



*Ski Guidelines for Trainee Instructors 2009*

The two categories student should be looking at are **on piste expert** and **all mountain**. Race skis are generally far too specific and should be avoided. A few race carvers like the Salomon 2v, Dynastar speed course and Head supershape are ok but tend to be very narrow under foot, restricting versatility. Generally students should be looking for 70-80mm underfoot.

Students are reminded that their skiing is analysed on shorts and medium/longs on piste as well as slower demonstrations at more basic levels. The ski should be sufficiently shaped to allow carving skills to be easily learnt but not too radical as this makes them unforgiving to skidding and rotation skills or having fun anywhere other than on bullet proof piste. Ideally, they should have a ski they are happy to take off piste or into the bumps, but this should be of secondary consideration.

### **All mountain**

In this category, there is a split between twin tip/fat skis and wider on piste carvers. Go for the latter and not too long (170ish for most guys, usually a bit shorter than the recommended to lean towards piste performance). Specific skis to consider are:

Elan	Magfire
Blizzard	Magnum 8.1 IQMax
Fischer	Heat 76
Nordica	Hot Rod Nitrous Ti – for stronger larger skiers

### **On Piste Expert**

Elan	Speedwave
Blizzard	G-Force Supersonic IQ
K2	Crossfire
Fischer	Viron 8.8
Nordica	Doberman Spitfire XBI
Head	Magnum

Female equivalents are available and suitable for lighter and less aggressive girls e.g. Elan Speed Magic, K2 burnin luv and blizzard viva sonic IQ – both excellent.

Whilst BASI are now asking for skis of specific radius (men 17m, women 15m), this is only for ISIA and above and students should not worry about this in their ski choice for this level of course.

In the past a number of students have arrived with older ‘carving’ skis. If the ski is more than 3 seasons old or skied for 6-8 weeks + you should definitely consider a new set. Ski geometry and technology has changed massively.

### **Buying options for New Generation Trainees:**

- 1) Buy now; maybe get a bargain on last year's skis
- 2) Buy Elan through New Gen (c.30% off) – order by the end of Sept.
- 3) Ellis Brigham – 10% off voucher sent to trainees (end of September).  
Visit a SnOzone and test the skis
- 4) In resort – budget for 500 euro or so. New Generation can arrange c.10% off through local shops. (More expensive than Britain at present due to exchange rate but option to try before you buy)

#### *NOTE:*

*Please note that this article is only meant as a guide. We have over 80 coaches working at New Generation and nearly every one of them have a different pair of skis! Test, test, test is what we suggest. If you are buying in the UK then go to an indoor slope and try a few pairs. We have all bought skis with nice graphics – they look good on the wall!*

*Article written by Dave Meyer*

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