

**UK SNOWSPORT
COACHING PROTOCOL**

When coaching away from their normal “home base”, Snowsport England Coaches must follow a protocol to ensure that they are operating properly and comply with local requirements. The flow chart gives an overview of the steps required with further guidance provided below



Introduction

Snowsport England is a member of the International Federation of Snowsport Instructors (IVSI) and this Coaching Protocol is designed to meet the spirit of the IVSI 's role and how IVSI recognised awards are intended to be used at home and abroad.

The organisers of events, club or similar trips should also follow these procedures.

The underlying principle is one of respect for all, including the ski centre or area, lift operator, the businesses and local people.

Coaches will be with a group of skiers/riders with whom they have a demonstrable coaching relationship, such as club, school, academy youth group, local ski centre group or similar organisation. The trips should be for suitably experienced participants who would not otherwise be in snowsport school. The coach's stay in resort will coincide with the event, club or group: essentially, they arrive and leave with them, or at similar times if travelling independently.

Organisations that take on seasonal or short-term camp participants must ensure that they have all relevant permissions from the host nation and that their coaches meet the qualifications and licensing requirements set out elsewhere in the document.

This protocol applies whether you are operating at a different ski centre in the UK or a mountain-based ski area on the other side of the world. It also forms part of the code of conduct/practice for all Snowsport England Coaches. You are not only representing yourself, but also Snowsport England and all your colleagues. Conduct should always be calm, polite and rational.

1. Right to work

Do you have working rights? Since Brexit, working rights have become a contentious area. Though clearly not an issue for UK citizens in the UK you **must** have working rights in the nation you will carry out the coaching you have planned. For more information see check out website for the latest Brexit guidance.

If you coach beyond the range of operation of your award or without working rights it is **highly unlikely** that Snowsport England would be able to support you in any way. This is also a breach of the Coaches Code of conduct, ethics and practice.

2. Qualifications

You must be suitably qualified, licenced and insured to undertake the proposed coaching. All Snowsport England awards have precise ranges of operation, and you must not operate outside of them. **You** must check that your award is appropriate for your planned coaching. Example - your award licences you to coach low level skiers at an artificial slope in the UK. You **cannot** coach those skiers in a mountain environment.

3. Permissions

Suitable permissions must be arranged in advance with the resort or ski centre.

If you are a coach travelling with your group, **you** should seek permission, outlining what you are intending to do. In the UK this may require nothing more than a chat with a centre manager. But remember, it's their right to say *no*.

Overseas it is more important to gain written permission and, where relevant, also seek this from local agencies such as the ski school, lift company and accommodation provider. In some cases you may need to seek permission from a regional authority (e.g. Tiroler Skilehrerverband, Snowsport Tirol, see [Brexit guidance](#)).

If you are a coach travelling out to a British Calendar events sanctioned by a Home Nation Governing Body or GBS, you should check the event invitation for the event-specific protocol. It is possible that you will be covered by their agreement with the resort for that event: if not you should apply individually. You will still need to make local arrangements for booking training pistes.

For FIS/CIT races - Approved international events should be fine. If the organizers require coaches to complete accreditation, then you must do this.

4. In resort

Carry a copy of the written permission(s) whilst in the resort in case you need to show it to anyone.

Try to introduce yourself to the local ski school, especially when in a small resort. It is also essential if you plan to use slalom poles that you introduce yourself to the Lift Company/Piste Controller.