

## An Overview

# of the NCCP and the Transition to a Competency-based Approach to Coach Education and Training



Coaching  
Association  
of Canada



National  
Coaching  
Certification  
Program



## The National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP):

The NCCP provides quality training and certification to Canada's coaches in more than 60 sports. The program is moving towards a competency-based approach where coaches are:

- trained in NCCP outcomes relevant to the participants that they are coaching
- evaluated by demonstrating coaching outcomes to a specified standard

The core competencies of coaching are **valuing, interacting, leading, problem-solving, and critical thinking**. These competencies will be woven throughout all NCCP training and evaluation activities.

## Competency-based education and training:

Embarking upon a transition toward a competency-based approach to coach training and certification means that the NCCP is moving towards being a program based on coaching abilities. In contrast, the current NCCP places a significant emphasis on gaining information and knowledge. In other words, once the transition to a competency-based approach is complete, the NCCP will be a program that trains and certifies coaches based on proven abilities to "DO" certain things deemed important to meet the needs of the participants they coach. These changes will result in significant improvements to the NCCP.

## The new NCCP:

The new structure of the NCCP is designed to take into account the different types of coaches who contribute to the Canadian sport system and the environment or context in which they coach.

**COMMUNITY SPORT** stream  
(Initiation and Ongoing participation contexts)

**COMPETITION** stream  
(Introduction, Development, and High performance contexts)

**INSTRUCTION** stream  
(Beginners, Intermediate performers, and Advanced performers contexts)

The NCCP will provide context-relevant training geared towards the following outcomes, which will assist coaches to:

- make ethical decisions
- plan a practice
- design a basic sport program
- analyze performance
- provide support to athletes in training
- support the competitive experience
- manage a program.

The NCCP provides three stages of accreditation to coaches in the context in which they are working:

- IN TRAINING** coach has begun training, however some training still to occur
- TRAINED** coach has completed all required training activities for a particular context
- CERTIFIED** coach has successfully completed all required evaluation activities for a particular context

## Competition – Introduction (Comp-Int):

On April 1 2004, CAC launched Competition – Introduction, a series of multi-sport modules for coaches who train children or adolescents basic sport skills in a fun and safe environment and who are preparing them for local and/or regional competitions. These modules will replace the old Levels 1 and 2 Theory courses and are the first step towards a competency-based approach to coach education and training.

Competition – Introduction Part A and Part B training consists of one weekend for each part and is offered through Provincial or Territorial Coaching Coordinators (P/TCCs). For more information on training schedules go to [http://www.coach.ca/e/nccp/theory\\_sched.htm](http://www.coach.ca/e/nccp/theory_sched.htm). Competition – Introduction Part A and Part B training opportunities will augment sport-specific training opportunities that National Sport Federations (NSFs) offer in this context. Some NSFs may choose to integrate elements of Competition – Introduction Part A or Part B training into their sport-specific offerings. Check with your NSF for more information.

Coaches can become certified in the Competition – Introduction context through an evaluation process managed and coordinated by their NSF. As a minimum NCCP evaluation requirement, coaches will demonstrate, to a pre-defined standard, that they can:

- make ethical decisions,
- provide support to athletes in training, and
- demonstrate two additional coaching outcomes as designated by the NSF.

The NSF may add additional coaching outcomes to their evaluation requirements.

For more information on the evaluation process in the Competition – Introduction context, contact your national sport federation. For a list of all NSFs, go to <http://www.coach.ca/e/partners/nsf.htm>.

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The NCCP is a collaborative program of the Government of Canada, provincial/territorial governments, national/provincial/territorial sport federations, and the Coaching Association of Canada.