SAFETY ON THE SLOPES

Heads Up – Know the Code, it’s your responsibility

Beaver Creek has received 11 Safety Awards from the National Ski Areas Association. We pride ourselves on instilling safety as a core value among employees and also educating and promoting a safe, fun environment on the mountain for guests.

Your Responsibility Code

Beaver Creek is committed to promoting skier safety. In addition to people using traditional alpine ski equipment, you may be joined on the slopes by snowboarders, telemark skiers or cross-country skiers, skiers with disabilities, skiers with specialized equipment and others. Always show courtesy to others and be aware that there are elements of risk in skiing and snowboarding that common sense and personal awareness can help reduce. Know your ability level and stay within it. Observe “Your Responsibility Code” listed below and share the responsibility code for a great skiing experience with other skiers and riders.

1- Always stay in control, and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.
2- People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
3- You must not stop where you obstruct a trail, or are not visible from above.
4- Whenever starting downhill or merging into a trail, look uphill and yield to others.
5- Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
6- Observe all posted signs and warnings.
7- Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
8- Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely.

Unmarked Obstacles. Be advised that Beaver Creek does not mark all potential obstacles or hazards. When marked, poles, flags, fencing, signage, padding or other forms of marking are used to inform the skier/ rider of the location of a potential obstacle or hazard. These markers are no guarantee of your safety. It is part of your responsibility under the Your Responsibility Code and the Colorado Ski Safety Act to avoid all obstacles and hazards.

Colorado Ski Safety Act. The Colorado legislature, recognizing risks that are inherent in the sport, has passed the Colorado Ski Safety Act which provides inherent risks of the sport and relative responsibilities of the “skier” and the ski area. You must obey the Act. Under the Act, any person using the facilities of a ski area is considered a skier. A summary of the inherent risks is listed below.

WARNING

Under Colorado law, a skier assumes the risk of any injury to person or property resulting from any of the inherent dangers and risks of skiing and may not recover from any ski area operator for any injury resulting from any of the inherent dangers and risks of skiing, including: changing weather conditions; existing and changing snow conditions; bare spots; rocks; stumps; trees; collisions with natural objects, man-made objects, or other skiers; variations in terrain; and the failure of skiers to ski within their own abilities.

In-bounds avalanches are included in the above inherent dangers and risks. Also, the Ski Safety Act was amended in 2004 to include CLIFFS, EXTREME TERRAIN, JUMPS AND FREESTYLE TERRAIN as inherent dangers and risks of the sport.

Trail Designations. Skiers and Riders should be advised that a green circle, blue square, single or double black diamond, or orange oval at Beaver Creek is not necessarily the same as a similar designation at other resorts. The system is a relative rating of trails at each resort and does not compare trail or park difficulty between resorts. Skiers and Riders should begin with the easiest terrain and then move up in difficulty as their ability permits in order to understand the relative rating at Beaver Creek.

Electronic Devices. Beaver Creek discourages the use of electronic devices – cell phones, music players, or earphones – while skiing and snowboarding, or loading and unloading lifts.

Lift Safety. Under Colorado law, you cannot board a lift unless you have sufficient physical dexterity, ability and knowledge to negotiate or to use such lift safely or until you have asked for and received information sufficient to enable you to use the lift safely. You may not use a lift or any ski trail when the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Snow Cats and Snowmobiles. CAUTION – snowcats, snowmobiles and snowmaking and equipment may be encountered at any time.

Slow Zones. Certain areas indicated on the map in yellow are designated as SLOW ZONES. Please observe the posted slow areas by maintaining a speed no faster than the general flow of traffic. Space and speed are especially important in these areas. Fast and aggressive skiing will not be tolerated and may result in termination of your skiing/riding privileges.

Backcountry Safety. Pursuant to the Colorado Ski Safety Act, the ski area assumes no responsibility for skiers going beyond the ski area boundary. To access the backcountry, use designated gates only. Areas beyond the ski area boundary are not patrolled or maintained. Avalanches, unmarked obstacles and other natural hazards exist. BEWARE: the backcountry avalanche hazard may be extreme. Rescue in the backcountry, if available, is the responsibility of the Eagle County Sheriff. It will be costly and may take time.

Closed Terrain. If a sign indicates that certain terrain is closed, do not ski in the closed terrain. Sking in closed areas is against the law and may result in loss of resort privileges.

High-Altitude Environment. Some visitors may experience symptoms associated with Beaver Creek’s high altitude. Symptoms may include headaches, nausea, loss of appetite, restless sleep, coughing and difficulty in breathing. If symptoms persist or if you have a concern about your health, you should seek medical attention.

Sun Protection. With every 3,000’ increase in altitude, UV levels rise by 10% -12%. We recommend eye protection and sunscreen products to ensure protection from UV rays.

Protect your skiing and riding. Your ticket or pass is non-transferable and may not be resold or used by anyone other than the person to whom it was issued. Report lost or stolen passes to resort staff or law enforcement immediately. Resort staff may ask you to show your pass or ticket at any time. Failure to show a valid pass or ticket or engaging in fraudulent behavior of any kind may result in loss of resort privileges and/or criminal prosecution.

Marijuana Consumption. It is illegal to consume marijuana in public.

Aerial Drones. Recreational drone use by any guest or member of the public, for any reason, is not permitted on or over any Vail Resorts property.

Children’s Ski School Helmet Policy. Children age 12 and under must wear a winter sport protective helmet while participating in ski school. In addition, children over the age of 12 who participate in designated children’s classes or programs must wear a helmet. Rental helmets are available at our children’s ski school locations for your convenience.