

Triathlon Canada NCCP Pathways – Information and FAQ’s

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OVERVIEW

Triathlon Canada NCCP Coaching Pathways: What's New and What Does it Mean for Coaches?

In collaboration with the Coaching Association of Canada (CAC) a new Triathlon Canada National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) has been developed.

Key Changes:

- **Pathway Revisions:** There are now two streams of coaching – Community & Competition
- **National Triathlon Coach Registry:** A national registry has been developed to professionalize the triathlon coaching community. Coaches are included on the registry once they have completed the basic registration requirements and paid for their annual license. The registry provides national endorsement to coaches who have met Triathlon Canada's Safe Sport standards. It will be a key resource for athletes and parents who are looking to select a coach in their area.
- **Triathlon Canada Coaching Portal:** The Coaching Portal is the new hub for coaching training, education, certification and resources.

What are the new pathways?

The new coaching pathways involve two separate streams of coaching: **Community** (focused on age group and youth) and **Competition** (high performance/podium pathways for junior, U-23 and senior elite). While some learning is sequential, there is no expectation that a coach must have Community training or certification before entering into the Competition stream.

How do I Register?

Coaches will register through the Triathlon Canada Coaching Portal. The National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) is offered in conjunction with the Coaching Association of Canada (CAC). An NCCP number is required to ensure that all training is also captured by the CAC.

New coaches will have an NCCP number generated for them as part of their registration within the portal. Existing coaches will be able to enter their NCCP number as part of this process. This will also give all coaches access to their "Locker" at Coach.ca.

Coaches are then required to complete the following – all of which can be done through the Coaching Portal:

- Obtain an Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC)
- Complete the "Respect in Sport: Respect for Activity Leaders" course
- Complete the "NCCP Making Ethical Decisions (MED)" module
- Complete the "Introduction to Triathlon Competition Rules" module

COMMUNITY

What is a “Community” coach?

A **Community Coach** wants to support new and existing **youth and age group** athletes by teaching basic triathlon skills and the safe introduction to events. A Community Coach is focussed on safety, technique, skills and supporting club and age group athletes.

What’s new in the Community Coaching Context?

Community coaching and **Competition Introduction** have been combined to create the new **Community Coaching** pathway. This has increased the depth of the content for coaches in this stream, but the biggest change is that a Triathlon Canada NCCP Community Coach now has the option to become Certified with an evaluation and ongoing professional development.

There is more training required to become certified, however, a coach can complete the Community coaching workshop to achieve “In Training” status and remain there if they so desire. Completing the 5 required CAC modules will change a coach’s status to “Trained”, and after a successful evaluation, this will become “Certified”.

**It is preferred for coaches to take Making Ethical Decisions (MED) before their in person community coach workshop, but there will be times that a coach will not have this before the workshop – not enough time to take it before the workshop for example. The coach will still achieve ‘in Training’ status for having taken the workshop, but they won’t be able to have the status of “Trained”, until they have the MED training. They won’t be able to be “Certified” until they have taken the online evaluation.*

What is the new Community Coach Reference Materials?

The new manual is a revision and updated version of the old manual. It is meant to be used in conjunction with the Coach Workbook at the Community Coaching Course, and provide current information about the sport, rules, equipment and training considerations.

The manual redesign also took into consideration a secondary objective – to be a standalone reference for coaches to reinforce all the criteria for good coaching practice in the sport of triathlon and provide information for the coach on the knowledge and skills involved in teaching triathletes. This includes expanded chapters on masters’ athletes, coaching philosophy, recovery and support to competition.

COMPETITION

What is a “Competition” Coach?

A **Competition Coach** wants to train and support athletes who are interested in moving into the **High Performance** pathway. The Competition Coach focusses on refining skills and technique, physical training, sport psychology and all aspects of the daily training environment in order to develop strong practice and competition skills. This context is designed for coaches of athletes who are moving towards, or who are in, the podium pathway.

What’s new in the Competition Coaching Context?

Competition Dev is being replaced by one **Competition** pathway for coaches working in the high-performance development stream with developing junior, youth, U-23 and elite triathletes.

