

SARA Program's 2022 ELAN Ski Rental Test Monitoring Report

ELAN

- **Element RS Rental Ski**

- Pros: The color coding and increments of 10 (140, 150, 160, etc) makes training and grabbing skis fast and efficient. The bindings are very easy to adjust and do not have issues with the toe viewing windows fogging or scratching. Bindings are also able to adjust right off of the snow, unlike other bindings that are hard to adjust when frozen. Forward pressure is very viable, with or without snow present. Top sheets and bases are durable with high utilization. Bases are repairable and hold wax over many rental uses. The color coded tip protectors make finding the proper ski on the rack much more efficient. Tip protectors do not pop off like other skis we have seen. Indentation on the top sheet for in-house barcodes works very well and do not see many peeling stickers through usage. Grip walk compatibility greatly improves the ability to fit all alpine renters. AFDs are durable and not seeing any breakage like we have in past. Twist testing bindings are consistent out of the box and through two seasons of use.
- Cons: The heel DIN viewing window can get scratched up, making setting the proper DIN more difficult and time consuming. Filing past/ rounding the edges past the contact points on the tips of the ski from the factory.

- **Elan Uflex Kids Ski**

- Pros: Increments of 10 (100, 110, 120) makes training and sizing skis efficient. Bindings are easy to set and forward pressure is easily visible. Like how light weight the ski is making it easier for kids to carry and ski. Bases are durable and hold wax over many rents.
- Cons: Binding indicator plates pop out frequently. Also, plates are different between ski sizes even though they are all 4.5 bindings. The heel piece has a tendency to physically pull out of the ski. The foam core, rivets and glue simply do not hold the binding in place. (In a recent email and in the 2022 Fleet Monitoring Report also posted on the Offers page we note that rental operators purchasing foam core skis should be prepared for durability issues and potentially a shorter ski lifespan. This is true for other brands as well.) The tip protectors pop off on occasion. They are not riveted like the adult skis. The 7.5 binding only goes to a DIN of 2. If a 1.75 DIN is needed you must go to a 4.5 binding. However, when twist testing an adult boot in the 4.5 binding it does not pass. Need an option for an adult boot sole with a DIN of 1.75. (Snowbowl sees this frequently). Skis are not color coded like the adult skis, making grabbing and racking not as efficient.

- **Uflex Kids Boot**

- Pros: Boot is very easy to slip on and off of a child's foot. Flexible to allow the child to move/ walk to the slopes and step boot into ski. Inside liner is easy to remove to ensure proper fit on children. Buckles and plastic are durable and can be used for many years. Uflex boots are compatible with the Uflex ski binding making teching fast and easy through color coding. Boot is durable and have little to no repairs. Soles and plastics are durable and hold up over many uses.
- Cons: Frequently see parents missing the plastic that goes under the buckle when they help buckle their children's' boots. Too many moving parts that can be overlapped or missed. Screen print color / size marking have worn off over the past two seasons.