



## **Ski Spectacular Instructor Academy**

**Hosted by The Hartford Ski Spectacular  
December 4-7, 2023**

### **Clinic Summary Notes**

#### **Clinic Topic: Demystifying Biski Tethering and Seat Assisting from a Snowboard – Brent Kuemmerle**

It's no mystery, snowboarders are better set up for tethering and are uniquely qualified for this task.

1. Loading and unloading on the lift
2. Proper body position for tethering
3. Heelside hero
4. Thinking like a skier when tethering ala turn shape etc.

And then there are the tricky parts...going from seat assist to tether and back again.

1. When do you go from assist to tether at the start?
2. When do you go from tether to assist at the bottom?
3. Remember to be mindful of how much tether is out related to the terrain (shorter on flatter)
4. Always looking ahead to read terrain to make appropriate choices for seat assist vs tether

The change from assist to tether and back is a challenging and nuanced decision that will only get easier with time and practice. Get out there!

Tethering basics: one strand vs. two

1. One strand and a backup loop to vs 2 strands and wrapped around the hands
2. What are the advantages of one strand?
3. What are the advantages of 2 strands wrapped?
4. Either is acceptable use your own discretion as to which is better for you

Correct set up and technique for snowboard tethering

1. Let's talk about duck vs race stance
2. Hard boots vs soft boots especially in relation to the switch between assist and tether
3. How's your switch riding?
4. Where are you in relation to the bi-ski
5. Who's got the steering wheel?

Best practices for seat assists

1. Different places to grab on for different bi skis
2. Regular vs goofy

3. Traversing over flat terrain vs getting through mazes etc.
4. One foot vs both feet in

Different techniques for different bi-skis and fixed riggers

1. Fixed riggers on or off for lift loading?
2. Advantages and disadvantages of both
3. How does the position of the rigger affect the ski? Vertical adjustment and horizontal

Relationship between terrain and technique

1. Length of tether for steeper vs flatter terrain
2. Proper time to switch between assist vs tether based on terrain changes

Environmental conditions considerations

1. Tethering in slush vs hard pack and ice

Please refer to the adaptive snowboard manual at <https://thesnowpros.org/education/digital-manuals-for-every-discipline/>