



BE A SAFE SKIER, KNOW THE LAW...

Section 101, Legislative Purpose, New York State General Obligations Law Article 18

The legislature hereby finds that alpine or downhill skiing is both a major recreational sport and a major industry within the state of New York. The legislature further finds: (1) that downhill skiing, like many other sports, contains inherent risks including, but not unlimited to, the risks of personal injury or death or property damage, which may be caused by variations in terrain or weather conditions; surface or subsurface snow, ice, bare spots or areas of thin cover, moguls, ruts, bumps; other persons using the facilities; and rocks, forest growth, debris, branches, trees, roots, stumps or other natural objects or man-made objects that are incidental to the provision or maintenance of a ski facility in New York State; (2) that downhill skiing, without established rules of conduct and care, may result in injuries to persons and property; (3) that it is appropriate, as well as in the public interest, to take such steps as are necessary to help reduce the risk of injury to downhill skiers from undue, unnecessary and unreasonable hazards; and (4) that it is also necessary and appropriate that skiers become apprised of, and understand, the risks inherent in the sport of skiing so that they may make an informed decision of whether or not to participate in skiing notwithstanding the risks. Therefore, the purpose and intent of this article is to establish a code of conduct for downhill skiers and ski area operators to minimize the risk of injury to persons engaged in the sport of downhill skiing and to promote safety in the downhill ski industry.

TO BE A SAFE SKIER NYS LAW

REQUIRES YOU TO KNOW AND OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING DUTIES OF SKIERS:

1. **Not to ski in any area not designated** for skiing;
2. **Not to ski beyond their limits or ability** to overcome variations in slope, trail configuration and surface or subsurface conditions which may be caused or altered by weather, slope or trail maintenance work by the ski area operator, or skier use;
3. **To abide by the directions** of the ski area operator;
4. **To remain in constant control of speed and course at all times while skiing** so as to avoid contact with plainly visible or clearly marked obstacles and with other skiers and passengers on surface operating tramways;
5. **To familiarize themselves with posted information** before skiing any slope or trail, including all information posted pursuant to subdivision five of section 18-103 of this article;
6. **Not to cross the uphill track of any surface lift**, except at points clearly designated by the ski area operator;
7. **Not to ski on a slope or trail** or portion thereof that has been designated as "closed" by the ski area operator;
8. **Not to leave the scene of any accident** resulting in personal injury to another party until such times as the ski area operator arrives, except for the purpose of summoning aid;
9. **Not to overtake another skier** in such a manner as to cause contact with the skier being overtaken and to yield the **right-of-way** to the skier being overtaken;
10. **Not to willfully stop** on any slope or trail where such stopping is likely to cause a collision with other skiers or vehicles;
11. **To yield** to other skiers when entering a trail or starting downhill;
12. **To wear retention straps** or other devices to prevent runaway skis;
13. **To report any personal injury** to the ski area operator before leaving the ski area; and
14. **Not to be willfully remove, deface, alter or otherwise damage** signage, warning devices or implements, or other safety devices placed and maintained by the ski area operator pursuant to the requirements of section 18-103 of this article.

TO BE A SAFE SKIER NYS LAW

REQUIRES YOU TO KNOW AND OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING DUTIES OF PASSENGERS:

1. **To familiarize** themselves with the safe use of any tramway prior to its use;
2. **To remain in the tramway** if the operation of a passenger tramway, as defined pursuant to section two hundred two-c of the labor law, is interrupted for any reason, until instructions or aid are provided by the ski area operator;
3. **To board or disembark from passenger tramways only at points or areas designated** by the ski area operator;
4. **Not to eject any objects** or material from a passenger tramway;
5. **To use restraint devices** in accordance with posted instructions;
6. **To wear retention straps** or other devices to prevent runaway skis;
7. **Not to interfere with the operation of a passenger tramway;**
8. **Not to place or caused to be placed on the uphill track of a surface lift** any object which may interfere with its normal operation; and
9. **Not to wear loose scarves, clothing, or accessories or expose long hair** which may become entangle with any part of the device.

Skiers shall have the following additional duties to enable them to make informed decisions as to the advisability of their participation in the sport:

- a. *To seek out, read, review and understand, in advance of skiing, a "Warning to Skiers" displayed where tickets are sold; and*
- b. *To obtain such education in the sport of skiing as the individual skier shall deem appropriate to his or her level of ability, including the familiarization with skills and duties necessary to reduce the risk of injury in such sport.*