

# ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL PATROLLERS CERTIFICATION TESTING CRITERIA - SKI, BOARD and TELEMARKING

The term skiing used in the criteria below is extended to include telemark skiing and snowboarding as well. Some of the testing maneuvers below will be modified for those who slide on two boards versus one.

## BASIC KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS NEEDED TO ATTAIN **ASSOCIATE** STATUS:

Good skiing ability is a necessary skill to all patrol work. Basic skills, competence, and confidence should be emphasized.

1. Testing will be in the following areas.
  - a) Snowplow – turns and stops
  - b) Kick turns – both directions in steep terrain
  - c) Side slipping – both forward and backward in the bumps
  - d) Moguls – show control in the fall line
  - e) Groomed run – Giant Slalom turns in control, not too fast
  - f) Powder/Crud – strength and control in the fall line
  - g) Discuss self arrest after a fall on steep ice

The content of the Skiing Practical Test obviously depends on current snow conditions and available terrain. All of the above may not be available on a given day. Still, the test can be given fairly no matter what the current conditions are. The judges must ski with the candidates in order to gauge the relative difficulty of the day's conditions and terrain.

## ADVANCED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS NEEDED TO ATTAIN **CERTIFIED** STATUS:

1. Capable, confident and strong in all of the above.

NO: Double pole plants, inability to stop, excessive falling. Control should be emphasized. Equipment problems will not be tolerated.

### **Note:**

This is an outdoor practical skills test. It is about two hours in length. Your skiing/riding skills need to be suitable to travel in advanced and expert terrain. Typically this practical test is performed with more than one candidate, possibly up to ten. More than one judge may be present during your evaluation for consistency of evaluation.

## **CERTIFICATION TESTING CRITERIA - SKI, BOARD and TELEMARKING, Continued**

### **Required Items for Testing:**

1. If new to testing you will need your Patrol Director's sign-off to confirm that you have the skills and knowledge to perform the testing criteria.
2. Ready to ski or ride with all equipment and clothing at the time of testing

### **References:**

- Professional Ski Instructors of America (PSIA)
- Association of Snow Sports Instructors (AASI)
- Association of Professional Patrollers – Study Guide

