

## Ski and Snowboard Helmet Policy

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<b>Division:</b>	Parks, Forestry & Recreation	<b>Approved by:</b>	GM, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<b>Date Approved:</b>	December 11, 2009	<b>Source:</b>	Community Recreation
		<b>Unit:</b>	Community Recreation
		<b>Category:</b>	Parks, Forestry and Recreation
		<b>Sub-cat:</b>	Recreation

### Policy Statement

Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division endeavours to operate safe Ski and Snowboard Centres for all participants, staff, volunteers and permit holders. A component of safety includes the usage of approved Ski and Snowboard helmets.

### Application

This policy applies to all participants and on-hill staff, including instructors, supervisors, and ski patrol staff, in all of the following programs and activities:

- instructional programs
- freestyle programs
- race programs
- group visits
- all rental equipment packages

This policy does not apply to tow ticket users or those who have requested accommodation and signed a waiver.

### Definitions

**Accommodation:** Recognition that all people may do the same or similar things in various ways, each being effective. To accommodate means to remove the barriers that prevent people from gaining access to and fully participating in important activities such as jobs, access to information/communication, education at all levels, public transit, and the use of goods, services and facilities.

**Adapted and Integrated Services Staff:** provide support during programs to people with disabilities.

**Approved Ski and Snowboard Helmets:** meet or exceed the recognized *EN 1077* standard and are designed for alpine use.

**Beanies:** a hygienic protective covering worn over the skier's / snowboarder's head and under the ski / snowboard helmet.

**Freestyle Programs:** allow participants to perform jumps and tricks on skis or snowboards in the Terrain Park.

**On-hill Staff:** employees of the City of Toronto, Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Division who provide supervision, safety support, instruction, conduct races or events, and provide program support on the ski hills. On-hill staff include instructors, supervisors, Terrain Park staff, adapted programs and integrated services staff, ski patrol staff.

**Package A:** participants are registered for lessons and have lift access during lesson time only; those participants will provide their own *EN 1077* approved helmet or rent one from the Ski and Snowboard Centre.

**Package B:** participants are registered for lessons with lift access during lesson time only; package includes a helmet with the full set of rental equipment

**Participants:**

- all individuals and/or groups registered in City of Toronto ski / snowboard programs
- all individuals and/or groups in permitted ski / snowboard programs
- tow ticket users

**Permit Holders:** a group or organization that holds a permit to conduct their ski activities or snowboard activities at a City of Toronto ski and snowboard centre.

**Ski Patrol:** staff, trained and certified by the Canadian Ski Patrol Services, who provide first aid to clients and staff on ski hills.

**Terrain Park:** a gated ski area with built features for performing skiing / snowboarding jumps and tricks.

**Tow Ticket Users:** members of the general public who ski or snowboard at city-run centres for personal pleasure. These users do not participate in lessons or programs.

**Conditions**

- Wearing an approved ski and snowboard helmet is mandatory for the following users:
  - o All on-hill staff while on a ski / snowboard hill
  - o All participants in the following programs and activities:
    - § instructional
    - § freestyle
    - § races
    - § group visits
    - § those renting equipment packages
    - § those utilizing the Terrain Park
  - o Permit group visitors
  - o Volunteers, including but not limited to: race officials, support persons to people with disabilities and leaders in training.
- Wearing an approved ski and snowboard helmet is strongly recommended but is not mandatory for tow ticket users.
- Program participants noted above, volunteers and permit group visitors

may rent an approved helmet and beanie or use their own helmet if it meets or exceeds the *EN 1077* standard.

- Participants who do not have an approved ski or snowboard helmet will not be admitted to class.
- Staff, program participants and volunteers may use their own helmet if it meets or exceeds the *EN 1077* standard. (On-hill supervisors will inspect and approve all staff helmets.)
- Exemption from or adaptation of the Ski and Snowboard Helmet Policy when requested by a staff or participant will be allowed when the completed Ski and Snowboard Helmet Waiver is submitted to the Community Recreation Programmer and witnessed by them.
- Approved ski and snowboard helmets will be issued to staff at the beginning of each season and will be returned at the completion of their seasonal work assignment.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

**Ski and Snowboard Centre Supervisor** is responsible for:

- the safe operation of the ski centres;
- providing staff training in helmet usage;
- ensuring helmet compliance with staff and clients;
- ensuring safe usage and storage of helmets;
- ensuring reporting of accidents and incidents of all staff and skiers

**Supervisor of Rental Shop & Ski Rental Technicians** (led by the supervisor) will:

- ensure that helmets are properly fitted for each user;
- check each helmet for damage and remove them from service if damaged;
- clean helmets between each use;
- store helmets in a secure place;
- provide beanies to all helmet renters to ensure hygienic use of helmets.

**Supervisor Ski Patrol & Ski Patrol Staff** are responsible for:

- on-hill safety of skiers and staff;
- providing first aid to injured staff and participants;
- transporting injured staff and participants to safety;
- calling Emergency Medical Services (EMS) if required.

**On-hill Supervisor** is responsible for:

- on-hill safety of skiers and staff;
- monitoring staff and skiers for helmet use and reporting non-compliance to the Community Recreation Programmer or Ski and Snowboard Centre Supervisor.

**Ski School Supervisor & Instructors** are responsible to:

- ensure that each participant is wearing a correctly fitted helmet at each class and report non-compliance to the Community Recreation Programmer or Ski and Snowboard Centre Supervisor.

**Community Recreation Programmers** are responsible for:

- safety of staff and participants
- helmet compliance and waivers
- training
- communication with permit groups
- interviewing, orientating and scheduling of volunteers and Leaders in Training
- administering staff damage deposit system

**Confidentiality**

The *Ski and Snowboard Helmet Waiver and Release of Liability* form contains personal information. Per the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, these forms must be stored in a secure location where only authorized staff have access.

**Related Information**

For information about the EN 1077 standard helmet go to:

<http://www.head.com/ski/technology.php?region=us&tag=helmet&id=305>

**Forms**

[Supervisor's Report of Staff Injury](#)

[Emergency/Incident Report](#)

[Participant Minor Injury/Incident Report](#)

[Ski and Snowboard Helmet Waiver and Release of Liability](#)

**Contact**

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