

20121231 - Political Correctness and a few other rants for the year

With all the financial turmoil we watched some news tonight. Some green haired bitch, who thinks she's a fellow, has arranged that toilets at Manchester University should no longer be "Ladies" or "Gents" (too genderist and offensive to people who think they are not the sex they appear), but "Toilets" or "Toilets with Urinals" (then just like the French we can all share – keep a watchful eye on the toilet seats). When asked whether she thinks this may be "political correctness gone mad" she says that that phrase is the political incorrect use of the mad. Take her grant off her and send her to North Korea.

What has the UK come to that we even listen to them. Thankfully we don't watch the news too often and on the basis of this we'll watch it even less. I really wonder whether we should bother coming back to a country that even considers such lunacy (probably the political incorrect use of lunacy). I think we should start a campaign for the resurrection of spades ("call a spade a spade" not racist) or other politically incorrect things. Just think for starters we could have the Black & White Minstrels back on Saturday night; stories about golliwog and golliwog badges; singing Ba Ba Black sheep and bring back Christmas trees.

20121231Dear Sir / Madam / Chief Executive / Call Centre Manager / Time Waster / Waste of Space

As the world these days seems full of incompetence and poor customer service this standard letter has been developed in order to minimise the amount of time taken by me to register my complaint / protest / dismay / disgust.

As nobody so far has the where withal to deal with this complaint satisfactorily please pass this onto your chief executive / customer services director / Finance Director / tea lady / any other joker in the forlorn hope that he / she / it may be capable of a satisfactory resolution.

I'm appalled that you expect all complaints to be put in writing / what is wrong with your call centre staff registering complaints and making life easy for customers? / Do you honestly expect me to believe that in the 21st century you don't have email and if so why can't you use it to communicate with customers.

I have

contacted your as follows:

Date	Time	Name
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As you record all calls for training and quality purposes please refer to the above recordings to understand the nature of my complaint.

I Have written to

Date	Time	Name
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Please retrieve, read and inwardly digest the contents therein.

I've explained the problem times and now find myself repeating it in my sleep.

No one has dealt with this . / Still not satisfied. / Still had no refund. / Wish to terminate my account / contract with you forwith. / Hope that you go out of business. /

Please send me details of your formal complaints procedure / I wish to invoke your formalcomplaints procedure. / details of any professional or trade organisations of which you are members / details of your ISO complaints procecedure.

Please provide me with compensation for lost time and expenses as follows:

Item	Date	Time	Expense
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Total

Hopefully as a senior person within your organisation you may have a little more luck in getting some common sense out of the individuals concerned. / Is everyone in your organisation totally incompetent? / Is there anyone in your organisation that

I await your reply / refund / compensation / confirmation that you accept your organisation is so incompetent that you have resigned in disgrace / Other

Please reply by letter / email / phone / thought waves through the lumineferous ether / carrier pigeon / Other

Please provide details of Facebook / Twitter / Website / Other promotional sites / Other in order that I can attempt to inform the rest of the world as to your incompetence.

General Precautions when Scumboarders are Around

- Avoid surprising scumboarders at close range.
- If you are skiing make your presence known, particularly where the terrain makes it hard to see. Make noise, sing, talk loudly, or wear a bell.
- If possible, travel with a group of skiers. Groups are noisier and easier for scumboarder (aka snowboarder)s to detect.
- Scumboarder (aka snowboarder)s may be active at any time of the day, but they tend to be more active when visibility is poor.

- There are several indicators that may alert a skier that a scumboarder (aka snowboarder) is in the area. Some of the most easily identifiable loud scraping noises behind you; deep fresh carved ruts in the snow; rubbish on the slope. Identifying these clues may help to prevent an encounter.
- Avoid areas where scumboarders congregate such as narrow runs, steep drop-offs and anywhere where they can't be clearly seen or cause an obstruction.
- Most importantly, use common sense, remember that all scumboarders (even ones we consider "harmless") are badly mannered, ignorant, anti-social, out of control louts and there is no way of us knowing for sure how they will react. Always err on the side of caution and respect what they are capable of doing.

