

NZAC INSTRUCTION PROGRAMME

INTERMEDIATE SNOWCRAFT COURSE

CANTERBURY & WESTLAND  
SECTION



NEW ZEALAND  
ALPINE CLUB

20 AUGUST 2021 | 22 AUGUST 2021

**LOCATION:** TEMPLE BASIN SKI FIELD

**ACCOMODATION:** NZAC Arthurs Pass Lodge & Temple Basin

**COURSE FEES:** \$495.00

### Who is this course for?

The NZAC Intermediate Snowcraft course is designed for NZAC Novice Mountaineers (or those with an equivalent skill set) who are looking to gain additional skills to travel safely in alpine terrain where straightforward steep snow and ice is encountered, and where abseiling on descent could be required.

This is an alpine course suitable for NZAC Novice Mountaineers who have consolidate their skills through trips on grade 1+ alpine terrain. Please **ensure you meet the minimum requirements**.



**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE](#)**

**At a minimum, those wishing to register for the Intermediate Snowcraft Course must:**

- Have experience in backcountry tramping
- Have undertaken personal trips on Mount Cook Grade 1+ terrain.
- Be competent in the course outcomes detailed in the [NZAC Basic Snowcraft Course Outline](#) &/or have attended a basic skills course the season before.
- Have the fitness to enjoy multiple full days in the mountain environment off track.
- Have some rock climbing and belaying experience. Also proficient at tying the following knots: figure eight (bight and re-thread), alpine butterfly, classic prussic hitch, Italian hitch & clove hitch.

**Course Syllabus**

**Pre trip planning**

- Clothing / equipment
- Trip planning resources (avalanche forecast / weather forecasts / guidebooks)
- Weather
- Navigation
- Physical Training

**Moving in the alpine environment**

- Use of two ice axes, for daggering and piolet traction on moderately steep snow.
- The use of crampons on steeper terrain.
- Multi-pitch climbing on moderate terrain.
- Single-pitch abseiling with the use of prussic (AKA ' Self protected Abseil')
- Route selection and planning
- Building basic snow anchors: "T' Slot, vertical mid clip snow stake, top-clip, ice axe belay, snow bollard, abseiling off rock bollards
- Use of basic climbing calls

## Course Outcomes \*

### Pre-trip planning

- An ability to plan simple trips into the alpine environment
- An ability to locate and interpret a range of weather forecasts, avalanche forecasts, and other relevant information
- An ability to identify simple features on a map and a basic ability to relocate using the map and terrain features.
- An awareness of basic physical training principles applicable to the mountain environment

### Moving in the alpine environment

- An ability to use both an ice axe and mountaineering boots as an effective tool for traveling in the alpine environment.
- An ability to use two ice axes and crampons to effectively ascend and descend moderately steep snow where pitching is not normally required including front-pointing and French Technique.
- Can demonstrate multiple crampon techniques appropriate to the snow type and gradient.
- Can build a basic snow or rock bollard anchor.
- The ability to demonstrate appropriate abseil technique.
- An ability to or understand the context of efficient travel techniques in the alpine environment with particular attention to avoiding avalanche terrain.
- Has an awareness of a variety of possible anchor types and can select an appropriate anchor for the situation.
- Understands the importance of and demonstrates clear communication when ropes are used .

Someone who has these skills is considered a **NZAC Intermediate Mountaineer** and is likely to have the skills and ability to travel on Mount Cook Grade 2+ Terrain (that has no glacial related complications)

\*Course outcomes may vary depending on participant ability and course conditions. This is a guideline; individuals must assess their own ability after a course.

## Instruction

The course will be run in a minimum 1:4 instructor to participant ratio. All participants must agree to follow the instructors' directions. The course has a maximum capacity of 8 participants. The instructors on this course hold formal qualifications.

## Pre-Course meet up

On acceptance into the course, a pre-course meet will be arranged (in Christchurch) to arrange logistics and to address pre-course planning and equipment.

## Course Location

The course will begin at the NZAC Arthurs Pass lodge at 7.30pm sharp on Friday night. You will be expected to have settled into the lodge, eaten and tidied the kitchen by then. On Saturday morning you will re-locate to the Temple Basin Ski Lodge (about 1hr walk from the road), be prepared to carry all your gear to the lodge, but it is most likely it can be taken by the goods lift.

## Course Schedule

***Pre-course evening to be confirmed on acceptance on the course.***

### ***Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August***

From 5.30pm: Arrive at lodge, settle in, prepare meal & tidy up

7.30pm Course begins

### ***Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August***

From 6.00am: Breakfast, pack up and tidy Lodge

7.30am: Drive to Goods lift and walk up to Temple Basin Ski field

9.00am: Convene at Temple Basin lodge

*Note there will be evening sessions to maximize time*

### ***Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August***

Course continues, expect to depart from Goods lift by 5.00pm

## **Course Fees**

The course fees include professional instruction, accommodation for two nights, all meals from Saturday Lunch to Sunday Lunch (note you will need to provide for your own Friday evening meal and Saturday breakfast, along with snacks for the two days), and provision of some technical gear if required. The course fees are \$495.00. Full Payment will be required within 10 working days of acceptance on the course to secure your place.

