



Ski Spectacular Instructor Academy

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Clinic Summary Notes

Clinic Topic: Tools and Tactics for Guiding Skiers and Riders with Blindness or Low Vision
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1. Prep considerations for guiding:
 - Who is the guest? What are his or her expectations of the guide and themselves? Set learning, skill, and experience goals with the guest. Determine guiding needs and set a plan together.
 - Determine guest learning, communication, mobility, and sports guiding preferences.
 - Create rapport and trust. Provide social and emotional safety and security.
 - Assess vision and hearing for safety and effectiveness in sliding and guiding.
 - Determine mobility preferences/orientation preferences (clock, etc.).
2. Guiding considerations:
 - Purpose: recreation or racing?
 - Select guide position based upon vision, hearing and safest for whole team
 - Communication:
 - Rules of engagement
 - Safety cues for guests and guides
 - DDIRT – direction, duration, intensity, rate, timing; free turns
 - Speaker pack for guide, Bluetooth communication system
 - Safety:
 - Gear – bib, goggles, vest, half helmet
 - Guest/guide proximity, location, or lane safest for guest, guide, public when sliding, stopped
 - Teach and both follow Your Responsibility Code and Smart Style/Park Smart
 - Terrain and conditions based upon cognitive, emotional, and physical strength and skills
 - Systems:
 - Visual guiding – front, side
 - Auditory guiding – front, side, rear; sounds, verbal cues, grid, clock
 - Kinesthetic guiding – side; horizontal pole (limitations), joystick, arm in arm
3. Read about key components of Guiding in PSIA's *Alpine Adaptive Technical Manual* and learn more about vision diagnoses from *PSIA's Alpine Instruction Supplement: Diagnoses and Medication Classifications* at <https://www.thesnowpros.org/education/digital-manuals-for-every-discipline/>.
4. Watch Smart Style/Park Smart video to learn about park safety; www.nsaa.org/safety.