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Air Bag Usage Policy

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1.0 Preamble

This policy document has been drafted to define the conditions under which Canada~Snowboard, the national governing body for snowboarding in Canada, will approve and sanction air bag activities for Canada~Snowboard members. Inflatable air bags may be used for training inverted air maneuvers only on written approval by Canada~Snowboard. Canada~Snowboard member clubs may submit an application requesting the use of an air bag for training. Canada~Snowboard will not sanction the venue, in this case being the air bag, but only the participation of its members in the activity. The foundation of this policy is the coach.

2.0 The Activities

Canada~Snowboard will provide approval and sanctioning of air bag activities under the following conditions:

1. An agreement or proof of insurance must be supplied to Canada~Snowboard from the owner/operator of the air bag.
2. Written authority to use the air bag for identified training activities must be obtained from the facility owner/operator and or air bag owner. A Copy of this written agreement must be supplied to Canada~Snowboard. Permission to use the air bag may require the coaches and athletes to sign waivers or hold harmless agreements as a condition of use of the air bag.
2. All training activities must be conducted under the supervision of a coach with the minimum appropriate training and certification from the Canada~Snowboard Coaching Program (CSCP)
3. Coaches are to follow the skill training progressions as outlined by the Canada~Snowboard Coaching Program. Particular care should be taken when introducing athletes to a new facility.
4. Coaches must assess an athlete's skill level and determine if his/her skill level is appropriate for using the air bag.



5. Coaches must ensure that the air bag is clear of obstructions before sending the next athlete. The coach is responsible for controlling access to the air bag and allowing the athletes access only when it is safe.

6. Inverted aerial maneuvers may not be taught by a coach unless he/she has, as a minimum, the CSCP: Comp Introduction (Advanced Gradation) Certified Status AND the Air Module 1 and 2 (Acrobatic Foundations.)

7. All athletes are required to wear helmets and it is strongly recommended they wear properly fitted mouth guards while training or competing.

8. Coaches must determine the availability of medical services/first aid available and inform the ski area ski patrol that training is taking place or inform facility operators first-aid providers.

2.1 Air Bag Inspection

The coach must inspect the air bag prior to each training session to ensure it is safe for training.

The coach should ensure:

- ☞ That the anchoring systems are sound and non-hazardous;
- ☞ That there is no space between the jumps or table and the air bag.
- ☞ It extends a minimum of 5 meters beyond each side edge of the jump or air site table for the entire length of the air bag.
- ☞ The jump is properly highlighted to clearly indicate the transition and take off points (e.g. lip) of the jump;
- ☞ The air bag is visually inspected on a regular basis during use to ensure that it is still in good working condition;
- ☞ The air bag is free of debris (e.g. snowboards, goggles, hats, grooming tools, etc).

If the airbag is determined to be unsafe following the inspection, the individual responsible for the air bag should be notified immediately and training canceled until the required repairs are completed.

Coaches must receive permission from the Ski Area operator and/or air bag owner before performing any maintenance work on or near the air bag.

2.2 Air Bag Training

The air bag must not be so firm or provide the opportunity for the athlete to bounce on or off the air bag and it must be set up in an appropriate manner that the athlete lands near the middle of the air bag.

Airbag manufacturer or designer's specifications and usage requirements must be followed.

Where possible all airbag training should be video recorded

All accidents resulting in injury must be reported immediately to CSF/CSA in accordance with risk management policies