

**Date: March 10<sup>th</sup> 2020**

One of the main goals of our safety initiatives in Snow School this year is to create a stronger safety culture with all instructors. Through this analysis, we realized that some areas in snow school, such as Gap Programs, already have a well-established safety culture.

Recently I asked the Gap Programs team what they do to keep themselves safe at work and keep the injury rate low. Responses included the following:

<p><b>Safety Topic of the week “Safety Culture”</b></p> <p><b>Thanks to JJ Bate for compiling these points from her team.</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>We train on and off snow.</b> Morning Session is a part of our team culture. We know that physical and mental fitness are vital for us to teach well, help our guests achieve their goals, crush our exams and gain longevity in our snow school careers.</li><li>2. <b>We are in tune with our environment.</b> We ski in quieter places. This is partly because the ski ability of our groups often gives us the option of skiing in the Alpine, but we also take note of how traffic flows around both mountains in various snow and weather conditions, at different times of day, days of the week and times of the season. These observations enable us to select quieter green and blue runs when we deliver technical information.</li><li>3. <b>Experience equals instinct.</b> The majority of Gap coaches have a wide breadth and depth of experience in many skiing disciplines and from teaching around the world. We trust ourselves. When our “spidey” senses tingle, we listen to our gut instincts and keep our guests and ourselves safe.</li><li>4. <b>We are invested.</b> Literally! We have mortgages, partners, pets and children. We know that if we get hurt our livelihood and loved ones will be affected, so our motivation to stay healthy is high.</li><li>5. <b>We are a team.</b> We collaborate continually and learn from each other. When the chips are up, we look out for each other. When the chips are down, we take care of each other. We are friends as well as colleagues.</li></ol>
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## Safari: Respiratory Protection.

It's important to protect yourself from respiratory hazards and to stay safe by using respiratory protection correctly. Another way to protect yourself is to be informed on any breathing hazards in your workplace.

Always use respiratory protection to keep airborne contaminants out of your respiratory system and provide a safe air supply.

### Use a respirator when working with the following breathing hazards:

1. Particulate contaminants (dusts, fibers, mists, fumes and biological contaminants).
2. Gas and vapor contaminants.
3. Air that is low in oxygen.
4. A combination of the above hazards.

### Follow these respirator safety guidelines:

1. Select the correct respirator for each task and/or hazard.
2. Avoid having a beard when using a respirator.
3. Always replace disposable respirators with every use.
4. Closely read and follow the instructions that come with the respirator.
5. Precisely fit test the respirator.
6. Make sure no air leaks in from the outside.
7. Frequently change filters on half-mask or full-mask respirators.
8. When working around airborne particles or debris, wear either a full-mask respirator or a face shield along with your respirator to protect your face.
9. Work in well-ventilated areas

1. Most respirators work similarly so there's no need to read the respirator instructions if you're confident you know how to safely use them.

TRUE  FALSE

2. If a respirator is used 2-3 times per week regularly, then the filters should be changed out every 6 months.

TRUE  FALSE

3. It's safe to use the respirator after you thoroughly fit test it and make sure no air leaks from the outside.

TRUE  FALSE

4. You should use a respirator as well as a face mask when completing tasks in a dusty work area.

TRUE  FALSE

5. Replace disposable respirators after every use.

TRUE  FALSE