

MIAS – Scheme Standards & Assessment Requirements

MIAS (Mountain Bike Instructor Award Scheme) courses are **competency-based**. Candidates are assessed against nationally recognised **scheme standards**, not compared to each other.

MIAS Scheme Standards (what candidates must meet)

Candidates must demonstrate:

1. Riding Ability

- Confident, controlled riding at the level of the award
- Ability to ride a variety of terrain appropriate to the course
- Safe speed choice, braking, line selection, and balance

2. Teaching & Coaching Skills

- Clear explanations and demonstrations
- Ability to break skills down and adapt to different learners
- Constructive feedback and progression of skills

3. Group Management

- Safe positioning and supervision of riders
- Awareness of hazards and dynamic risk assessment
- Good communication and decision-making

4. Safety & Professionalism

- Appropriate use of helmets and protective equipment
- Trail and land-use awareness
- Professional conduct and duty of care

MIAS Assessment Requirements

- Continuous assessment throughout the course
- Practical riding assessments
- Coaching / teaching sessions delivered by the candidate
- Group riding leadership and management tasks

Important:

Meeting the minimum standard is required to pass.

Failure to meet *any* core standard may result in:

- A **defer / refer** (action plan and reassessment), or
- **Non-completion** of the award

NNAS – Scheme Standards & Assessment Requirements

The **National Navigation Award Scheme** focuses on **navigation competence, decision-making, and safety**, not speed or physical performance.

NNAS Scheme Standards (what candidates must demonstrate)

Depending on the award level (Explorer, Navigator, Outdoor Navigator), candidates must show:

1. Map Skills

- Correct use of map scales and symbols
- Understanding contours, gradients, and terrain features
- Accurate interpretation of landscape from the map

2. Navigation Techniques

- Orientating the map
- Route planning and following
- Accurate navigation on paths and off paths (level-dependent)

3. Compass Use

- Taking and following bearings
- Relocation and error correction
- Combining compass and map effectively

4. Safety & Decision-Making

- Awareness of hazards
- Appropriate pacing, timing, and route choice
- Basic emergency procedures and group awareness

NNAS Assessment Requirements

- Practical navigation tasks in real terrain
- Observation of navigation decisions, not just outcomes
- Assessment is usually:
 - **Ongoing during the course**, or
 - A **formal assessment day**, depending on level and provider

⚠ Important:

Candidates must show **consistent competence**.

Lucky guesses or following others **do not meet the standard**.

MIAS and NNAS courses are assessed against national scheme standards. Successful completion depends on the candidate meeting the required practical and safety competencies. Attendance alone does not guarantee certification.