



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION**  
Professional Ski Instructors of America  
American Association of Snowboard Instructors

## Telemark Level 3 Assessment Overview

### Prerequisites:

- Telemark Level 2 Certification
- Complete 3 Workbook and turn in on first morning of assessment, see below
- Optional but highly recommended, attend a prep course, you can verify if you should skip the level one assessment during this event

### Assessment Description

The assessment process verifies your professional, people, teaching, and technical skills. You are evaluated according to the Learning Outcomes (LO) of the PSIA National Telemark Standards. See [Certification Standards & Performance Guides](#)

During this event, participants demonstrate their understanding of Professionalism, People Skills, Teaching Skills, and Technical Skills at the appropriate assessment level. Participants verify their Level 3 abilities by successfully demonstrating assessment activities meeting the assessment criteria found in the certification standards and on the assessment forms, see below.

### *Expectations for assessment day*

- Your assessors are here to help you succeed and learn
- You will be asked to:
  - Teach
  - Ski
  - Assess Movements and demonstrate your Technical Knowledge
- Practice Professionalism and People Skills, be an active learner and support the group
- We plan to finish by 4:30 each day
- Assessment evaluations are sent via E-mail from the PSIA-RM office
- Please take the time to fill out the Assessment evaluation. Help us to help you, We value your feedback

## *Tentative Agenda*

- 8:45 meet on snow. Check-in and turn in workbooks. After check-in: Introduction, overview of 2 days, personal goals, answer questions

## *Accomplishments during the two days*

- Learning Outcomes (LO): Learning outcomes represent what is to be achieved upon completion of each level of certification
- Assessment Criteria (AC): Assessment criteria outline performance details that specify to what level the learning outcomes have been met
- Assessment Activities (AA): the activities a candidate performs to demonstrate that the learning outcomes have been accomplished
- [Telemark Certification Standards](#)

Learning Outcomes and possible activities, for more assessment activities see below.

- Professionalism
  - LO: Promotes a professional environment by adapting behaviors to positively affect others. See below for AC and performance guide
    - Was the workbook done on time?
    - Interaction with your peers
- People Skills
  - LO: Communication: Engages in and adapts verbal and non-verbal, two-way communication with all individuals
  - LO: Relationships with Others: Manages the unique motivations and emotions of each individual and the interpersonal dynamics of a group to develop trust
    - Interaction with your peers
    - Listening skills
- Teaching Skills
  - LO: Assess and Plan: Plans learning outcomes and creates individualized experiences around a common theme for advanced students
  - LO: Implement: Individualizes learning experiences to guide students toward agreed-upon outcomes and optimizes student engagement in the process
  - LO: Reflect / Review: Fosters the ability to recognize, reflect upon, and assess experiences to enhance understanding and apply what was learned
    - Lead at least one 20-30 minute teaching sessions within the Advanced Zone, topic of your choice with respect to the goals of your peers. Possibly a 10 minute teach, assigned by your assessors
    - A review with your assessors and/or peers immediately after your teach. May include discussion about assessing movements and technical understanding.

- **Technical Skills**

- LO: Skiing Performance: Adapts a blend of the Telemark Skiing Fundamentals and tactics to generate specific outcomes through the advanced zone
  - Ski selected assessment activities, recommendations found in the Assessment Activities Checklist, see below. Any activity may be modified to allow you to demonstrate versatility, adaptability, and accuracy; and / or videoed and reviewed by your assessors.
- LO: Technical Understanding: References current and historic PSIA resources and information to evaluate ideal performances, using the telemark fundamentals and considering tactics and equipment choices
  - A technical discussion with your assessors on selected topics.  
This discussion may take place at any time.
- LO: Movement Analysis: Describes telemark skiing performances, citing cause-and-effect relationships of multiple telemark fundamentals in all turn phases, resulting in an effective prescription for change
  - Assessing movements may occur at any time on your peers, other skiers, or video. see MA format below.

## **Assessing the Learning Outcomes**

### *Assessing the Instructor Decisions and Behavior*

Instructor Decisions and Behavior:

- is an ongoing assessment.
- is not assessed separately from the Teaching/People Skills. MA/Technical Skills or the Skiing Skills assessments.
- connects strongly to an instructor's ability to demonstrate professionalism in this professional environment.
- can include actions such as timeliness and the ability to move together with the group
- can include attentiveness to details and requirements such as completing the workbook prior to the assessment and knowing when and where meetings will be.

