



FIS PARA ALPINE SKIING START AREA INSTRUCTIONAL MANUAL

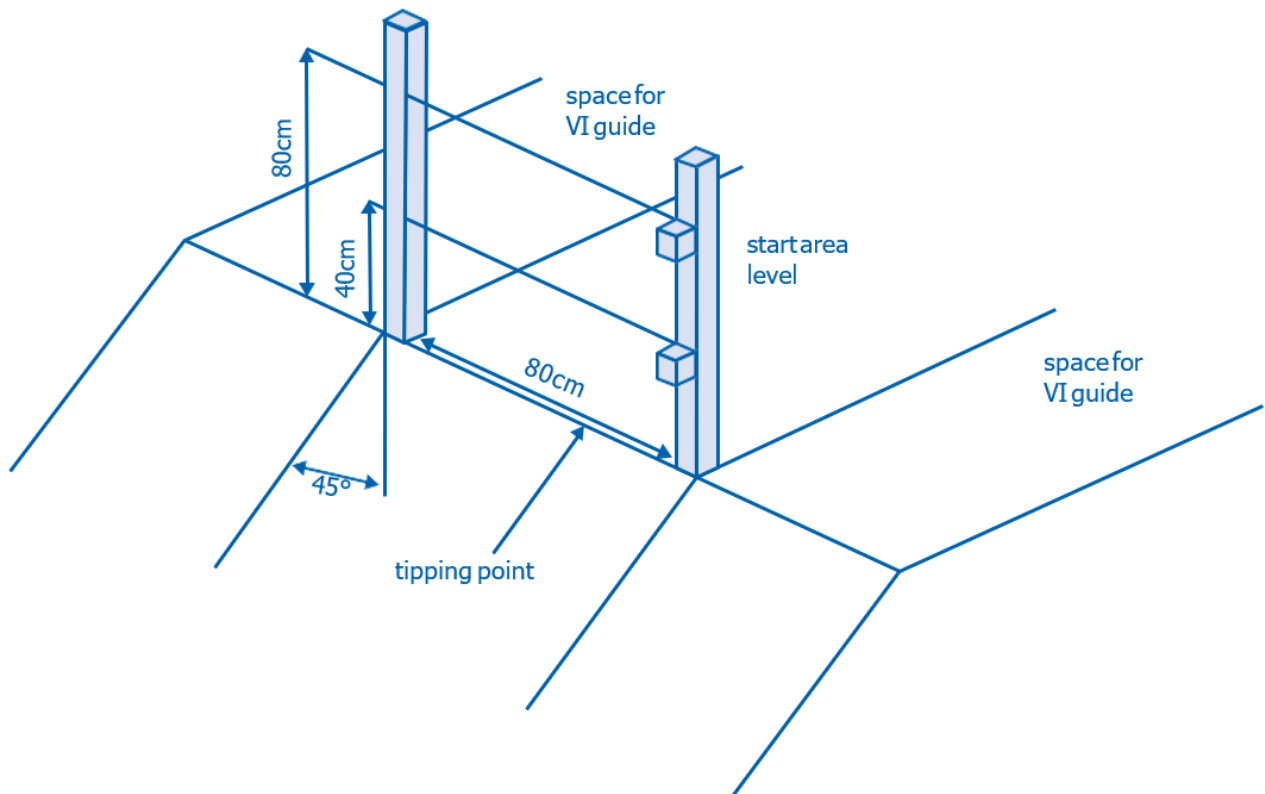
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Para Alpine Skiing athletes have varying impairments, which require careful design of Start Area.

It is important that the criteria listed below are implemented in the Start Area design so that all athletes have a chance at fair competition.

Start Area criteria:

- The Start Area must be prepared several days in advance to allow the snow to be set. A knowledgeable person shall accompany the snowcat operator to construct the start.
- The start ramp must have an angle of approximately but not greater than 45 degrees, steep enough to give the racer rapid acceleration. If the slope is relatively flat the minimum height of the start ramp must be two meters (2m.)
- The 'tipping point' is at the forward edge of the start posts.
- The Start Area consists of the start gate, start tent and entry ramp. This area should be as level as possible to minimise snow shovelling.
- The start corral is located behind this area and is a special roped off area for trainers, team captains, service personnel etc., to work with the competitors who are waiting to start without being interrupted by the public. An adequate shelter must be prepared for the competitors waiting for the call to start.
- The entire Start Area should be cordoned off with Spectator (Spec) fencing or B-Net to prevent the general public from entering the area and damaging the start area or injuring themselves.



- The start area must be wide enough to accommodate the start referee, the starter and manual timers.
- In the AS-classes (Vision Impaired athletes with guides) the guide cannot pass through the starting gate.
- The start area must include adequate space for the guide, a minimum of one (1) meter on each side, always in relation to the first gate of the course. The space should be at the same level as the competitor.
- The start ramp shall be prepared in such a way that the guide can stand relaxed on the starting line and can quickly reach full speed after leaving the start.