If you Encounter a Scumboarder (aka snowboarder):

- Remain calm and avoid sudden movements.
- Avoid eye contact.
- Give the scumboarder (aka snowboarder) plenty of room, allowing it to continue its wild uncontrolled descent undisturbed.
- If one or more scumboarder is asleep in the middle of the slope keep quiet and do not wake them.
- If you spot a scumboarder (aka snowboarder) and the scumboarder (aka snowboarder) is unaware of you, detour quickly and quietly away.
- If spotted by a scumboarder (aka snowboarder), try to get its attention while it is a good distance away. Help the scumboarder (aka snowboarder) to recognize that you are skier by waving your arms. If a scumboarder (aka snowboarder) cannot tell what you are, it may come closer or even get up from its sleep to get a better look or smell.
- A standing scumboarder (aka snowboarder) is usually curious, not threatening.
- Some scumboarder (aka snowboarder)s will bluff their way out of a threatening situation by aiming straight at you and then hopefully veering off at the last second. Experts generally recommend standing still until the scumboarder (aka snowboarder) stops and then slowly backing away.
- Never try to out ski a scumboarder (aka snowboarder) as it may elicit a chase from an otherwise non-aggressive scumboarder (aka snowboarder), and since they have no common sense they can usually ski faster than you.
- Never feed or toss food to a scumboarder (aka snowboarder).
- Climbing a tree to avoid scumboarder (aka snowboarder)s is popular advice but not very practical in many circumstances. However climbing trees in a scumboard is difficult and studies have show that they are reluctant to take their scumboards off.
- Leave photos of scumboarder (aka snowboarder)s to professional wildlife photographers. Many attacks have occurred because someone decided to try to snap a photo in scumboarder (aka snowboarder) territory. Bears don't like you, and they don't want their picture taken.
- If a scumboarder (aka snowboarder) is bearing down on you, you've got a couple of less-than-desirable options. The first thing you might try is going into the fetal position and playing dead. If you're dealing with a teenage scumboarder (aka snowboarder), do NOT

play dead. They'll be thrilled that the work's been done for them and will just use you as a ramp to do a trick turn off. If you can't tell what kind of scumboarder (aka snowboarder) you're dealing with, don't try it!

- If all else fails and they still carry on aiming for you your last option is to whack them with your ski stick.



This guy walks into a bar and says "Hey, you guys wanna hear a snowboarder joke?" The bartender says, "I'm a snowboarder, the guy on your right is a snowboarder, same with the guy on your left, and the guy behind you is a snowboarder." So the guy says, "OK. I'll tell it a little more slowly then..."

There's this skier standing on one side of a mogul slope. "Yoo-hoo!" she shouts to a snowboarder on the other side, "I can't ski moguls, how can I get to the other side?" The snowboarder looks up the slope and then down the slope and shouts back, "You ARE on the other side."

A guy finds out he needs a brain transplant. The doctor proceeds to show him various brains. One brain, which belonged to a skier, cost \$500, the other, which belonged to a boarder, cost \$5000. Perplexed, the guy asks the doctor about the price difference. The doctor replies "Well, the boarder's brain has never been used!"

The skier, says to a snowboarder that he was a telemarker. Snowboarder replies "I used to do that, but I got so sick of making all those phone calls."

Q. How many snow board instructors does it take to change a lightbulb?

A. Three - one to hold it, one to video tape it and the other to say "AWESOME DUDE!"

Q. What do you call a snowboarder with no girlfriend/boyfriend?

A. Homeless

Q. What is the difference between a snowboard instructor and a snowboard student?

A. 3 days!

Q. If you have a car with 3 snowboarders in the back seat, what do you call the driver?

A. The police!

Q. How does a snowboard instructor meet his group?

A. He rides into them!

Q: What's the difference between a snowboard instructor and a bucket of chicken?

A: The bucket of chicken can feed a family of four.

Q: What does a snowboard have in common with a vacuum cleaner?

A: They're both usually attached to dirtbags.

Q: How many snowboarders does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: It's unknown. Never been done.

Or, better yet.

A: Two. One to hold the bulb and one to smoke enough pot to make the room spin.

Q: What do snowboarders use for birth control?

A: Their personalities.

Q: How does a snowboarder introduce himself?

A: "Sorry, dude."

Q: What do ski instructors and snowboard instructors have in common?

A: They both can't snowboard!

Q: What is the last thing a snowboarder ever says?

A: "Dude, watch this!"

Q: What's the hardest thing about being a snowboard instructor?

A: Nothing!

Q: What do you say to a snowboard instructor in summer?

A: A Big Mac and fries please!

Q: How can you tell if the lift is balanced?

A: The snowboarders drool out of both sides of their mouths!

Q: A Cadillac with five snowboarders runs off a cliff, and everybody dies. What's the worst thing?

A: Cadillac seats six!

Q: Why are most skier jokes one liners?

A: So the snowboarders can understand them!

Q: How do you get the snowboard instructor off of your front porch?

A: Pay for the pizza!

Q: "Mommy, mommy, I want to be a snowboard instructor when I grow up!"

A: "Now Johnny, you can't do both!"

Q: What do you say to a snowboarder in a three piece suit?

A: "Will the defendant please rise...."!

