

Coach Certification

The National Coaches Certification Program (NCCP) is unparalleled around the world when it comes to coach certification. In recent years, a number of countries around the world have contacted Canada Basketball to offer NCCP training for their coaches.

Why is the NCCP so highly regarded and recognized?

Its program offerings are educationally sound, scientifically designed, and employs best-in-class teaching and coaching techniques. Quite frankly, it is one of the most comprehensive and professional coach certification programs in the world.

And it is available for you!

Why is coach certification important?

Having certified coaches in your organization demonstrates an organization's commitment to providing the best coaching opportunities for players. Whether it is in a school or a club, having a certified coach is a tremendous display of professionalism for the organization, club, and the coach.

There are several levels of NCCP courses to choose from:

- FUNDamentals
- Learn to Train (L2T)
- Train to Train (T2T)
- Train to Compete (T2C)—Planning, Skills, and Strategies/Tactics

FUNDamentals is for players in the early stages of development and learning. It utilizes a games-like approach to teaching the game of basketball to young kids. As this is an entry level course, it does not offer certification. A coach who has taken the FUNDamentals course will receive the designation of being *Trained*.

L2T is the first certification course available for coaches. It is a 16-hour course that usually is offered over a weekend. The schedule can certainly be designed to fit the client's needs. It is comprised of approximately equal time spent in the classroom and in the gymnasium.

The classroom is primarily focussed on learning proven coaching techniques whereas the gymnasium is focussed on actual basketball techniques.

Once a coach has completed the 16-hour course, they are *Trained*. To then become certified, a coach is to complete a *Coaching Portfolio* and then will be *Evaluated* at a practice to ensure competency at the L2T level.

In short, a coach will be *Trained*, complete a *Coach Portfolio*, and have a practice *Evaluated* by a certified instructor. Once all three of these requirements are fulfilled, a coach is then **Certified L2T**.

T2T follows the L2T course—L2T certification is a prerequisite to taking the T2T course. It is a 20-hour course that usually is offered over a weekend. The schedule can certainly be designed to fit the client's needs. It is comprised of approximately equal time spent in the classroom and in the gymnasium.

The classroom is primarily focussed on more advanced coaching techniques whereas the gymnasium is focussed on more advanced basketball skills, strategies, and tactics.

Once a coach has completed the 20-hour course, they are *Trained*. To then become certified, a coach is to complete a *Coaching Portfolio* and then will be *Evaluated* at a practice AND a game to ensure competency at the T2T level.

In short, a coach will be *Trained*, complete a *Coach Portfolio*, and have a practice and game *Evaluated* by a certified instructor. Once all three of these requirements are fulfilled, a coach is then **Certified T2T**.

T2C is comprised of three specific courses, each designed to be higher-level learning opportunities for coaches at advanced or higher levels—it is primarily for college level coaches or school and community coaches who are at an advanced level.

Each T2C course consists of a 20+ hour clinic followed by an advanced coaching portfolio followed by a more extensive evaluation process.

In fear of presenting T2C as an out-of-reach coach certification opportunity for the average coach, suffice it to say that T2C is geared more towards the serious coach at a higher level.

And, yes, T2C offers a certification process as well.

NCCP **Core Competencies** at all levels are the backbone of this valued national certification program.

- Valuing
- Interacting
- Leading
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking

When you take an NCCP course, these Core Competencies will be highlighted throughout. Coaches will then be encouraged to implement these core competencies into their coaching approach with their teams/players.

Further to this, **Learning Outcomes** complement the Core Competencies.

- Making Ethical Decisions (MED)
- Plan a Practice
- Support Athletes in Training
- Support Athletes in Competition
- Analyze Performance (EDC & Referent Model)
- Design your Program
- Manage your Program

In conclusion, the NCCP is a highly regarded coach certification program recognized around the world. It includes and encompasses the best-in-class coaching techniques and offers coaches the opportunity to become a **Certified Coach** in Canada.