
This document is a translation of the local municipal law relating to the security measures on the resort slopes and areas reserved specifically for snowsports. The French version of this document remains the only official document: Arrêté du maire n°2017/205 “Arrêté municipal relatif à la sécurité sur les pistes de ski et sur les espaces réservés aux pratiques d’activités spécifiques de glisse”

The Tignes local authority sets out as below;

According to the General Local Authorities Legislative Code, specifically articles L.2212-2 5°, L.2212-4 et L.2122-24 ;

Article 78-6 of the Code of Criminal Procedure

According to Law n° 85 –30 - 9th January 1985 modified relative to the development and protection of the mountain environment.

According to Law n° 2004 - 811 – 13th August 2004, from modernization of the civil security.

According to Standard NF S 52-100 relating to the slopes dedicated to alpine skiing.

According to Standards NF S 52-101 and NF S 52-103 relating to cross country skiing slopes, cross country circuits and areas designated for a specific snowsport's purpose within the resort.

According to Standard NF S 52-102 relating to the slopes dedicated to alpine skiing: safety signage and information.

According to Standard XP S 52-104 relating to the avalanche risk information.

According to Standard NF S 52-107 relating to development of « freestyle » areas.

According to Ski Patrol Management.

According to the annual law revision by the local authority relating to the security measures employed during the 'PIDA' – the controlled bombing procedure undertaken by ski patrol in the resort of Tignes.

According to conclusion drawn by the Local Security Commission on 22nd November 2017.

CONSIDERING that the Town Mayor is responsible for the security and organization of all rescue operations on the resort's slopes.

LAW ARTICLE 1

A ski slope is classified as an area covered with snow that is marked within the conditions defined below in Article 2 of the law and is reserved exclusively for use by those taking part in snowsports in the ski resort. This is with the object of sliding on the snow with the help of equipment adapted for the various snowsports disciplines (skiing, snowboarding, monoskiing, snowblading, Sqwal, Big Foot, Snowscoting, Yooner slide) and the adaptations for disabled users.

All these types of snowsport's equipment have an integrated breaking system which connects them to the user.

Access and circulation for those not wearing such snowport's equipment is strictly forbidden on the slopes within the resort in any circumstance. (pedestrians - snow shoers – dogs – sledges – scooters quads, etc...) during the public opening hours of the ski area.

Ski touring on the slopes must be conducted on the outside edge of the slope markings.

However, all maintenance equipment; for the purposes of security, operation of the slopes, the lift system and the rescue services can circulate through whatever mode of transport this dictates, under the conditions stated in article 10 of the present legal order.

Working dogs, accompanied by their handler are also authorized to access the slopes and circulate, in accordance with article 11 below.

Pathways, even if they are used often, that do not have any markings or signage are not considered ski slopes under this legal order.

Ski training and competitions including other snowsport's disciplines are forbidden on slopes that are open to the general public.

Construction of snow modules on the slopes; (bumps, kickers, table tops) aimed at the execution of acrobatic figures (Freestyle, Backcountry..) are also forbidden on the ski slopes open to the general public, including the outside boundaries of the slopes, where landing such figures is likely to occur on the marked the slope.

Specific zones are reserved exclusively for the practice of such snowsport's activities (snowpark, boarder-cross, etc.) and they have their own specific set of rules of conduct. They are marked and sign posted and are specifically designed for such activities. They are not classified as a ski slope under this legal order.

These specific areas are divided into 2 sub sectors:

1. The first is dedicated to competitions and training for ski competitions or associated disciplines. It is given the name 'slalom stadium'.
The access into a 'slalom stadium' is forbidden for those not taking part in the training and/or competition.

This restriction will be indicated by signage on site (banners / signs...) and / or other safety measures (nets, bunting, snow protection barriers....) impeding the entry of those not participating in the training and/or competition. The putting in place of these safety measures is the responsibility of the person in charge of this zone or its user.

The training sessions and competitions in such zones take place under the responsibility of the trainers and/or the organizing body. Before every training session or competition, they need to oversee the security of these 'stadiums' with relation to the competitors and those outside of the zone's boundary. When there are numerous races in the same stadium, the trainers need to ensure that they are organized in a way that the different courses and different race departures are timed in so that there are no collisions between the competitors.

For training sessions or competitions where the discipline is executed at high speed (Super G, Downhill) only one course per stadium will be permitted.

The 'Descente' slope on the Grande Motte glacier can at times during certain periods, notably in the autumn, become a training or fast speed competition (Super G or Downhill) stadium.

