



UK Snowsport Snowboard Instructor (Level
2) Award overview, training and
assessment

**AWARD OVERVIEW, TRAINING, AND
ASSESSMENT**

Introduction

This award is designed for instructors to deliver lesson content to snowboarders ranging from complete beginners to an advanced level. This includes a variety of piste performance skills, flatland tricks and basic freestyle outside of a park environment at a UK artificial slope or indoor facility.

You are also likely to work as a mentor for less experienced colleagues as they work towards a Foundation Snowboard Instructor (L1) award

Entry requirements

In order to participate in the Snowboard Instructor course you need to meet the following entry requirements:

- ✓ A minimum age of 16
- ✓ Have successfully completed the Foundation Snowboard Instructor (L1) award.
- ✓ Be a registered and current member of a UK Snowsports Governing Body. Including an up to date and valid DBS check, First Aid certificate and Safeguarding & Protecting Children course.

The Course

The course covers the fundamentals of teaching novice to expert riders and prepares you for workplace training and further development. You are encouraged to fully immerse yourself in the content, which covers:

- Explain the role of the Snowboard Instructor (L2)
- Describe the philosophy of the UK Snowsports Coaching Scheme
- Describe and show the key aspects of skilful snowboarding performance beyond The Progression and in relation to Piste Performance.
- The role of tasks in learning
- Explain the components of a good lesson and more advanced teaching tools for potential use in task delivery.
- Have a clear idea of the personal riding performance assessment criteria expected and be able to profile your own riding, developing an on-going action plan.
- The fundamentals of working with riders of advanced and expert standard including planning and delivering safe, enjoyable sessions which build the foundations for further learning
- Observing performances and providing feedback

The course lasts at least 14 hours and can be delivered over two days or a series of shorter sessions lasting at least 2 hours each.

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Working towards accreditation

You will be supported to create an action plan for your ongoing development as a rider and instructor. As well as working on any points identified in the action plan, you will also be required to:

- complete workplace training, recorded in a workbook
- complete a minimum of 20 hours of **supervised** teaching under the guidance of a suitable mentor
- maintain membership with Snowsport England
- maintain First Aid certification, safeguarding training and DBS check

All units of the workbook must be completed, and evidence provided when applying for assessment. Details of how to do this are provided in the workplace training workbook. Further information may be required before your booking is confirmed.

You must bring your workbook to the assessment for inspection and will be refused access to the assessment if it is inadequate.



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Assessment

The one-day exam is organised by Snowsport England, held at an artificial ski slope and conducted by nationally appointed assessors. There may be others attending, including candidates being assessed for other coach awards and observers for quality assurance or training. You will be advised accordingly.

The assessment may be videoed for training and verification purposes.

The assessors want to see what you can already do and will use a variety of information sources to assess your standard against the award requirements.

The assessment covers the following areas:

1. Verification of workbook, including investigation and questioning about its content
2. Riding performance
3. Session delivery [working with your peers and at their own level of skiing]
4. Health & safety [assessed via first aid certificate, conduct and questioning]
5. Underpinning knowledge [assessed by questioning]

Be sure to arrive in good time as it is **NOT** possible to join an examination after it has started. In such cases, both the fee and the right of access to that part of the examination (i.e. riding or teaching) will be forfeited.

Your clothing and equipment should be clean, tidy, well maintained, safe and appropriate for instructing and riding on artificial slopes. You should have a professional appearance with appropriate clothing that is weather-appropriate, arms and legs fully covered and trousers fitting over the ski boots. You must wear gloves.

The usual running order for the assessment is (1) examination of workbooks (2) personal riding and (3) observation and feedback, with an appropriate break for lunch. The examiners may vary this order with the intention of making fair, valid and reliable assessments.

Riding Performance

The examiners look at your skilful snowboard performance rather than demonstrations.

You must be able to ride all areas of artificial ski slopes with performances that contain appropriate posture, consistent balance and control of speed and direction of travel.

Whilst performing, you should be able to:

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	Riding Tasks
Piste riding	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show an ability to ride with an efficient and effective active posture throughout.• Make a series of carved turns, showing an early edge change and cleanly carving the last 2/3 of each turn on green-blue grade terrain.• In switch and standard riding positions show, blend and adapt a range of turn shapes and sizes as required. Examples include funnel and hourglass tasks.• Show an ability to ride more undulating and variable terrain, while retaining efficient and effective technique.
Freestyle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show a range of flatland skills in motion, including: ollies/nollies, nose/tail presses, min 1x 180 spin, on slope 360, basic trick combinations.