Instructor Decisions and Behavior are assessed something like this:

During an assessment each candidate will have many opportunities to present, speak and ski. Professionalism is the way in which each candidate conducts her or his self while in front of the group, while participating as a member of the group, while interacting with individuals/ the group as a whole or at any time during the assessment. Assessments can be stressful environments. It is not expected that any participant is responsible to help create a positive assessment environment for other participants although this would be welcome. It is expected that no candidate will conduct themselves in a manner that will be detrimental to the performance or experience of others. At a minimum each candidate should conduct themselves in a manner that neither improves or detracts from the other candidates performance or experience. Assessors

will note the manners in which candidates conduct themselves throughout the assessment process

### Assessing the Teaching/People Skills

A teaching presentation will be the primary opportunity to assess the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria on the Telemark Teaching/People Skills Assessment form.

During the assessment each candidate will have the opportunity to:

- Introduce themselves and get to know the other members of the group through group activities as well as lift rides, etc.
- Make assessments of the other participants relative to a Telemark lesson in the advanced zone.
- Observe the other participants skiing over the course of several runs (at a minimum) and through a variety of skiing tasks.
- Assess the understanding of Telemark skiing of the other members of the group through group activities, lift rides, etc.
- Assess the motivations of other members of the group relative to Telemark skiing through group activities, lift rides, etc.
- Deliver an authentic lesson experience that could/would meet the needs of the individuals and the group that is relative to their skiing, understanding and motivations.
- Deliver the above mentioned lesson experience for a total of 30 mins +/-.
- Converse with the Assessor(s) about the delivered lesson experience and the reasoning used for the activities chosen.

The Teaching/People Skills assessment process will look something like this:

On the first morning the assessor(s) will provide an overview of the assessment process. This overview should promote an understanding that various components of the process will be taking place simultaneously (rather than sequentially). While involved in the various aspects of the assessment (skiing, teaching segments, conversations, lift rides, etc.) the candidates should be getting to know and gain an understanding of the other participants' skiing, understandings and motivations. The information gathered should help each participant deliver an authentic lesson experience.

Candidates will be asked to present to the group an authentic lesson experience. This will happen after a minimum of a couple runs and after a couple of different skiing activities/tasks. Assessors may ask for volunteers to "teach the group" or may assign candidates as needed. Teaching segments delivered by candidates may take place on any day of the assessment. Candidates should lead the group for up to 30 minutes. The candidates should deliver an authentic lesson, i.e., "teach to the group" and not a "mock lesson". Candidates should present information and activities in the advanced zone and consistent with a level 3 certification. There is an understanding that there may be individuals in the group that have skill levels that exceed the skill level being taught. The

lesson experience being delivered should be such that it could create a positive learning experience for students when presented in the “real world”.

Candidates may be asked to vary and/or repeat lesson experiences as needed to aid in the ability to effectively assess the candidate. Variations may include time, terrain, tasks, topics, etc.

Following the lesson experience assessors may discuss the lesson with the candidates as needed. Candidates should be prepared to discuss their rationale of activities chosen, information presented and/or methodology. Discussion may be relative to the skill level of the “real world” audience and/or the candidates who participated in the lesson.

### Assessing the MA/Technical Skills

During the certification assessment, each candidate will have the opportunity to demonstrate his or her Movement Analysis Skills and Technical Understanding. Opportunities will be outside on the snow in real time, while riding lifts and possibly inside on video.

#### **The MA session will be:**

- On one of the other skiers in the group, preferably within the advanced zone
- On a skier of the Telemark Assessor’s choosing
- On a skiing performance in the advanced zone: black trail, variable, bumps

#### **The candidate:**

- Gives his/her MA while watching the skier or at a time soon after. The candidate will be given the opportunity to observe the skier for a period of time, e.g.: 10-20 turns, over the course of several runs or through several activities.
- Should choose a Telemark Fundamental that **represents the candidate’s view** of the primary opportunity for improvement
- Should also choose a secondary fundamental that has a relationship and effect on the primary fundamental.
- Should focus on describing **the primary** Telemark Fundamental throughout each of the three parts of a turn, i.e., initiation, shaping, finish. Note: the fundamental chosen can be determined prior to, during, or following the performance and is of the candidate’s choosing.
- Should draw connections between the ski performance and how the movements of the body affect the ski performance in the chosen primary Telemark Fundamental i.e., determine cause-and-effect relationships
- Should describe the body and ski performance of the secondary fundamental.
- Should make a connection between the primary fundamental and how the primary fundamental is affected by the secondary fundamental.
- Should include a “more ideal” description of the chosen Telemark Fundamentals that the candidate would like to see, i.e., prescription for change as related to the primary and secondary Telemark Fundamental chosen.