Q: What do you call a successful snowboard instructor?

A: A guy who's girlfriend has two jobs.

Q: At a party, how do you tell who the snowboard instructor is?

A: Don't worry. He will tell you.

Q: On a date, what does a snowboard instructor say after the first hour?

A: "That's enough talk about me; now let's talk about snowboarding."

Q: How many snowboard instructors does it take to change a light bulb?

A: 2, one to change the bulb and one to say "Nice turn, nice turn!"

Q: What is the difference between God and a snowboard instructor?

A: God does not think he is a ski instructor!

Q: What do ski instructors and snowboard instructors have in common?

A: They both can't snowboard.

Q: A ski and a snow board instructor were walking around the San Diego Zoo one summer afternoon. Eventually they wandered into the primate house. How do you spot the snow board instructor?

A: He's the one writing an MA on the gorillas knuckle walking technique. 🐼

A Skier's Dictionary

Alp: One of a number of ski mountains in Europe. Also a shouted request for assistance made by a European skier on a U.S. mountain. An appropriate reply: "What Zermatter?"

All-Mountain: A common descriptive term for boots or skis that are designed to perform equally poorly under a variety of conditions and over many different types of terrain.

Avalanche: One of the few actual perils skiers face that needlessly frighten timid individuals away from the sport. See also: Blizzard, Fracture, Frostbite, Hypothermia, Lift Collapse.

Bindings: Automatic mechanisms that protect skiers from potentially serious injury during a fall by releasing skis from boots, sending the skis skittering across the slope where they trip two other skiers, and so on and on, eventually causing the entire slope to be protected from serious injury.

Bones: There are 206 in the human body. No need for dismay, however: TWO bones of the middle ear have never been broken in a skiing accident.

Cross-Country Skiing: Traditional Scandinavian all-terrain snow-travelling technique. It's good exercise. It doesn't require the purchase of costly lift tickets. It has no crowds or lines. It isn't skiing. See Cross-Country Something-Or-Other.

Cross-Country Something-or-Other: Touring on skis along trails in scenic wilderness, gliding through snow-hushed woods far from the hubbub of the ski slopes, hearing nothing but the whispery hiss of the skis slipping through snow and the muffled tinkle of car keys dropping into the puffy powder of a deep, wind-sculpted drift.

Exercises: A few simple warm-ups to make sure you're prepared for the slopes: *Tie a cinder block to each foot with old belts and climb a flight of stairs. *Sit on the outside of a second-story window ledge with your skis on and your poles in your lap for 30 minutes. *Bind your legs together at the ankles, lie flat on the floor; then, holding a banana in each hand, get to your feet.

Gloves: Designed to be tight enough around the wrist to restrict circulation, but not so closefitting as to allow any manual dexterity; they should also admit moisture from the outside without permitting any dampness within to escape.

Gravity: One of four fundamental forces in nature that affect skiers. The other three are the

strong force, which makes bindings jam; the weak force, which makes ankles give way on turns; and electromagnetism, which produces dead batteries in expensive ski-resort parking lots. See Inertia.

Inertia: Tendency of a skier's body to resist changes in direction or speed due to the action of Newton's First Law of Motion. Goes along with these other physical laws: * Two objects of greatly different mass falling side by side will have the same rate of descent, but the lighter one will have larger hospital bills. * Matter can neither be created nor destroyed, but if it drops out of a parka pocket, don't expect to encounter it again in our universe. * When an irresistible force meets an immovable object, an unethical lawyer will immediately appear.

Prejump: Maneuver in which an expert skier makes a controlled jump just ahead of a bump. Beginners can execute a controlled prefall just before losing their balance and, if they wish, can precede it with a prescream and a few pregroans.

Shin: The bruised area on the front of the leg that runs from the point where the ache from the wrenched knee ends to where the soreness from the strained ankle begins.

Ski!: A shout to alert people ahead that a loose ski is coming down the hill. Another warning skiers should be familiar with is "Avalanche!" - which tells everyone that a hill is coming down the hill.

Skier: One who pays an arm and a leg for the opportunity to break them.

Stance: Your knees should be flexed, but shaking slightly; your arms straight and covered with a good layer of goose flesh; your hands forward, palms clammy, knuckles white and fingers icy, your eyes a little crossed and darting in all directions. Your lips should be quivering, and you should be mumbling, "Why?"

Telemark: Norwegian for "Hey guys! Wait up!" Or, Norwegian for "Face plant!"

Telemarking: Half the binding, half the speed! Or, "Free you heel, ski for real!"

Thor: The Scandinavian ski god of acheth and painth.

Traverse: To ski across a slope at an angle; one of two quick and simple methods of reducing speed.

Tree: The other method.