

November 25, 2020

# Principles, Decisions & Scenarios for Running CADS Certifications During a Pandemic

Course Training and Evaluations events, complete and module certifications for both Skiing & Snowboarding

During a pandemic, it is imperative to create a training and evaluation environment where all people are safe, and risks are mitigated to a safe level or eliminated completely. CADS is committed to providing guidelines and to do everything it can to eliminate situations where the Course Conductor(s) and the candidate(s) become COVID-19 transmitting vectors.

## **6 Principles**

#### The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus

Based on the <u>Canadian Public Health Agency</u> Prevention and Risk management strategies, CADS recommends these 6 principles as strategies to mitigate transmission risks of COVID-19:

- 1. **Distance:** Stay at least 2 meters away from others, whenever possible. Avoid close contact and close conversations. This is very important in preventing the spread of COVID-19.
- 2. **PPE:** Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others in and around the ski resort. This helps reduce the risk of spread both by close contact and by airborne transmission.
- 3. **Wash:** Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- 4. **Clean**: Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- 5. **Outside:** Avoid crowded and confined indoor spaces.
- 6. **Home:** Stay home and consult a health practitioner and isolate from others when sick or if symptoms are detected.



#### **Health Authority Sequence**

CADS operates in multiple jurisdictions with different situations, and different rules. Accordingly, the decision hierarchy is:

- 1. The most recent Canadian Public Health Agency strategies available
- 2. Provincial and territorial health agencies strategies
- 3. Local health agency strategies
- 4. Local Ski Resort strategies
- 5. CADS National > Provincial Division > Local Program strategies
- 6. The instructor candidate is ultimately responsible for whether or not to proceed with an activity based on their own assessment of conditions on-site.

## 3 Decisions

After consulting Course Conductors across the country, looking at challenges, safety, risk management, continuity, impact and workable solutions, CADS came up with a plan for this coming winter. As everything linked to COVID, this is subject to change during the winter of 2020-21.

#### Summary of the 3 decisions

- The only course certification training and evaluation events that can occur are Level 1
  ASD/CI modules. Sanctioned CADS clubs and program training must be according to
  their submitted return to snow (RTS) plan.
- 2. Other course certification events offered will be delivered by Level 4s using a preapproved lesson plan.
- Future strategies: The national TC & the Level 4 peer group will develop and test on snow strategies throughout early winter in hopes of providing more opportunities for other course certification training and evaluation events, modules & levels from January onwards.



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#### **Details on each decision**

#### 1. Certified Lv1 & Lv2 Course Conductors may deliver the Lv1 ASD/CI Module only

- a. The Lv1 ASD/CI module is the only certification to be delivered in 2020-21.
- b. Maximum of 6 Candidates per group.
- c. No minimum # of candidates.
- d. Outdoor activities only.
- e. Follow the CADS Lv1 ASD/CI guidelines.
- f. The CADS TC will support CCs to deliver Lv1 ASD/CI modules with online training that will include:
  - i. Guidance and support for using the ASD/CI slideshow in an online format.
  - Strategies and direction for completing the evaluation outdoors while maintaining physical distancing.
  - iii. Daily COVID self assessment checklist and verification.
  - iv. Resources for effective use of PPE

Train & Eval	Yes	No
L1 – ASD/CI	X	
L1 - SitSki		X
L1 - 3T/4T		X
L1 - VI		X
L1 Crossover		X
L2 – ASD/CI		X
L2 - SitSki		X
L2-3T/4T		X
L2 - VI		X
L2 Crossover		X
L3		X
L4		X
Tandem		X

#### The ASD/CI module only decision

This decision was made for several reasons:

- a. Ability to modify to prevent close contact most easily of all modules
- b. Highest student population in CADS
- c. Considered most relevant for the majority of clubs

## 2. Certified level 4s and 4Es (Lv3 and Lv4 CCs) may offer additional levels and modules with approval

- a. CCs must respect the 6 CADS principles as above
- b. Present a detailed lesson plan (with a focus on maintaining physical distance), to be approved by the TC, level 4 peer group and national COVID safety officer.
- c. Outdoor activities only
- d. Their experience and learnings will be shared with the TC.

#### 3. Future Strategies

The TC plans to continue searching for solutions and strategies for delivering additional complete and module certifications throughout the 2020-21 season and hopes to make more opportunities available.



### **Course Certification Training & Evaluation Scenarios**

### Everyday!

#### Step 1. Assess the Risk

- 1. Mandatory daily Self Assessment using the COVID-19 screening check.
  - a. Consistently monitor your community for increasing rates of COVID-19 infection.
  - b. As a CADS CC, assess your own risk first including age (over 60) and any high-risk chronic health concerns.
  - c. The morning before each lesson/event an email from Snowline goes out to all candidates and course conductors that notifies them to complete their COVID-19 affirmation report. This is a one click process.
  - d. Course conductors (if given the proper access) or Program Coordinators can view the list each day to see the COVID-19 affirmation reports.
  - e. There are 2 Tutorials
    - i. How-to setup a CADS evaluation/training: https://youtu.be/08Rx00GGwEA
    - ii. How-to Snowline COVID-19 affirmation: https://youtu.be/kn6uQLZhCfs

#### 2. Choice without penalty

- a. CADS is committed to providing a safe environment for people to cancel or withdraw from any event or activity should they experience any concerns or discomfort, or have COVID-19 symptoms.
- b. Registration refunds will be provided.

# <u>Step 2.</u> Implement Key strategies to reduce risk during training or evaluations All CCs must present a COVID-19 Orientation to their candidates identifying procedures

including the 6 CADS principles as above.

- 1. **Distance:** Eliminate all training and evaluation activities that will compromise the 2m physical distance requirements for anyone outside that person's household.
  - a. Adapt to maintain the 2m physical distance requirements at all times during training and evaluation situations.
- **2. PPE:** Masks, goggles, gloves and face coverings<sup>1</sup> will be mandatory as per resort, division and club policies.
- 3. **Wash:** Washing and disinfecting hands will be mandatory.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Masks or face coverings that are accepted by your local/regional/provincial authorities



- 4. **Clean:** CADS CCs will routinely clean and disinfect equipment needed to support all training and evaluation activities.
- 5. **Outside:** All training to be delivered outside. Eliminate any indoor training. Use online strategies as required.
- 6. **Home:** Create an environment to support people to feel comfortable participating by:
  - a. Using informed consent to allow candidates to make decisions based on information and a clear plan.
    - i. Outlining the strategies to maintain physical distancing
    - ii. Explaining what PPEs are necessary and when
    - iii. Strategies for adapting the environment to reduce the risks of COVID-19 infection for CCs and candidates.

Please stay up to date on evolving CADS certification strategies