This context is competency and mentorship based. It requires 8 CAC multisport modules and training as well as a portfolio. Additionally, coaches will be required to build their triathlon technical knowledge by taking sport specific NCCP training in one of:

- Swimming Canada: Swimming 101;
- Athletics Canada: Club Coach (Endurance); or
- Cycling Canada: Skills and Tactics (Road).

Comprehensive assessment and successful evaluation in this context translate into a ‘Certified’ Competition Coach.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When does Coaching registration start?

Nov 1, 2019 for the 2020 year.

Why is there a new program?

Triathlon Canada aims to develop more NCCP Trained and Certified Coaches across the country and increase the training necessary so our triathletes have access to qualified and safe coaching.

When do the new pathways take effect?

November 1, 2019. Grandfathering and transferring training from the former NCCP pathways will be ongoing, and as of January 2020, the NCCP Locker will only contain the new Triathlon modules for recording training.

When and where can I take the Community coaching course?

Your Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) for triathlon will let members know when they are going to hold an in-person Community coach course. These workshops are often held provincially several times a year in the winter and spring, and registration is through your PSO.

I am previously Competition Introduction Certified. What happens to my Certification?

Comp Intro Certified is now Community Certified.

How does Grandfathering work?

Please see the infographic for the Grandfather program. All coaches who are already in training, trained or certified will be Grandfathered into the new system using a framework that takes into consideration current status and training.

[Click Here for the Grandfather Program Infographic](#)

Can I start taking the CAC modules before the new Community course is available in my province?

Yes. All coaches can take the CAC modules required for their context (Community or Competition) at any time. The CAC modules required for Community and Competition are outlined at the end of this document. As well, coaches interested in the Competition Pathway will need to complete one of three sport specific NCCP coach training sessions:

- Swimming Canada: Swim 101;
- Athletics Canada: Club Coach Course; or
- Cycling Canada: Skills and Tactics (Road).

Can you explain the biggest changes to the new pathways?

Making Ethical Decisions (MED) is now required for Basic Coach Registration as per Sport Canada SafeSport guidelines. The new Community Workshop has a larger practical component of teaching, coaching and assessing basic skills. And finally, the Community coach can now be evaluated and certified, which is a valuable part of on-going coaching education.

How come I cannot apply to be Community Coach Certified?

Currently, Triathlon Canada and the provincial sport organizations are working to train the required number of Learning Facilitators to meet the needs of the coaching community. The Community Coach Certification will be available later this summer.

What do I do if my Identity cannot be verified for the Criminal Background Check through the online verification process?

Sterling Background Checks uses online verification as their primary option for ID verification. There is a small percentage that cannot be verified online, and a physical verification must take place. To complete this you must fill-out and print the required form and visit a physical Canada Post location near you. [Click here to access the Sterling Portal](#)

My coaching portal does not show credit for a course I have completed, who do I contact?

Triathlon Canada can only verify courses that have been confirmed and appear in your NCCP Locker. If a course, in your Locker, does not have a completion date, Triathlon Canada cannot assume completion. If you have completed a course and it does not appear in your Locker, please contact the [Coaching Association of Canada](#)

NCCP PATHWAY – LIST OF REQUIREMENTS PER CONTEXT

COMMUNITY

In Training = Basic Registration + in person Community Course

Trained = Basic Registration + Community Course + 5 CAC Modules (see below)

1. Teaching and Learning
2. Planning a Practice + Emergency Action Plan eLearning
3. Nutrition
4. Basic Mental Skills
5. Design a Basic Sport Program

Certified = Portfolio assessment and evaluation

COMPETITION

In Training = Basic Registration + Registration into pathway through NSO/PSO identification

Trained = 8 CAC Modules (see below) + NCCP Single Sport Training

1. Plan a Practice
2. Building a Basic Sport Program (*Community Course will complete these 2 modules*)
3. Coaching and Leading Effectively
4. Developing Athletic Abilities
5. Prevention and Recovery
6. Psychology of Performance
7. Conflict management (and online evaluation)
8. Leading Drug Free Sport (and online evaluation)

Plus one single sport based on gap analysis

1. Swimming Canada: Swimming 101
2. Athletics Canada: Club Coach (Endurance)
3. Cycling Canada: Skills and Tactics (Road)

Certified = Comprehensive Evaluation (portfolio + observation)