

Coach Update Review 2012 Consultation Paper

About this consultation

In early 2012 the BCU Coaching Operations Group (COG) established a project group with the following aims:

- To review the existing BCU Coach Update scheme and its implementation across the four home nation associations.
- To review the progress towards a licensing scheme already made within Canoe England
- To design and develop a revised/replacement needs-based scheme to cover coach and leadership updating
- To make recommendations on the future strategy and implementation of a revised scheme to meet the needs of the coaches, leaders, deployers and employers of coaches, home nations, BCU, and UK Coaching Framework.

This consultation forms part of the above review. Through this consultation, the review group seek to understand the views of coaches, leaders, employers and deployers on the virtues and shortcomings of the current scheme and desired features for the scheme as it develops.

Background to current BCU Coach Update Scheme

The coach update scheme was established with the aim of recognising coaches' qualifications as valid and updated including:

- evidence for deployers, or customers that the coach is qualified and updated
- their name being included on the BCU register of qualified and updated coaches
- entitlement to vote at Regional or Local Coaching Organiser elections
- authorised to run BCU Tests and Awards

The current BCU coach update scheme has been in place for over 10 years and, while some amendments have been made to specific requirements, the scheme as a whole has remained largely unchanged in that time.

The current requirements of "Updated Coach" status include:

1. Holding Full/Comprehensive BCU Home Nation Membership
2. Meet the CPD/revalidation/Update requirement achieved by completing one of a range of activities such as:
 - Attending a BCU coach education or leadership course
 - Completing a self assessment, having met the specified requirements
 - Attending a national coaching conference
 - Attending a Regional Coach Update event
3. Have a valid first aid certificate recorded on BCU Home Nation membership record (relevant to the highest award held)
4. Have completed a recognised child protection training, registered on BCU Home Nation membership record

5. Current Enhanced CRB Disclosure (England and Wales only)

A review of home nation statistics on coaches using the scheme, shows a varied picture across the BCU Home Nation Associations. A summary of Canoe England (CE) and Scottish Canoe Association (SCA) data is presented below; unfortunately statistics from Canoe Wales (CW) and Canoe Association Northern Ireland (CANI) were unavailable at the time this data was collected.

The data shows that as at February 2012 only 12.5% of coaching members held all the relevant Coach Update requirements. In spite of this 65.5% (SCA 58%, CE 73%) of coaching members meet the CPD/revalidation requirement (item 2 above) despite not having all of the remaining criteria (First Aid, Safeguarding Training and/or CRB) recorded on their BCU record. Besides the 29% (SCA 26%, CE 32%) of coaching members entering the coach update scheme by undertaking the BCU (UKCC) Level 1 Certificate in Coaching Paddlesport, the most common methods of coach update in 2011 were as follows:

SCA		England		UK	
National Conferences	10%	Regional Coach Updates	19%	Regional Coach Updates	12%
4 Star Assessment	10%	4 Star Leader Training	12%	Level 2 Training	10%
L2 Training	10%	Level 2 Training	11%	4 Star Training	9%

Table shows top three methods of coach update used in each Scotland, England and overall.

Rationale: The Need for Change

Since the start of the current Coach Update Scheme the wider BCU coaching scheme has evolved significantly, particularly with the introduction of the BCU (UKCC) Coaching Qualifications and new Leadership Awards. Anecdotal evidence and feedback from members suggests the current scheme also needs to evolve in order to ensure it is fit for purpose going forward.

The BCU and Home Nations aim to provide coaches with an accessible development and retention tool which recognises coaches' environment and discipline specific qualifications, experience and expertise. In order to truly meet the needs of coaches, leaders, employers, deployers and the BCU, your input is important in reviewing the current system and steering future developments.

Research conducted by national agencies including sports coach UK into coaching in the UK has shown that registration and licensing schemes have been successfully adopted by number of sports with the aim of developing active, skilled and qualified coaches who are 'fit for purpose'. The research distinguishes between Registration and Licensing as follows:

Registration	Creates a register of active and qualified coaches, who are given enhanced benefits and services to help coaches access support and development
Licensing	Gives coaches a 'license to practice' as a coach within a specific sport, and is used as a measure of currency of coaching practice that builds on qualifications; a licence can support the effective recruitment, employment and deployment of skilled coaches

Please note that there are no specific pressures placed on the BCU to implement a registration and/or licensing scheme by external agencies, funding partners or stakeholders. Any new developments will be based on the needs of the sport and evolve from within the governing body structure of the BCU, building on the experiences of other sports. The current coach update scheme already contains a mixture of the registration and licensing components defined above.

Consultation Process

This consultation process runs until **31st May 2012**. Any interested party is invited to submit a response to the consultation. Responses will be collected online via the following link: www.surveymonkey.com/s/BCUCoachUpdate. In addition, Home Nation Associations are conducting a range of further consultation activities at scheduled events, including some upcoming regional and national forums and meetings. Please visit your Home Nation association website for further information.

Further Contacts

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Examples of other Coach Licensing Schemes from other sports

	Orienteering	Athletics	Rugby Football league	Amateur Swimming Association	Tennis
Eligible Coaches	Anyone holding a British Orienteering coaching qualification.	Any coach	Anyone holding a RFL coaching qualification.	Anyone holding an ASA coaching/teaching qualification.	Anyone holding an LTA coaching qualification
Conditions of Licence	Accept the British Orienteering Code of conduct Hold British orienteering Membership Enhanced CRB Disclosure Undertake some form of CPD training once every 3 years Hold a current First Aid Certificate	Enhanced CRB Disclosure	Agreeing to the Terms and Conditions and upholding the RFU Coach's Code of Conduct. Enhanced CRB Disclosure Attend a minimum of 1 RFU approved (CPD) course each year	Enhanced CRB Disclosure Evidence of child protection training Evidence of continued delivery of teaching/coaching Attendance at one CPD seminar or conference each year Level 2 Coaches and above need to do additional training in some mandatory and some elective areas	Undertake a minimum of 15 hours of CPD training each year
Validity	As long as the criteria above are maintained the licence remains valid	Your coach licence will automatically be renewed on receipt of your cleared CRB disclosure	3 Years	3 years	1 year
Cost	No cost	No cost	No cost	No cost	£60 Per Annum
Benefits	Insurance Ability to run coaching activities	Insurance	Status as a coach committed to personal development Coaches area of website Access to regularly updated video and animated practices Coaching newsletter Coaching Journal Discounts on RFU coaching courses Rugby Coaches Association clothing Discount at The Rugby Store, Twickenham	Licence reflects qualification Level and Disciplines Licensed coaches are put on a Register of Aquatic Professionals	Public liability insurance Employer's liability insurance Income protection Physiotherapy cover British Tennis Membership Wimbledon ticket ballot Access to free legal and tax advice On-line coaching resource video library Discounted rates on various suppliers