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Performance Criteria

Criteria	Observed Performance
Effectiveness	The task itself is completed effectively and accurately
Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appropriate levels of muscular tension• Optimum range of movement in relation to intended outcome so that the task is skilfully performed, not demonstrated• Appropriate speed and strength of movements in relation to intended outcome.
Consistency	The task is completed with the required degree of accuracy on each of several attempts.
Posture	Appropriate to task and responsive to changing forces
Central and Peripheral flow	Feet follow a wave-form path, whilst the centre of mass follows a shorter path. In Core Tasks there is clear differentiation of central and peripheral flow.
Movements and Motion	The timing, tempo, strength and range of movements are all appropriate to the rider's motion, e.g. the tempo of movements should match the tempo of turning.
Spatial	Rider shows awareness of the terrain and of other slope users when performing the task. An appropriate choice of line and use of terrain features/contours is made in relation to the task.
Speed	Appropriate to the task, terrain and conditions. e.g. if the amplitude changes, the speed may also have to change.

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Observation and Feedback

Assessment is made by observing you deliver practical sessions with your peers and through discussion and questioning. You are expected to work with your peers at their own level of riding performance and not through role play.

You will be expected to have appropriate underpinning knowledge, experience and ability necessary to be an effective instructor for novice to expert riders. You should be able to manage the learning environment for different types of rider.

Underpinning Knowledge

You will need to demonstrate knowledge of general terms and concepts about riding and an ability to use these concepts with your riders. You will be expected to be imaginative and responsive to the needs of your riding.

You should be able to:

- define and explain wider snowboarding terminology
- identify equipment needs for riders from novice to expert
- categorise the benefits of modern board designs and advise riders on how appropriate equipment might influence their performance
- identify common equipment safety issues
- discuss the FIS Rules for Conduct and follow them during the assessment

Movement Analysis

You should be able to:

- critically observe and analyse general movement patterns as found amongst advanced and expert riders
- identify causes behind the observed behaviour of the board
- discuss posture, appropriate movements and balancing
- understand effective movements for advanced and expert riders
- identify desired outcomes for rider development
- identify exercises and tasks which address students' development needs
- understand the fundamental movements of pressure control, edge control, leg steering and dynamic balancing
- teach an appropriate blend of these movements suited to the needs of advanced and expert riders
- create an activity/task list appropriate to the needs of the riders

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Examination of Observation and Feedback

You are assessed on:

- critical observation of riders performance
- providing useful feedback to reinforce, regulate and/or motivate the riders performance.

This part of the examination is carried out as follows:

Observation

You will observe some skiers who are set a practical riding task. You will stand beside the examiner and makes comments on their riding performance. You should set up the activity to optimise time for focused observation and comment to the examiners about each performer. You are expected to comment on these factors:

Q: Did the rider complete the task that was set?

A₁: If no, describe what was seen and how it differed from the task set.

A₂: If yes, confirm each element of the task as completed. For instance:

- Sufficient speed
- Continuously linked arcs
- Consistency of hitting the target amplitude

If yes, continue to describe to the examiner the key performance criteria that are observed in each skier. You should comment on any observed strengths or weaknesses in the skill of each rider. The assessor may ask a variety of questions to explore your underpinning knowledge of effect, such as how the skis perform in the snow, and the causes.

Feedback

Having observed several descents, you should give feedback to each rider. The aim may be to reinforce a strength or to correct or regulate a weakness.

You should call the riders over individually to receive their feedback which should be in clear, simple terms and without jargon. It should empower them to make changes in performance.

The examiner may ask you to explain your choice of performance criteria and/or the nature of the feedback given.

The riders continue with the same task for approximately 20 – 30 minutes. You are expected to effect some improvement in one or more elements in the performance of the task by improving the riders effectiveness, efficiency or both.

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Risk Management

When riding you will be expected to follow the FIS Rules for Conduct (“Ski Way Code”). When running sessions you will be expected to manage risks accordingly.

Results

You will receive your result and reasoning on the day and a written assessment will follow. Comments provided will be aimed at helping you and related personnel (coach/mentor/supervisor) understand your strengths and weaknesses in riding skill, knowledge, understanding, observation and feedback.

Appeals

Appeals are possible under certain circumstances as set out in the Snowsport England Appeals Procedure, available on the web site or by contacting us by email. If considering an appeal you should first consult the procedure to check that your circumstances are eligible for consideration.