

CLUB LICENSING STANDARDS FOR QUALITY SOCCER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



CANADA SOCCER FAQ RESPONSES

Why should my organization want to be a part of the Licensing Program?

Beyond intrinsic motivation, to align operations to best practices and principles, the benefits to member organizations are built around a four-corner approach: **Reward, Recognition, Differentiation,** and **Access to Competition.**

Member Associations meeting the criteria of each classification within the Club Licensing Program will be recognized accordingly by Canada Soccer. In addition, the use of classification within the Club Licensing Program as a means of differentiation from other programs and organizations may provide significant benefit in player recruitment as well as assurance to participating players (and their parents) of the quality of the organization within which they participate.

My organization is relatively small and run entirely by volunteers, where do I fit into the Club Licensing Program?

The Canada Soccer Club Licensing Program is designed to be inclusive of all. A series of foundational requirements that form the Canada Soccer Standards for Quality Soccer have been developed that, along with the conditions and expectations of membership, create baseline expectations for all organizations. Providing a developmentally appropriate, safe, enjoyable, accessible, inclusive and welcoming playing environment, which differentiates it from non-member soccer.

Is it expected that the organization meet all of the criteria at the time of application?

No. It is recognized that some criteria will take time to implement. While some criteria must be met at the time of application, others are considered “actionable.” All criteria will be reviewed at the time of application with an Action Plan created to achieve the criteria within the timeframe outlined should it not be in place initially. The criteria that are required at the time of application and those that are actionable are identified with the Support Manual <https://albertasoccer.com/quality-soccer-provider/>

ALBERTA SOCCER FAQ REPSONSES

Do coaches need to do a coaching certificate for every team they coach?

Yes, the Grassroots Coaching Stream is aligned to the relative stages of development within the Long-Term Player Development model. This means that the program content reflects the players stage and age of development. Therefore, the

requirement is that coaches should be trained within each stage/s they wish to coach. Also, if a coach is supporting multiple stages of development, they should subsequently be trained within these stages to reflect the needs of the program and players.



It should also be recognized that the Advanced Coaching Pathway provides training to a higher level of development and requires an evaluation. Coaches who have gained the C License and additional safe sport requirements are permitted to coach at all stages within the Grassroots Stream.

I am just a team manager; do I need to be coach trained?

All team officials are required to undertake Respect in Sport, Making Ethical Decisions and complete a Police Clearance to reflect their role. All coaches (as indicated previously) are required to pursue coach training to reflect the stage of development they are supporting. This requirement applies to lead and assistant coaches.

I have done safety training through my work; do I still need to do Respect in Sport?

Yes, coaches are required to undertake Respect in Sport and Making Ethical Decisions, as both programs relate safety aspects, to the sporting environment. These programs provide sport specific training for all personnel supporting players and programs within their environment and community.

How do I obtain a Coaching Association Canada Number?

All coaches and potential coaches are required to obtain and maintain their coach development training portfolio through the CAC (Coaching Association of Canada) Locker, a personal number may be obtained through the following link.

<https://thelocker.coach.ca/account/login?ReturnUrl=%2f>

How long does a Police Clearance last?

A police clearance must be updated every three years.

I have a National B Licence from 2007, do I need to re-take this?

All Advanced coaching certificates are valid for a renewal period, based upon a three-year cycle, therefore any certificates obtained outside of three years must be renewed to maintain their licence. Information upon the renewal process may be found at

<https://www.canadasoccer.com/coach/maintenance-and-renewals/>

How long does the Club Licence last?

Typically, the Club Licence will be reviewed on a two-year cycle, however the templates provided are working documents and it is encouraged that organizations seek to maintain these on a regular basis.

Is there a fee for application?

There is no fee for Soccer Providers applying for the Standards of Quality Soccer. This process should also be seen as a positive self-audit mechanism to identify potential resource and development opportunities within all organizations.

Will ASA be auditing my facilities?

Organizations are required to initially submit the evidence to their Districts for review, once a local review is completed, these will be passed on to Alberta Soccer and consequently Canada Soccer. The review may encompass a physical or a virtual review.

Can a Club Licensing status be revoked?

The goal of the program is to promote safe sport and a inclusive environment, if an organization demonstrates non-compliance to the standards, an attempt will be made to address areas of concern through developing a suitable action plan. If this is not adhered to, then a license may be revoked.

Should our grassroots program play festival style?

Canada Soccer advocates that programs adopt the festival format of play for children under 12 years of age. This is where most development and fun is nurtured in sport and where the focus should remain upon participation and not formative game play.

Can I advertise on my website once I get Club Licensing?

Yes, all Organization's achieving endorsement will be provided with an opportunity to differentiate and display a nationally recognized logo and promote their achievement within future promotions.

With Club Licensing, can I take a team to Nationals?

Endorsement will become a recognized criterion for participation within future Provincial and National competitions. So eventually Provincial competitions will be aligned to those member organizations who have met the criteria of the National Club Standards at each respective level/s of criteria.

Can I move to the next level of National Standards after attaining the Standards for Quality Soccer?

Alberta Soccer will be seeking to roll out the consequential levels of club licencing once the Standards for Quality Soccer has been established. The next step will mirror a similar process and allow those organizations who choose to, pursue recognition at Provincial Club Licensing, Members Association (MA) Level one and Two. Further information will become available for these when applicable.

Will we get notification of any updates to policies and procedures?

Alberta Soccer will endeavour to provide updates on all emerging best practice guides and policies through regular communications.

Should our Organization create a Safe Sport page on my website?

All organizations are encouraged to adopt and implement a recognized Safe Sport page within the website page. The objective would be to present a uniform page for all organizational websites across the Province, that will allow for easy and prominent access to all related Safe Sport considerations.

If you have any additional questions, then please contact the Manager of Grassroots Development;
grassroots@albertasoccer.com