

British Canoeing Coach Update Scheme Review

The Coaching Operations Group (COG), through an established project group, has recently completed a review of the Coach Update Scheme across all four Home Nations, and would like to thank all those who contributed their views and feedback through the consultation.

The review which started in 2012, was conducted in a series of phases, which are described here;

Phase 1: Initially consultation was sought by means of online survey (yielding 973 responses) and at national and regional forums. This analysis of the data from this phase of consultation highlighted:

- a) A significant level of misunderstanding over terminology, and inconsistent use of terminology across communications. Specifically this related to the use of 'coach update' to mean the overall scheme as well as one component of the scheme, which in turn was also referred to as 'revalidation'. Furthermore, the term 'licence', appeared to raise concerns amongst some respondents.
- b) Strong desire for greater flexibility in the recognition of Continuing Personal Development activities undertaken by coaches; including refreshment of safety skills (61% of respondents) and recognition of discipline specific experience (62% of respondents)
- c) Strong support (71%) for keeping the Coach Update Scheme free of charge 71%, and for retaining different aspects of the scheme; Membership (68% of respondents), First aid (91% of respondents), CPD/Revalidation (65% of respondents), Safeguarding Training (49% of respondents).

Phase 2: The Coach Update Scheme was then reviewed in light of key findings from Phase 1 and wider publications from this field. During this phase, the review group was also supported by a sports coach UK advisor and considered similar schemes in other sports locally and in other paddlesport governing bodies overseas. The outcome from this phase was a series of proposed updates to the existing scheme.

Phase 3: During the final phase of the review, further consultation was sought from the Home Nation coaching committees on the proposals. Feedback from these groups indicated some minor adaptations to the communication of the information, but an overwhelming support for the proposed changes to the scheme. In light of this response the proposals were then accepted by the COG in July 2014.

Recommendations and Changes

The following recommendations will now be implemented **from 1st October 2014**

1. **Updated Terminology.** For clarity, the following glossary of terms will be adopted:

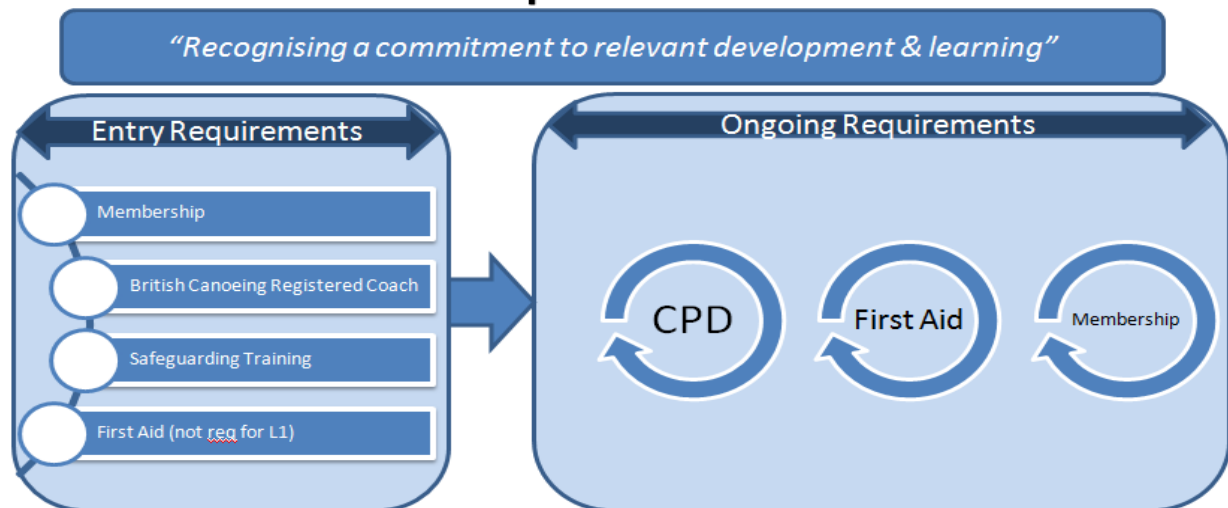
Coach Update Scheme – Refers to the overall scheme which is composed of 4 elements: Membership, First Aid, Safeguarding Training and Coaching CPD .

Coaching Continuous Personal Development (CPD) – Activity undertaken by the coach to develop their skills and knowledge. This can be recorded by attendance at a Coaching Matters event or a recognised course or logged by submitting an Application for Recognition of CPD

Coaching Matters Events – coach development days organised by the Home Nation Association, one way of meeting the Coaching CPD element (formerly known as Coach Update days).

2. **Expanding the scope and flexibility** within the Coaching CPD element of the Scheme. The following changes have been made to offer broader recognition:
- Over 20 courses have been added to the list of Recognised CPD Courses. The additions include further British Canoeing courses and sports coach UK courses, as either 18 month or 3 year Coaching CPD validity.
 - A Recognition of CPD application form will replace the self-assessment form, and will provide a more user friendly option for coaches to gain recognition for CPD that is done using means other than through Coaching Matters Events and the list of Recognised CPD courses. This will also allow
 - The Recognition of CPD service can also be used to recognise in-house training and other coaching events

Coach Update Scheme



Questions

What impact will this have on coaches who already meet Coach Update Scheme requirements?

The nature of the changes should mean that the impact on all coaches is positive. There should be little direct impact on coaches who meet the existing requirements. Prior to their CPD expiring, they can now choose from a much wider range of options, including some new options valid for 18 months.

I recently completed one of the courses now listed as recognised CPD, will this be recorded as?

Home Nation Associations will be carrying out updates to their databases to review courses from the last 18 months and 3 years. Where a British Canoeing course is now included on *Recognised CPD Courses* list, the appropriate CPD timescale will be added. Where the course was done with a third party organisation, a copy of the certificate can be submitted to gain recognition.

Further Information

Full detail of the revised Coach Update Scheme is available from Home Nation websites.