 Certified Pros: Clayton Ayers (Blue Mountain, PA), Jesse Cleveland (Liberty Mountain, PA), Shannon Desilets (Pats Peak, NH), Ryan Hayes (Stratton, VT), Scott Johnson (Mountain Creek, NJ), and Kurston "Kirby" Kelly (Sugarloaf, ME).
 - i. Give all these folks a huge congratulations and a high five the next time you see them!
 - b. AASI Eastern Team Tryouts: We hosted an AASI Eastern Team tryout in March to select the next AASI Eastern Snowboard Team. The Eastern Team is comprised of individuals who will run educational events for the Eastern Division membership during the next two seasons and will train towards hopefully being invited to try out for the 2024-2028 PSIA-AASI National Team. After demonstrating

their skills on snow for 2 days, I am pleased to announce the newly selected AASI Eastern Snowboard Team members in the photo below (listed L to R):

- Tom Mulligan
- Loren Dailey
- Amy Gan (Current AASI National Team member and selector)
- Brian Donovan (Current AASI National Team member and selector)
- Bonnie Kolber
- Todd Ainsworth



(L to R) Tom Mulligan, Loren Dailey, Amy Gan (Current AASI National Team member and selector), Brian Donovan (Current AASI National Team member and selector), Bonnie Kolber, Todd Ainsworth

9. In Memory: The AASI East community lost a beloved member of our community this spring. Chandler Pelletier was a born-and-raised snowboarder and instructor from Pat's Peak Resort in New Hampshire. Chandler was a Level 3 Certified instructor who spent time working, riding, and teaching across the country at many different resorts. Chandler's smile and personality was infectious. His love of all things snowboarding was truly special. Everyone that crossed paths with Chandler was better for having done so. He was a tremendous individual that will be greatly missed in our community. Pat's Peak has created a scholarship program in Chandler's memory. Details can be found here: www.patspeak.com/cpscholarship . RIP Chandler. You will be missed my friend!



Chandler Pelletier

As we close the books on another winter together as an AASI East community, I simply want to say Thank You to all of you! Thank you for being part of the AASI community! Thank you for teaching snowboarding! Thank you for sharing your passion with all your students! Thank you for all your hard work and dedication! Thank you for being amazing ambassadors for our sport. Thank you all for the long days at the mountain in tough weather where you helped people learn to slide this winter. Have a great summer and we'll see you soon! ☺



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Time Valued Material

Stay up to date during the off season!

Check out our “member-to-member” Facebook groups and join in on the conversations with more than 2,500 of your friends and snowsports colleagues at

www.facebook.com/groups/PSIAEast/ and www.facebook.com/groups/AASIEast/

