

British Canoeing Coach Awards 2018 Updates

Introduction

A number of restructuring and rebranding developments are taking place within the British Canoeing Coaching Qualifications, coming into effect 1st January 2018. This includes:

- The British Canoeing 'Coach Awards' will supersede the current Level 2, Moderate/Advanced Water Endorsements (MWE/AWE) and Discipline Support Modules
- The Level 1, 3, and 4 Qualifications are being renamed

This document provides outline information for key stakeholders involved in the delivery and provision of British Canoeing Coaching Qualifications to facilitate the essential planning required for implementation. Please see the following documents for further information:

- Coach Award Course Guide
- Coach Award Provider Requirements
- Coach Award Tutor and Assessor Notes
- Coach Award FAQs

Background

At the start of 2014, the British Canoeing Coaching Strategy Group initiated a review of our qualifications. This resulted in proposals to revise the structure, with a phased approach to the development (and implementation) of the various components. The first phase focused on the Club Activity Assistant, piloted during 2016. This was followed by developments within the Leadership strand, including a new Paddlesport Leader Award, rebranding of the 4 and 5 Star awards, and the introduction of a Guide scheme; all launched April 2017.

This next phase focuses on the development of the qualifications previously pitched at UKCC Level 2. The development is, in the main, focused on a restructuring and creating discipline specific pathways available across all disciplines. This will significantly change the prerequisites and the pathway through taught and assessed elements. A review of the content has resulted in some minor amendments.

At this stage, no changes are being made to our Level 1 award, although it is to be rebranded as '*Paddlesport Instructor*'. This qualification will remain the recommended option for all coaches and instructors whose main focus of work is delivering introductory paddlesport sessions. An Instructor who holds both *Paddlesport Leader* and *Paddlesport Instructor* being well placed to fulfil their coaching duties with more autonomy. We expect this combination to be the main route followed by Instructors working in the activity centre market.

No changes are being made to our Level 3 or 4 awards, although they are being rebranded. The Level 3 qualifications are to be renamed "*Performance [insert discipline] Coach*". The "Level 4 in Performance Paddlesport" is also to be renamed "British Canoeing Coaching Diploma".

An Introduction to the Coach Award Qualification(s)

The 'Coach Awards' will supersede the current Level 2, Moderate/Advanced Water Endorsements, and Discipline Support Modules. The qualifications are designed for people whose core function is to coach paddlers who want to gain/improve paddlesport skills within the discipline chosen. This will include coaching beginners new to the sport, or paddlers looking to develop their skills in the given discipline/environment. The following 18 (UKCC Level 2 endorsed) qualifications will be offered:

Canoe and Kayak (Sheltered Water) Coach Awards

- Canoe Coach (Sheltered Water)
- Kayak Coach (Sheltered Water)
- Canoe and Kayak Coach (Sheltered Water)

Discipline Specific Coach Awards

- Freestyle Coach
- Open Water Canoe Coach
- Polo Coach
- Racing Coach
- Sea Kayak Coach
- Slalom Coach
- Surf Kayak Coach
- White Water Canoe Coach
- White Water Kayak Coach
- Wild Water Racing Coach
- Open Water Canoe Coach (Advanced Water)
- Sea Kayak Coach (Advanced Water)
- Surf Kayak Coach (Advanced Water)
- White Water Canoe Coach (Advanced Water)
- White Water Kayak Coach (Advanced Water)

Syllabus

Each qualification will share syllabus content based on the knowledge, understanding and skills that the coaches need to ensure the participants in their care are appropriately provided for, including:

- assessing athlete/paddlers' performance and needs
- designing and delivering progressive practice/training sessions to meet these needs
- managing safety
- creating an enjoyable motivating learning environment

This is mapped to UKCC Level 2 and will be similar to our preceding Level 2 and MWE/AWE. The review of the content has resulted in some minor amendments and change in emphasis.

Remit

The remit of the Sheltered Water options will be the same as the current British Canoeing Level 2 Certificate in Coaching Paddlesport. There will not be a bank-based option.