Use of this slalom stadium is on conditional terms, requiring the acceptance and signing of the protocol with regards to training and specific safety under ski patrol management.

Ski patrol can under any circumstances pre-empt the closure of these slalom stadiums in the interest of security.

2. The second encompasses all specific zones that are designed for a specific purpose (boarder-cross, parallel slalom, snowpark...) or for freestyle (jumps, aerial figures off different types of modules). This takes the generic name 'zone ludique'.
The practice of such activities requires a specific layout, found permanently in such areas. (modules, rails, tables, bumps, turns, raises, whoops).

Each specific layout is classified with an identification colour that allows the public to judge the difficulty of the obstacle;

Green: Easy

Blue : Moderate

Red : Difficult

Black: Very Difficult

It is the responsibility of the manager of this zone to allocate the identification colour to each module. The perimeter of the various modules has to be marked with yellow and black safety poles and/or safety bunting or nets in order for the modules to remain visible when visibility is low (white out, whilst snowing...).

The installation of this safety equipment along with its maintenance is the responsibility of the management of these zones.

When entering a helmet and other protective gear (back protector / ankle protectors) is highly recommended.

The general public is not forbidden to access these zones, however due to the nature of these zones and the moves practiced it is necessary to respect certain security rules in addition to those used normally on the slopes.

Respect the signage and do no move it.

Respect the sense of circulation in the park.
Do not remain standing in the landing areas.
Do not cut into the run-up area (alone or as a group).
In the case of an accident; shut the module (place poles in a cross above the kick or place a person to serve as indication) and contact ski patrol.

These general rules can also be observed on additional security panels within these zones.

In order to avoid accidents, it is advised that the utmost care is taken when entering these zones either a spectator or accompanying someone.
Ski patrol management can under any circumstances pre-empt the closure of these 'ludique zones' in the interest of security.

LAW ARTICLE 2

The ski slopes are marked throughout their length by different coloured markers indicating their category as seen below. These are distanced in a way to reduce the possibility of a user making a mistake.
The Standard NF S 52-100 is applied in the Tignes ski area.

ANY SLOPE THAT IS NOT MARKED WITH SIGNS IS NOT A SKI SLOPE. IT IS HOWEVER CONSIDERED AS OFF PISTE AND THOSE ENTERING INTO SUCH AREAS DO SO AT THEIR OWN RESPONSIBILITY.

The slope markers that delimit the ski slopes are made up of disks with a diameter of at least 40 centimeters, with numbering from 1 to x, the lowest number starting at the bottom of the slope and the highest at the top. (to help the user and so that in the case of an accident they can give the precise location to the ski patrol).

The trajectory of all ski slopes is indicated on one side by the slope markers, in the color of the slope level with the following information:

- The name of the slope
- A number, from x to 1, decreasing with the descent
- The name of the ski resort

Information about slope orientation is indicated on signs which contain:

- The name of the slope
- A reminder of the slope category by its colour
- A directional arrow

Orientation signs other than the above can be additionally installed if they are considered useful for the users.

Poles in the slope colour are also found between the slope markers and on the opposite side of the slope. Their purpose is to delimit the boundary of the slope. These poles are either made of wood or another material and are over 2 meters in height.

On skiers right, descending the slope, these poles will have a fluorescent orange top which allows the user to distinguish the right side from the left.

Slopes are divided into 4 different categories and denoted a colour according to their difficulty;

- Easy: marked green
- Moderate: blue
- Difficult: red
- Very difficult: black

On black slopes, the 'Naturide' itineraries are not groomed.

Each slope is identified by a name that is found on the slope marker.

In the summer season and up until the 15th December, the ski slopes on the Grande Motte glacier can be equipped with just the poles indicating their difficulty (Due to glacial ice other equipment may not remain in place).

The 'ludique' zones / parks will also be equipped under the same rules as the ski slopes. So as to avoid any confusion with the latter, the slope markers and poles used are orange. Additionally, the right-hand side of the slope is identified by all poles being coloured black at the top.

In the ski resort there are areas where those practicing snowsports and pedestrians converge. Often at the bottom of the resort where the slopes converge or surrounding the mountain restaurants, or at the bottom of the lifts. In the official sense and according to this law they are not considered to be slopes however they are part of the ski area; when entering these areas, you need to take care and this is at your own risk.

Danger is indicated through either yellow signs with the wording DANGER, or through yellow and black poles.

