

Snow Safety Course 25-26th January 2024

Richard Bissell

The Snow Safety course was divided between the Le Tour and Brevent areas. The weather preceding and during the course was unusually warm for January leading to a considerable avalanche risk on all aspects with much evidence of wet slides at lower elevations. Awareness of avalanche risk through planning and via observations in the field was combined with an emphasis on terrain management. Conditions were generally icy which precluded worthwhile off-piste skiing until later in the day when excellent spring-like conditions were enjoyed. In particular a memorable late afternoon descent of the steep slopes beneath Pointe de Van in the Domaine de Balme was sought out. Steep skiing techniques were again worked on the next day at Brevent and subsequently tested on the descent from Col du Brevent.

Andy Perkins (Guide)

Alan McClean, Andy Parker, Ian Metzger, Pete Bridgewater, Richard Bissell