

Whakapapa Ski Bike Policy

Introduction:

Ski bikes (snow bikes, snow scooters etc.) are an alternative to skiing and boarding on ski areas around NZ and have become more popular in the last 15 years.

Purpose:

The objective of this policy is to ensure;

- a) All types of equipment brought onto Whakapapa Ski Area are safe and appropriate for the terrain, equipment users themselves and others that may be affected by their use.
- b) A consistent approach to what equipment is or is not permitted on lift accessed terrain.

Responsibilities:

The following list of criteria applies to all ski bikes, to ensure the safety of the user and other guests on our ski areas:

- 'Homemade' bikes are not permitted
- Must be designed and built to load lifts without stopping the lift
- Must be loaded within the envelope of the chair seat
- Must have metal edges on runners (i.e. like skis or snowboards)
- Only 1 rider per bike
- A leash must be worn at all times (on the lift and on the slopes)
- Snow bikes may be restricted in certain locations for safety reasons

It is primarily the responsibility of the lift operator to ensure that all ski bikes meet the above criteria before allowing them to load the lift.

Potential Risks:

1. Ski bike falling from lift if dropped - controlled by ensuring all riders use a leash at all times.
2. Ski bike running away down hill if separated from the rider - controlled by leashes.
3. Ski bike colliding with another snow user - as per all other snow users, the Whakapapa Code of Conduct applies