Pylons and lift stations situated near to the slopes will be equipped with the necessary protection. It is strictly forbidden for slope users to modify, move or damage any equipment used for marking information or protection on the slopes put in place by the ski patrol.

LAW ARTICLE 3

All those using the ski slopes need to protect themselves from the normal dangers associated with snowsports and respect the FIS slope rules, and in particular the following:

Users should take care not to put anyone in danger.

Users should use slopes adapted to their level, adapting their speed, their direction within their skill capacity, in relation to the snow conditions, the visibility, and the amount of people on the slope so that they avoid any collision, in particular in the areas where slopes converge at the bottom of resort.

Users must respect all signage, ski area closing times, safety information, and **in particular not enter slopes that are shut.**

Users are only allowed to take a slope if it has been declared and recorded as 'OPEN' by the ski patrol or any other body in charge of this authorization.

All snowsport's users must be equipped with a braking system on their skis or snowboard so that their equipment does not slide out of control on the slope in the case of a fall.

Users that must walk up or down a slope by foot, must do so on the side, taking care that neither themselves or their equipment puts anyone in danger, in particular on the easy slopes.

Circulation on the slopes in the opposite direction is forbidden (cross country skiing, ski touring).

Users downhill have right of way over the users uphill. Overtaking needs to be carried out with enough space so as not to cause any problems or collisions.

At a slope junction, the user needs to make sure that when joining the new slope the passage is clear and that they are not putting anyone in danger.

The slope user should only stop at the side of the slope in a visible position, not behind an obstacle like a bump or terrain made blind due to a change in slope angle. In the case of a fall the user must remove themselves rapidly from the main slope.

All slope users must respect the resort information, markers and signage including those for safety and protection (protection mattresses, safety or directional nets, poles, slope signs etc...).

All slope users are responsible for their actions and their equipment. They must behave in a manner that does not endanger fellow users, or cause them harm in any way, neither by their behaviour or by their equipment. Every slope user must adapt their speed and behaviour within their capacity (physical or snowsport's skill level) whilst also taking into consideration the type of terrain, the weather and snow conditions and the amount of people found on the slope at that time.

Wearing a helmet is highly recommended.

LAW ARTICLE 4

The body responsible for slope security (normally ski patrol) is in charge of the daily opening, continual control of and closing of the slopes to the public.

The slopes are shut at the end of the day, after checking with all possible means, that no-one is left in difficulty or is injured.

All users of the ski area must respect and conform to the instructions given by the ski patrol.

The ski slopes are checked by ski patrol for the following reasons;
before and during their opening to the public in order to verify they are safe to be open or to remain open and above all:

There is no abnormal or excessive danger evident within their boundaries.

All the relevant slope markers, signage, information boards and protection are all in place.

All rescue measures are in place.

During opening hours slopes can be closed when their safety is considered compromised and therefore the user's safety can no longer be assured. The closure will then be managed and adapted appropriately.

The moment a slope is declared shut, it is no longer checked or patrolled by ski patrol, or equipped with safety protection or signage.

Snow groomers work during the night on closed slopes. Entering onto these slopes is at your own risk.

Other areas in the ski area dedicated to snowsports (slalom stadium, slopes for other specific purposes, ski school 'jardin d'enfants') can be under the responsibility of other organizations than ski patrol; this agreement is signed between the local council, the organization in question and ski patrol.

Slopes can be shut and forbidden to all public entry in the following two cases;

Controlled snow detonation (PIDA) for avalanche maintenance.

Grooming machines using a winch for their slope grooming in steep areas.

LAW ARTICLE 5

At slope closure, mountain restaurants must evacuate all their clients. The ski patrollers closing the slopes with restaurants on their slopes will inform the management when they are expected to pass.

Every year a bylaw that agrees the terms of access to mountain restaurants outside the opening hours of the ski area, fixes the closing hours in relation to those of the slopes, along with special arrangements for evening entertainment in such establishments.

A local municipal law defines the circulation restrictions for vehicles designed to drive on snow. This enables the transport of clients to tourist attractions up on the mountain to dine for the evening.

LAW ARTICLE 6

So that users can be informed, the following will be put in place, in a way that they can be easily read:

An information board showing the opening and closing hours of all lifts.

Lift stations below a lift serving as a link, will also have an information board that will show the slopes accessible from the lift and their category of difficulty (according to article 2 of the by-law).

The start of each slope will have a directional arrow that corresponds to the colour of the slope.