The process will look something like this:

To begin the movement analysis session, the assessor will assign the candidate a skier to observe. The candidate will have the opportunity to observe the skier; i.e., for 10-20 turns,

over the course of several runs or during several activities. During the time the candidate is making his or her observations other activities may be taking place with the group. This could include skiing and/or teaching assessment activities. The candidate will have the opportunity to provide their movement analysis to the assessor and demonstrate their ability to meet the assessment criteria. This opportunity may take place while on the hill, during a chairlift ride or inside a lodge. The candidate's MA will be used as a segue to assessing technical understanding. The candidate will have the opportunity to use the fundamentals chosen for MA and discuss their own skiing and ideal skiing with respect to the chosen fundamentals. The discussion may include other fundamentals as well as discussion about equipment and tactics. The entire MA and Technical understanding discussion will take approximately 15 minutes, 5-8 minutes for MA and 5-8 minutes for Technical understanding discussion. Both the MA and Technical Understanding assessment may be supported or augmented in the teaching assessment or through other conversations throughout the assessment event.

Both the MA assessment and Technical Understanding Assessment may be repeated in part or in full to help verify a candidate's ownership of the Assessment Criteria and the Learning outcomes.

## **Video (if used)**

Video would be a similar process to that described above.

### *Assessing the Skiing Skills*

During the assessment each candidate will have the opportunity to demonstrate her or his skiing skills.

Skiing will be assessed:

- Through a variety of skiing assessment activities (tasks).
- Through the use of Highlighted, Blended and Applied tasks.
- The tasks will be in no particular order although efforts will likely be made to consider the environment, timing, sequencing, preparedness of the group, etc.
- Tasks may be modified to allow highlighting of the Telemark Technical Fundamentals
- All skiing during the assessment may be considered including:
  - Skiing performed when being asked to perform a particular task
  - Skiing while delivering a teaching presentation
  - Skiing while participating in a teaching presentations with other candidates
  - General free skiing during the assessment when "commuting", etc.

The Skiing Skills assessment process will look something like this:

Each day of the assessment will likely begin with skiing on a more basic/blended level. This likely will be on intermediate(ish) terrain. The assessors will likely create some structure or parameters around the skiing; medium radius basic Telemark, line rotation, paired skiing, etc. As the day progresses the assessors will integrate skiing tasks between the assessment of Teaching/People Skills and the MA/Technical Understanding. Assessors will frequently take advantage of the terrain at hand as well

as the situations we find ourselves in. Railroad Tracks may be done while commuting on a road, Pivot Slips early in the day while the snow is well groomed, mogul skiing or short turns following a teaching presentation that would lead us to these activities, etc.

During teaching presentations or while commuting/free skiing assessors will primarily be focused on the task at hand but may take note of individual skiing performances while the group has a different focus; sometimes your best free skiing run will take place during another candidate's teaching presentation.

Assessors may vary or combine skiing tasks to highlight various blends of Telemark Technical Fundamentals. Assessors will also revisit tasks possibly multiple times. Efforts are made through all skiing opportunities to develop a complete assessment of each candidate's skiing skills and ownership of the Telemark Technical Fundamentals.

#### Reference material:

- Certification Standards: [Telemark Certification Standards](#)
- Fundamentals: [The Learning Connection & Discipline-Specific Fundamentals](#)
- Performance Guides:
  - People Skills: [People Skills Performance Guide](#)
  - Teaching Skills: [Teaching Skills Performance Guide](#)
  - Telemark including some assessment activities: [Telemark Skiing Technical Skills Performance Guide](#)
- Assessment Forms: [Certification Standards & Performance Guides](#)
  - Teaching: [PSIA Certified Level III Telemark Teaching ASSESSMENT FORM](#)
  - Skiing: [PSIA Certified Level III Telemark Skiing Performance ASSESSMENT FORM](#)
  - Movement Analysis & Technical Understanding: [PSIA Certified Level III Telemark Movement Analysis & Technical Understanding ASSESSMENT FORM](#)
- Movement Analysis Format: [Telemark Level 3 Movement Analysis Format](#)
- [Telemark PSIA-RM Level 2 / 3 Workbook](#)
- Possible Assessment activities: [Assessment-Activities-Checklist](#). Note:  
The assessors are free to use variations and alternatives

#### Materials needed:

- Modern telemark equipment, NTN recommended
- Optional: Telemark Assessment Activity Checklist and pencil / pen