

Sample Training Suggestions

Below are some sample instructor training pathways that might aid you in choosing the clinics that best fit your goals with TASP this 2011/2012 season. As always, you can never acquire enough training and practice in adaptive snowsports instruction so feel free to take any and all clinics that you find interesting. We'll see you on the hill!

1.) Skier Jane is joining the TASP instructor pool for the 2011/12 season. Jane has no specific experience with adaptive sports/education except for growing up next to a gentleman with a Developmental Delay. Jane says she is the usual fair weather skier who loves to cruise blue runs and simply wants to “be involved” with TASP for the season.

*As a new instructor to TASP, Jane is required to take 3 days of training before being assigned to a student lesson. Jane must complete, in good standing, an **Office Orientation** and **Disability Awareness** session, and the full-day **Adaptive Alpine Intro** clinic. Jane now has at least one more full day of training to complete which can be a clinic or clinics of her choice. Because Jane has an interest in kids she decides to take **Kids!** Even though her required training is now complete, Jane sees the worth in building her own ski skills to be able to tether or work a bamboo pole more efficiently so she chooses to take **Adaptive Baseline Skills**, the prerequisite to get into **Stand-Up Tether Intro**. By taking these clinics, Jane realizes she personally wants to be a better skier to make her a more effective instructor so she will utilize **Skier Improvement** clinics offered throughout the season with TASP.*

2.) Rider Joe comes into TASP saying he is an advanced snowboarder and is obviously very passionate about the sport. Upon further conversation Joe says he has no real instructing experience except for teaching a few buddies how to ride but it was a pretty horrible experience for all. Joe works evenings in town and has every day of the week available to teach and help out where needed. He understands TASP, at this point, does not have a ton of snowboard specific lessons and is willing to be an assistant on ski lessons as well. Joe is ready to start training today!

*Just like Skier Jane previously, with Joe being a new instructor to TASP this season, he is required to take an **Office Orientation** session along with **Disability Awareness**. From there Joe has to complete the full-day clinic **Adaptive Snowboard Intro**. Joe was so blown away by the professional nature and ease of the teaching progression he wanted to learn more on how to help a disabled rider get on the mountain so he chose to take the **Snowboard Extravaganza - Adaptive**. With a ½ day left of required training time, and having hung out with some skiers at the ‘Extravaganza’ because it was open to all, Joe thought he could be a great asset to a sit-down ski lesson as a blocker and equipment loader so he took the **Sit-Down Ski Fiesta!** Through all these clinics Joe also realized the importance of having a very solid personal skill base, especially riding with one foot out down the hill, so he will utilize **Rider Improvement** clinics offered through the season with TASP.*

3.) Pat has been an instructor with TASP for 4 years now. She has found herself filling the spots of assistant and lead instructor throughout those years with returning students who have cognitive disabilities and in her terms “rip!” Pat is also used a lot on “never ever” lessons on the magic carpet but feels she gets stuck from time-to-time on where to progress her student next. “Is the next step a wedge turn here on the magic carpet or do I take the skier out to the meadows and go straight to parallel turns?”

*Pat is at a pivotal point in her adaptive snowsports career where she has been proven trustworthy to take out lessons on her own or with an assistant and is now thirsty for more information on beginner skiers and how to push her intermediate skiers to the next level. As a returning instructor, Pat is required to take one full day of training. For her on-snow training, Pat decides to take **Bringing It All Together** to work through some big picture guided learning and receive feedback on her teaching theory and presentation skills. After that informative clinic, Pat decides to jump into a higher level instructor clinic, **Taking It To The Next Level**, to see if she has what it takes and hopefully pick up some more drills to work on with her students. Pat of course cruises through this clinic realizing she did know all that, she just needed a refresher this season. Being so turned on to higher level ski instruction, Pat approaches the Program Director curious about what it takes to be a certified instructor through **PSIA** and hear what is in it for her. The P.D. is more than glad to sit down with Pat and explain the certifying process, give his “Director’s opinion” on why he feels it is so important for instructors to have “professionally presented, industry standard” training given by the governing body of our industry. Pat and Tim make a prep training plan for Pat to go into her clinics/exams to pass with flying colors!*