Piste maps are available for the users at different points around the mountain and resort. This map shows general information about the different slopes found in the ski area, their opening hours and the behavioral conduct rules for users of these slopes.

LAW ARTICLE 7

When there is an avalanche risk or weather conditions hinder the normal opening of a ski area, the slope must be immediately closed and then patrolled (unless impossible) by a member of the ski patrol.

In extreme weather conditions, if slopes are shut, lift access to them will be forbidden to the general public.

Information on Avalanche Risk for the general public is estimated by Meteo France for off-piste areas, and is set according to the European Scale, this is communicated to users through 5 icons;

- 1-Low
- 2- Moderate
- 3-Considerable
- 4-High
- 5-Very High

From risk 3 and upwards, a light reinforces the message.

Ski patrol can adapt the information given by Météo France depending on the conditions in the Tignes ski area and the local observations of avalanche risk.

LAW ARTICLE 8

When there is prevalent Avalanche danger, use of the lift system in the ski area to access the slopes that are at risk can be forbidden by the Mayor or their official representatives.

If the lift management decide to close the lifts due to their potential exposure to avalanches, they will communicate immediately their decision to the Mayor or a representative.

However, lifts like chairlifts / gondolas / cable cars or those functioning below ground like a funicular, can continue to be used to evacuate foot passengers who have to go down by the same means, on the condition that the lift departure or arrival stations are not in danger.

LAW ARTICLE 9

An emergency rescue service for people who are either injured or in difficulty will be organized and assigned to a team with specialist equipment so that the operation can be carried out as effectively as possible. Equipment will include a system for alerting rescue teams, first aid, transport and evacuation of the injured.

Each year the rescue operation logistics for slope security is reviewed and presented to the local municipal security commission for approval.

In the cohabitation zones quoted in Article 2 of this present by-law, the Ski Patrol organizes the co-ordination of the rescue services and if necessary, requests additional help from other public rescue services by calling the emergency number 18 /or 112.

Rescue services provided by ski patrol are billed by the ski patrol, and must be paid by all those that are evacuated by this service. This is not dependent on the type of evacuation, the discipline being practiced by the user in the ski area, or whether it is on or off piste.

This follows the pricing that is determined each year by the local administration council within ski patrol.

All evacuations are billed whether or not there is injury as they are considered as an act of rescue (a benign fall, chronic fatigue, or incapacity to carry on the descent without putting themselves or others at risk). This includes

an evacuation due to faulty equipment impeding the user to descend any further, here the choice of evacuation can be given.

Evacuating a person that has committed an action that puts others in danger is also considered an act of rescue. Acting on the order of the Manager of ski patrol, under the jurisdiction of the Mayor, that he represents, with the aim to stop imminent danger by those committing serious acts, voluntary or not, that put themselves and others in the vicinity in danger. This evacuation as a result of abnormal behaviour will be billed like all other evacuations, even if there is no injury.

LAW ARTICLE 10

All motorized vehicles are forbidden in the ski area within the opening hours.

Only motorized vehicles for maintenance and slope security, used in the operations as outlined below are permitted in the ski area; on the following conditions:

An itinerary that avoids the slopes is preferable.

They must circulate with their warning lights or the emergency beacon switched on, have an emergency braking system and be equipped with a rollover protection system.

Their horn must be used in bad visibility.

The slope where circulating must be evacuated as quickly as possible, taking the maximum of safety precautions.

If necessary, a safety escort will be provided for the snow groomers.

All vehicles circulating on the slopes during the opening hours need to inform the ski patrol of their exact itinerary.

In the case of an accident, which requires the circulation and parking of vehicles for maintenance or security over an extended period, ski patrol will close the slope.

This motorized equipment has to carry out the following missions:

Transport of injured (with or without stretcher),

Transport rescue personnel (doctors, mountain rescue members, avalanche dogs...),

Transport of equipment (deflatable rescue mattress, probes),

Transport of slope signage, security protection equipment,

Transport of lift evacuation teams or equipment,

Transport of breakdown equipment in case lift failure,

Transport of breakdown equipment for snow groomers,

Transport of equipment and personnel for the avalanche control bombing,

Transport of people uninjured that require evacuation (equipment failure or fatigue),

Transport for the snow making teams,

General surveillance of the ski area,

Displacement of snow groomers,

Transport of equipment for competitions,

Transport of competitor's equipment,

Transport of equipment for entertainment events,

Repatriation of vehicles that have broken down, returning them to their original parking point

All pointers from article 5, and the yearly authorization given in the relation to their use in the ski area.

