



Ski Spectacular Instructor Academy

Hosted by The Hartford Ski Spectacular

December 8-11, 2025

Clinic Summary Notes

Clinic Title: Mountain Guide – Scott Giffin scottgif1@gmail.com

1. Identify hazards and challenges in the guiding environment.
2. Consider the 5 T's: Terrain, Traffic, Tactics, Timing, Tasks, and Snow Surface.
3. Consider weather and its effects on the ability to focus (student and instructor), visibility, communication.
4. Focus on proactive guiding skills. Keep your focus moving. Anticipate versus react.
5. Some mountain apps indicate lift maze wait times, which may provide insight into high traffic areas to avoid.
6. Apps like *OpenSnow* provide weather reports, daily and hourly forecasts, snow conditions, current and forecast radar, and more. <https://opensnow.com/>