# More fun in snowsports – with safety!

A safety related prevention program for snowsports in schools initiated by the Austrian Workers' Compensation Board (AUVA).



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#### **Snowsports in Austrian schools**

#### LONG TRADITION

Ski courses have a long tradition in the Austrian school system.

#### **STARTING POINT: 1928**

Historically viewed an edict by the Federal Ministry of Education in 1928 can be seen as the starting point of this tradition. This edict mandated, that all Austrian secondary schools and teacher training institutions were advised to introduce ski courses.

#### SKI COURSES ARE "DOOR-OPENERS" TO SNOWSPORT

Studies have shown that every 5th skier in Austria found his way to snowsport through the ski course in school.

Furthermore empirical data indicate that ski courses have a kind of "door-opener" function for lifelong skiing, snow-boarding and snowsport in general.

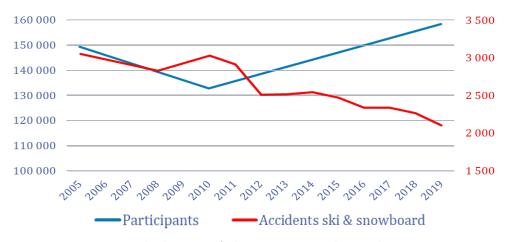


#### Participants vs. accident occurrence in snowsports

Since 2010 the number of participants in ski courses has risen.

Meanwhile the number of accidents in skiing and snowboarding went down 31% within 15 years.

→ The reduction of accidents is correlating with our prevention program that started in 2005.



Sources: Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research; AUVA

#### More fun in snowsports – with safety! → www.skisicherheit.info

#### **INITIATED BY AUVA**

- The program was initiated by the Austrian Workers' Compensation Board (AUVA).
- Pupils and students are covered by the Austrian Social Insurance for Occupational Risks.
- This insurance includes all education-related accidents even snowsport activities and ski courses.
- It is free of charge for pupils and students.

#### THE AIM OF AUVA



- The prevention of accidents of pupils and students represents a major responsibility, since the foundation for future safety awareness is laid in childhood and youth.
- For this reason, pupils and students as well as their trainers/teachers are given the best possible support in safety education → in THEORY & PRACTICE!

### The teaching materials ...

... for elementary schools

Mehr Spaß beim Skifahren mit Sicherheit! ... for secondary schools



375.000 pieces spreaded in the past 8 winters

# The action programs ...



Workshops for elementary schools



Safety trainings for secondary schools



**Teacher trainings** 

More than 150.000 participants since 2005.

Continuously evaluated and refined to the needs of the schools.

## The action programs ...



Workshops for elementary schools



Safety trainings for secondary schools



**Teacher trainings** 

#### Safety trainings for secondary schools

- The core of the action programs launched in winter 2009/2010
- 850 student trainings at ski courses and approximately 48.000 participants until now







#### Lecture in the evening

- PPT-based multimedia presentation
- Duration appr. 75-90 min.
- 11 topics, adjustable to the students' needs
- Main focus: safety when skiing on slopes

Guiding principle: Explaining risks and dangers for a better understanding and increased safety awareness instead of imposing rules with finger wagging!

**Statistics / Causes of accidents** 

**Equipment** 

Weather in the mountains

**FIS-Rules** 

Ski lifts, chair lifts & cableways

Skiing in a group

**Funslopes and snowparks** 

**Snow groomers** 

Assistance at accidents / First aid

Consequenses of causing a collision

Alpine dangers off the slopes

# **Lecture in the evening – Highlight**

Activating an avalanche airbag by a student



### **Practical training next day**

- On the slopes in the ski resort
- 2 different workshops about 30 min to deepen inputs of the lecture

#### Assistance at accidents / First aid



#### Try out of an avalanche beacon search



#### **Feedbacks**

"Safety training is a MUST HAVE for every ski course!"

Secondary school Königswiesen

"Safety training is a valuable and useful tool for a ski course. We can warmly recommend it!" High school Gänserndorf

"... the practical part provides hands-on tips and tricks for acting in emergency situations. Really great! " High school Vienna

"... It is particularly good, that the students get explained the safety aspects by an expert from outside school."

Secondary school Krieglach



# Partners of the program

= Federal Ministry Republic of Austria Education, Science and Research























# **INFORMATION & CONTACT**





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