



Guide to Canada Soccer's Modified Safe Sport Roster

Requirements for Coaches in the Community Stream

June 5th, 2023

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Introduction

The Canada Soccer Safe Sport Roster is a progressive package of programs, policies, and procedures designed to ensure that organizations that offer soccer programming in Canada create safe, fun, developmentally appropriate, inclusive, accessible, and welcoming experiences for all participants.

For amateur soccer organizations in Canada, the expansion of the Canada Soccer Youth Club Licensing Program as a requirement of membership has been implemented as a direct result of the unanimous adoption of the Canada Soccer Safe Sport Roster at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Members.

Ahead of the start of the 2023 soccer season, all Clubs that offer youth soccer programming in a Canada Soccer Member Association Province and Territory are required to meet the minimum standards a Quality Soccer Provider (QSP) as defined by the Canada Soccer Youth Club Licensing Program. Within the Standards for Quality Soccer, is the Safe Sport Roster, which requires that coaches are trained and/or certified appropriately for the program(s) in which they coach.

On January 26, 2023, Canada Soccer [announced](#) the Canada Soccer Modified Safe Sport Roster, which introduced requirements for coaches coaching in the “Community” stream, commonly known in Ontario as “Recreational” or “House League” programs.

Coaches coaching in the “Community” stream must complete the following:

1. Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screen
2. Canada Soccer Grassroots Coach Education – Coaching Soccer in Canada Module
3. Respect in Sport Activity Leader Program

This document will serve as a quick guide to help “Community” stream coaches meet these requirements.

The process for completing the Criminal Record Check will not be covered in this guide, as these vary from District to District. Please connect with your Club for instructions on how to complete this, and with your District Association for specific frequency requirements. To clarify: Canada Soccer recommends these be completed every three years, however, some Districts may have alternative criteria.



The Locker / NCCP

The first step is to create an account on the Coaching Association of Canada's The Locker, if you do not already have one.

The Locker maintains the records of a growing community of over 2 million coaches in Canada of coach training offered through the National Coaches Certification Program (NCCP) and its partners.

Please follow these steps:

1. Navigate to [The Locker](#)
2. Click on "Don't have an NCCP#? Create one now!"
3. Check the "Consent" box and click "Continue"
4. Check the "Account registration" box and enter your information
5. Click on Register

Make sure to note your newly-assigned NCCP#, as you will need it through the next steps.



Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders

The Respect in Soccer (RiS) program was introduced in 2011 to provide coaches with invaluable information about coaching and essential approaches around working with youngsters in an appropriately respectful and nurturing coaching environment. RiS is an e-learning program for coaches, trainers, managers and any adult with a supervisory role over youth involved in soccer. It is designed as a tool to assist participants in identifying and dealing with abuse, neglect, harassment and bullying in sport.

To complete this program, follow these steps:

1. Navigate to [Respect in Sport For Activity Leaders program webpage](#)
2. Click on "Click here to register now", then "NEW USER"
3. Enter your information
 - a. Make sure to "Allow" Communication to the NCCP and provide your NCCP#
4. Click on "SUBMIT REGISTRATION"
5. Click on PROGRAM ACCESS and PAY NOW
6. Follow the prompts on your screen to complete the program

Once you've completed the Respect in Sport program, you will be able to access your program certificate. If you entered your NCCP# when you created your account, you will also see your Respect in Sport credit appear in your Locker transcript.



Canada Soccer Grassroots Coach Education – Coaching Soccer in Canada Module

What is the Coaching Soccer in Canada Module?

The Coaching Soccer in Canada Module is available **only** as the introduction module to any of the Grassroots Coach Education Program (GCE) workshops. These workshops are:

- [Active Start](#) (for coaching players aged U4-U5)
- [FUNDamentals](#) (for coaching players aged U6-U9)
- [Learn to Train](#) (for coaching players aged U9-U12)
- [Soccer for Life](#) (for coaching players aged U13+)

All GCE workshops listed above are separated into three distinct components:

1. Coaching Soccer in Canada Module (*online*)
2. Online Theory Module (*online*)
3. On-Field Practical (*in-person, on-field*)

As stated in the Canada Soccer Modified Safe Sport Roster, “Community” stream coaches only need to complete the Coaching Soccer in Canada Module: essentially, only the first third of a GCE workshop.

How does a coach access the Coaching Soccer in Canada Module?

To access the module, coaches can:

- purchase an access key from the [Canada Soccer Coach Education Store](#), or
- contact their Club to acquire a key, as some Clubs purchase and distribute the keys to their Coaches

To purchase an access key yourself, please follow the steps below:

1. Navigate to the [Canada Soccer Coach Education Store](#)
2. Click on “Grassroots Coach Education Program”
3. Click on the workshop appropriate for you, depending on the age of the player you are/will be coaching
4. Enter the Quantity (1 if purchasing only for yourself) and click on “Add to Cart”
5. Select the “As an individual option” and click on “Add a note to your order”
 - a. Enter your information as requested: “(First Name) (Last Name) (E-mail Address)”
Avoid using commas or quotation marks in this section
6. Click on “Check Out”



7. Enter your payment information and complete the payment
8. Check your email and follow the instructions to redeem your access key
 - a. When redeeming your access key, make sure to provide your NCCP#
9. Once you've redeemed your access key, you will receive another email with your login details to the [Canada Soccer SmarterU Academy](#). Follow the link and enter your login details to finish setting up your account

How does a coach complete the Coaching Soccer in Canada Module?

1. Navigate to the [Canada Soccer SmarterU Academy](#) and login
2. The Homepage will show the workshop you have enrolled in
3. Scroll down, click on Coaching Soccer in Canada to expand the section, then click on "Start"
4. Follow the instructions on the screen until you've completed the module
 - a. You will receive confirmation of this on the screen, as well as an automated email

At this point, you have completed this requirement for Community coaches per the Canada Soccer Modified Safe Sport Roster.

If you are interested in completing the entire GCE workshop that you have accessed, you are able to do so. Continue to login to the Canada Soccer SmarterU Academy until you have completed the Online Theory Module. Once you have completed this and are ready to register for the On-Field Practical Component, refer back to the specific workshop webpages linked at the beginning of this section for information on how to do this.



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