Any refund will be on a case-by-case basis, dependent on when you withdraw and our ability to find a replacement.

## **Food**

Most dietary requirements will be able to be catered for.

## **Accommodation:**

Accommodation is in shared bunk rooms, you will need to bring your sleeping bag and a pillowcase and hut shoes, toiletries. Both lodges have showers etc

## Equipment List

*We encourage you to attend the Alpine Gear talk on 3 June see the Canterbury Westland Section Newsletter or FB page for details*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mountaineering boots+ Snow Gaiters (Rigid leather or Plastic ).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Crampons <u>with anti-balling plates</u>.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Climbing Helmet.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ice Axe (50-70cm).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ice Hammer</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Avalanche Transceiver (and spare batteries), Shovel, Probe.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Snow Stake with wire strop^^</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 4 x locking carabiners.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 4 x Snap gate carabiners.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Belay device(not a gri gri) and a locking Carabiner..</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Harness and Personal Safety Sling (120cm + SG Carabiner).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 x 5 metre tape sling &amp;/or 5m x 7mm Cordellette \$\$</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2 x 120 cm tape slings \$\$<br/>(Sewn or tied)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2 x Prussic cords<br/>(1 metre and 1.75 metre )\$\$</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pack + Pack liner<br/>( 30-50 litres and straps that can take ice axes etc )</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2 x pair warm socks.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Shell Jacket &amp; Pants (Gore-Tex Etc.)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Warm hat / balaclava<br/>( must be able to fit under helmet)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Shell Gloves<br/>(Storm proof warm Gloves)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Working Gloves<br/>(*Leather 'Kinko'/'Ice Ninja')</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Thermal tops and leggings.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mid layer fleece top or jacket.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Down or Synthetic jacket.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sun Hat/Cap.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses &amp;/or ski goggles.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sun block.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1.5L Water Bottle(s)<br/>(Camel Backs can FREEZE! )</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Day Snack food<br/>( bars / energy / scroggin ).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Small <u>personal</u> first aid kit / medication (BYO Blister Stuff!)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Hut clothes , boots and toiletries &amp; towel.</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

### Group Kit List Gear 1:2 People

- 50 / 60 metre single climbing rope per pair of climbers
- Ice Hammer

### Optional Stuff

- Compass, note book and pen / pencil
- [Arthurs Pass Topo Map](#).
- Thermos for hot drinks
- Hip Flask (-:
- \$ for the Temple Basin Canteen/Bar
- Camera
- Small Alpine rack – 5 x various size nuts, 2 x cams, 2 x pitons.

### Notes

\$\$: Can be purchased @ Bivouac Outdoors.

\*Can be purchased at Farmland Stores or Bunnings

^^ Can be purchased through

[Aspiring Safety Products](#): :

## **Insurance**

We recommend you take out travel insurance and/or personal insurance as part of your preparation for participating on NZAC Instruction courses.

## **Emergency Situations and Risk Disclosure**

The Course Instructors will have Emergency Management Procedures in place and field communication devices to immediately contact rescue services in the case of an accident or emergency. You are welcome to take your own personal locator beacon if you own one.

The natural environment and climbing activities can involve risks. While recognising that the course organisers and instructors do their best to manage these risks, and agreeing to accept their direction whenever required, you must accept personal responsibility for your own actions and safety. You must also accept to follow all the instructions of the Course Leader and other instructors at all times.

All participants on the Course are expected to be as honest and transparent as possible about their experience and fitness as part of their application. If a participant's lack of fitness/ability severely affects the running of the course the participant(s) may be asked to not participate for certain activities. Arrangements may be made to evacuate the participant(s) at their own cost. The instructor is the final arbiter in these decisions.

## **Covid 19:**

The NZAC is committed to provide a safe environment for all course participants, instructors, and the wider climbing community. To ensure this we will be following government guidance on what is deemed to be best practice regarding Covid-19. Participants are asked to not attend courses if they are unwell or are awaiting the results of a Covid-19 test. Please ensure you bring a face covering to the course, this may be required at times when physical distancing may not be possible. The use of face coverings will be in alignment with Ministry of Health guidance. Courses will go ahead at Alert Level 1 and 2. If the course is cancelled due to an increase to Alert Level 3 or 4, in the first instance we will reschedule the course. If this is not possible then course participants will be refunded. Refunds will also be given if your local region is placed under Alert Level 3 or 4 and you are therefore unable to travel.



The NZAC reserves the right to implement changes to the course in order to comply with any specific government regulations. The NZAC's interpretation of the government regulations will be final.

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE\*\*](#)