The drivers of these vehicles will be trained and certified by their respective organizations on how to circulate safely on the slopes. Unless a specific intervention determines otherwise or there exists a technical difficulty, circulation is carried out where possible on the side of the slopes.

LAW ARTICLE 12

In the case where climatic and weather conditions turn snowsports particularly dangerous on certain slopes, the ski patrol will take the necessary measures to ensure their security and inform the Mayor.

The practice of all snowsport disciplines outside of the marked open slopes is carried out at the users own risk where they engage fully their responsibility. It is strongly advised to wear an avalanche transceiver/beacon when venturing into this terrain.

These sectors are not marked, neither are they opened or closed, or patrolled. Users enter them at their own risk and peril.

The wearing of localization equipment (an avalanche transceiver) with other essential safety kit in the case of an avalanche is strongly recommended.

LAW ARTICLE 13

Providing Information about the ski slopes and the lift systems helps prevention and awareness for the public; this is achieved by various means:

The general piste map that gives the different departure points around the ski resort, and the slope and lift opening and closing times.

The piste map that show sectors, showing the main departure points for the lifts around the resort.

Skier guide including the piste map and the closing times of the lifts.

The main ski patrol offices, open to the public, will display:

The local municipal law relating to the security on the ski slopes.

The local municipal law relating to the avalanche maintenance bombing.

The official pricing for all the rescue evacuations.

Information for the snowports users is ensured by the following means:

A – In general terms :

By manual or illuminated signs that show the opening and closing times, situated in the access zones of the lifts.

By illuminated signs that give specific daily information, found in the same place, giving safety advice or warnings if necessary for the snowports users.

Information direct from the tourist office, using the piste plan of the resort to show the different categories of difficulty.

Information broadcast through the local radio station giving the opening times and condition of the slopes.

Information online accessible through www.tignes.net

B – In the ski area:

Large panoramic information boards that show the slopes trajectories in colour (relating to their category of difficulty).

A directional arrow at the start of each slope in the colour of its difficulty.

A sign at the start of each lift indicating the opening and closing times.

Slope markings and poles in accordance with law article 2.

Signage showing the avalanche risk in accordance with law article 7.

ARTICLE 14

The head of ski patrol is authorized by a by-law underwritten by the Mayor.

All below are responsible for the execution of the present by-law which is published and displayed in the normal designated areas along with others appropriate to its diffusion.

The head of ski patrol and all assistants appointed by the Mayor's delegation.

All office personnel under their jurisdiction.

All personnel working for the ski area.

The Gendarmerie Nationale.

The Police Municipale.

The head of ski patrol can request at any time, a closed meeting with the security commission (head by the Mayor).

LAW ARTICLE 15

The present by-law cancels and replaces the municipal by-law relating to security on the ski slopes, dated 11th December 2009.

LAW ARTICLE 16

The Director General of Services at the Tignes town council, The Head of the Municipal Police Brigade of Tignes and the National Gendarmerie of Val d'Isère, along with the agents placed under their jurisdiction, are responsible for the execution of the present by-law where any amendment will be directed to:

The Sous-Préfecture d'Albertville

The Prosecutor of the République d'Albertville

The Commandant of the Gendarmerie Nationale de Val d'Isère

The PGHM, The CRS mountain rescue

The Savoie Sécurité Civile

SAF Helicopters

The Grande Motte lift company

The director of the Tignes ski patrol for the by-law to be displayed in the ski area.

The Tignes Municipale Police

The head of the Tignes – Val d'Isère Fire and Rescue Station – or their representative

The snowsport's schools or independent instructors

The sports shops hiring sport's gear

The mountain restaurants located in the Tignes ski area.

The town councils of Val d'Isère, Termignon and Champagne

The Club des Sports de Tignes

The SEM SAGEST Tignes building development

Organizers of leisure activities in a public area that is under the jurisdiction of the municipal by-law.

The Tignes Mountain Guides office.

Displayed in the Tignes town council with the date and length of posting.

Tignes, 6th December 2017

The Mayor Jean-Christophe VITALE

Deadline and means of an appeal

Conforming with by-law article R.421-5 of the administrative justice code, the present decision can be subject to a judicial review in the Court of Administration in Grenoble, within a 2 month time limit from the moment it is lodged. However, during this 2 month time limit an administrative review can be requested through my office directly.