The qualifications that replace the MWE and AWE awards will match remit.

The remit for the disciplines where we are introducing new qualifications (i.e. Freestyle, Polo, Racing, Slalom, and Wild Water Racing) will be based on defined environments relevant to the discipline. These awards will be accessible to both paddling and non-paddling coaches.

Qualification Pathway

To achieve a Coach Award, coaches complete two components of face-to-face training ('Core Coach Training' and 'Discipline Specific Training') and will need to engage in active, independent learning to develop their coaching out in the field. This is concluded by a 1-day discipline specific assessment.

Core Coach Training

This two day face-face training course introduces generic/shared coaching content that is relevant to all coaches at this level. There is flexibility for the training to be offered to mixed (all disciplines) or single discipline groups (e.g. a group of slalom coaches). It may be run back-to-back with Discipline Specific Training or separate from it. Coaches can repeat the course to support their on-going learning and it can be accessed as stand-alone training for continued professional development. The training will have no expiry.

The only prerequisite is full Home Nation Association Membership.

The content of the Core Coach Training is framed by, and similar to, the current Level 2 (UKCC) Unit Specification. Some elements have been strengthened or updated.

Coaches who have completed other British Canoeing training or assessment courses that have covered similar content can choose to by-pass the Core Coach Training if they feel confident with the content. See page 6 for specific details.

Discipline Specific Training

The Discipline Specific Training is focused on developing technical and tactical knowledge and its application within appropriate safety frameworks. All Discipline Specific Training courses are 2-days, with the exception of Slalom at 3-days. The Sheltered Water Canoe and Kayak training covers both disciplines within one 2-day course. The training can be completed immediately after the Core Coach Training; but there will need to be a gap before assessment.

As with the Core Training, this training is open to coaches who may not be considering the journey to assessment and wish to use it for general learning and development. It is also repeatable for those who wish to consolidate their learning further.

Prerequisites

- Full Home Nation Association Membership
- Core Coach Training (See page 6 for details of who can bypass this)
- Relevant British Canoeing Leadership Award for Open/White Water Canoe, Sea Kayak, Surf Kayak, and White Water Kayak options and all Advanced Water options

The course has no expiry.

Coaches who have completed other British Canoeing training or assessment courses that have covered similar content can choose to by-pass the Discipline Specific Training if they feel confident with the content. See page 6 for specific details.

Assessment

Coaching, Personal Skills (where relevant) and Rescue Skills will be practically assessed; supported by professional discussion and questioning. Assessments will normally run over 1-day.

Where the Coach Award supersedes an existing Level 2, MWE or AWE, the assessment standards and format will remain similar to its predecessor.

The Level 2 Portfolio is being discontinued. Prior to assessment, coaches will need to collect some specific evidence relating to their practical coaching delivery. Evidence will need to include, as a minimum, a logbook of coaching activity. Coaches will also be provided with a series of questions relating to their coaching activity to be discussed with their assessor.

Prior to assessment, coaches will need to take responsibility for designing and fulfilling a personal action plan to support their coach development. They will be supported during the Core and Discipline Specific Training; but there will be freedom for them to select the most appropriate activities for their personal needs.

Assessment Prerequisites

- Completion of required Coach Award Core Training (no time limit)
(Note the Core Coach Training can be by-passed by anyone who has completed other specific British Canoeing courses, See page 6 for specific details)
- Completion of required Discipline Specific Training completed (no time limits)
(Note the Discipline Specific Training course can be by-passed by anyone who has completed other specific British Canoeing courses, See page 6 for specific details)
- Completion of relevant Leadership Award:
(Applicable to Open/White Water Canoe, Sea Kayak, Surf Kayak, and White Water Kayak options and all Advanced Water options)
- Evidence of minimum standards of deployment:
 - First Aid Training
 - Child Protection Training
 - Home Nation Association Membership
- Aged 16 or over at the time of assessment (18, for Advanced Water Options)
(Whilst candidates under the age of 18 can take some awards, they cannot be deemed responsible for leadership by law until they turn 18)

Additional Supporting Components

A number of resources are being developed to support coaches develop their coaching skills and help them achieve relevant qualifications. This includes:

British Canoeing Website / Course Selector

A section is to be developed on the British Canoeing Website to help customers choose the most appropriate qualification for their coaching role. This will include an interactive question style flow-chart to help the coach select the qualification that offers the best fit.

