

'The Voice of the Western Skier'

Far West Ski Association presents the Warren Miller Modern Media Award to

High Fives Foundation B.A.S.I.C.S 5 "Choices" Video

The **High Fives Foundation** is a non-profit organization based in Truckee, Calif., serving athletes living with a life-altering injuries such as a spinal cord injury or traumatic brain injury.

As a part of its B.A.S.I.C.S (Being Aware Safe In Critical Situations) educational video series, High Fives has released a new 25-minute documentary film titled "Choices." Throughout the film, viewers will learn how to make smart decisions in order for them to enjoy a lifetime of activities in the mountains.

The content within provides a great reminder for all of us—the dangers of the sport are very real. We must take nothing for granted.

Topics covered throughout the fillm include:

Rider Awareness:

Learn the trails carefully. Be mindful of snow conditions and obstacles like rocks, trees, ice, and cliffs. Take mental notes about the mountain every time you ski or ride.

Be Prepared:

The best way to learn is from your friends, family and coaches. Be methodical about your training and preparations. The most elite athletes are the most prepared skiers and riders.

Chairlift Safety:

Always put the bar down, no matter what age you are. Sit way back until you safely exit.

Know Your Mountain:

Review and respect resort and ski patrol signage. It is there to help athletes make smart choices based on mountain conditions, abilities, dangerous obstacles, and other important info.

Choose Your Adventure:

This is the intro of the film. Skier JT Holmes says it best, "Every highly accomplished mountain man or woman bares the scar of a life-changing experience, it's a strong reminder that the choices we make have a lasting impact on our lives and everyone around us."

Passing The Torch:

If you teach the lessons early, it will last forever. Sharing knowledge can promote smart decision making for years to come.