

SCA COACH UPDATE

The SCA Coach Update scheme provides a service whereby SCA recognises your qualifications as valid and updated. The concept of coach update is based on the SCA/BCU actively providing opportunities for personal development and encouraging all coaches to keep up to date with developments in our sport and indeed in general Sports coaching. Further to this, with sport and sports coaching receiving an increasingly public profile with moral, ethical, and social commitments, it is important that we can account for and verify the status of all coaches within the scheme.

The Coach Update process is the same for all of our Coaches, whether they hold 'new' or 'old' awards. There are three things Coaches need to have to meet the update requirements:

1. **Valid first aid certificate** recorded on their SCA membership record: Details of the requirements including minimum training duration and a list of acceptable first aid awards, visit www.bcu.org.uk
2. Hold **Full SCA Membership**
3. Be **up - to - date with current best practice** There are three ways in which Coaches can evidence this (each being valid for a period of three years):
 - i. **Attend a Coach Update Event:** These events are run throughout the regions aiming to provide quality learning support for coaches through the provision of appropriate learning systems, structures, resources, products and services.
 - ii. **Complete a Self-Assessment Form:** The self-assessment form provides Coaches with an opportunity to evidence their coaching activity and any continual professional development they may have completed during the three-year update cycle. (See over).
 - iii. **Achieve a BCU Coaching or Leadership Qualification** The completion of a new Coaching or Leadership qualification extends Coaches update status by a further three years. Most BCU Coaching and Leadership awards that are 2 days or more count.

SELF - ASSESSMENT:

The self-assessment form provides coaches with a further opportunity to reflect on their coaching activity over the three-year update cycle and their particular involvement in the specified update areas. These areas could include any relevant training, workshops or courses that demonstrate long-term training and sharing of good practise in Paddlesport coaching. The three areas identified as important for coaches to keep up to date in are:

- Water safety (appropriate to the water used and level of coach)
- Health & Safety Executive and Legislative Guidelines
- Coaching and assessing

Examples of suitable workshops, courses and training:

1.1 Water Safety

E.g. Water Safety training / Club or Centre safety review / safety training / site risk assessment and or review / pool lifeguard award [Evidence could include: Minuted Club or centre or organisation meeting / mentor or head coach signature].

1.2 HSE and legislative guidelines

E.g. SCA (or other NGB equivalents) 2 – 3 hour Workshop on Child Protection, Disability Awareness, Risk Assessment, Duty of Care, Equity etc. Sports Coach UK (NCF) Courses (as above) Accredited HSE training through college or through CPD programme at work.

1.3 Coaching and Assessment

E.g. BCU Regional / National Squad athlete or coach sports science education BCU (or other NGB equivalents) Assessor Training day FE or University accredited sports coach training e.g. Sports Science degree, Sports Coach degree / diploma or Key skills training relating to coaching, other academic sports coaching awards

Monitoring: In order to ensure that the self-assessment process is effective all self-assessment forms returned will be checked to ensure that coaches are themselves following the correct procedure and that they are up to date. Where it is felt that additional updating is necessary to ensure consistency and currency, coaches will be advised of this and recommendation given as to what they need to do. While self-assessments returned will be recorded on our database, only those considered to have indicated that the coach is up to date will be validated and show the coach to indeed be up to date within the current overall procedures

What happens next? If the form meets the necessary requirements, the coaches' record is updated from the date the form was signed. From a quality assurance point of view a percentage of self assessment applications will be followed up with declared referees. However, if it is felt that the coach needs to undertake further update work we will write to them with an action plan suggesting where to go from here.

Should you have any further queries with regards to Coach Update please feel free to contact the SCA Coach Education and Development Manager