E-Learning

Three e-learning packages are being developed to support coaches develop their understanding and application of some key content. The e-learning will aim to support coaches working through the qualification, coaches considering the qualification who wish to preview the content, coaches wishing to revisit the material post qualification as revision, and tutors/assessors/mentors.

Intermediate/Foundation Modules

The British Canoeing Intermediate and Foundation modules will remain in place to support and expand coaches' knowledge in particular areas of focus. They can be accessed at any point in a coach's development. A number of the Foundation and Intermediate modules are being reviewed and the two existing Intermediate *Optimising Fitness and Performance for Paddlesport* modules will be discontinued. Two new modules will be introduced; *Physiology*; *Biomechanics*. These changes will be implemented during 2018 [exact date TBC].

Provider Requirements

The Home Nation Associations will be recruiting providers for the Coach Awards. Applications will be open to existing providers, providers currently working towards an existing role and new providers. The application closing date is 21st August 2017; provider orientation will be delivered from autumn 2017. Please contact Home Nation Associations for further details.

Staffing Ratios / Student Numbers

Core Training	1:4	(minimum 4 – maximum 8)
Discipline Specific Training	1:4	(minimum 2 – maximum 8)
Assessment Ratio	1:2	(minimum 1 – maximum 2)

Impact on Existing Coaches

As part of the restructure, the current Level 2, MWE, AWE training and assessment courses will cease to run. Any candidate mid-way through their journey to achieve one of these qualifications will move into the restructured pathway. They can choose not to repeat components of training (that are considered similar) if they feel confident with the content. They are able to access the training at any point prior to assessment (or thereafter) if they prefer.

Who can bypass the Core Coach Training

Coaches who have completed any of the following training/assessment courses can choose to by-pass the Core Coach Training if they feel confident with the content:

- British Canoeing Level 2 (UKCC) Training OR Assessment
- British Canoeing Moderate or Advanced Water Training OR Assessment
- British Canoeing Level 3 (UKCC) Core Training OR Assessment

Who can bypass the Discipline Specific Training

Coaches who have completed a 4-day Level 2 (UKCC) Training course can choose to by-pass the Sheltered Water Canoe and Kayak Training if they feel confident with the content.

Coaches who have completed MWE Training or BCU Level 3 Assessment (pre-UKCC) can choose to by-pass the Open/White Water Canoe Coach, Sea Kayak Coach, Surf Kayak Coach, and White Water Kayak Coach Training if they feel confident with the content (when in the same discipline).

Coaches who have completed AWE Training can choose to by-pass the Advanced Open/White Water Canoe Coach, Sea Kayak Coach, Surf Kayak Coach, and White Water Kayak Coach Training if they feel confident with the content (when in the same discipline).

Coaches who have completed the Slalom/Sprint Discipline Support Module Part 2 (training and logbook) can choose to by-pass the respective Slalom/Racing Coach Training if they feel confident with the content.

In Summary

- Coaches who have completed Level 2 (UKCC) Training¹ in the current system will be able to progress straight to new Sheltered Water Canoe and/or Kayak assessment
- Coaches who complete (or have completed) MWE or AWE training¹ will be able to progress towards a Coach Award assessment (in the same discipline)

In both these cases the coach will not be required to complete the Core Coach Training or Discipline Specific Training, but will have the remaining assessment prerequisites to complete.

- Coaches who have completed Level 2, MWE or AWE training¹ or assessment will also have the option of progressing to any of the other Discipline Specific Training courses

In all cases the coach can access the Core/Discipline Specific Training at any point prior to assessment (or thereafter) if they prefer.

¹ the training can be at any point in the past, the expiry is not considered