



ACA COACHING PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why should I become a Coach?

One of the most important positions in a Club is the Coach.

Coaches are role models, well respected and play a vital role in supporting and developing others.

They provide players with the skills, knowledge, techniques and tactics needed to improve and succeed.

Accredited Coaches have a huge influence on others and can potentially improve a player's performance and also their career.

It is extremely rewarding and enjoyable to be a Coach.

What is the ACA National Coaching Program?

The National Coaching Program is part of the ACAs Learning and Development (L&D) framework that provides clear pathways, skills, knowledge and development opportunities for all Coaches and Presenters across all disciplines throughout Australia.

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and the Australian Croquet Association Inc. (ACA) have worked together to develop a coaching program that caters for all levels of croquet disciplines played.

It is the framework used Nationally to ensure everyone in every state receives consistent, quality and accessible training at the level they require.

What are the Coaching Levels?

Level 1 Beginner.

Level 2 Club Member.

Level 3 Interstate/International.

Level 4 International.

Which Disciplines and Coaching Levels are available?

Golf Croquet Coach Level 1, 2, 3

Association Croquet Coach Level 1, 2, 3, 4

Ricochet Coach Level 1, 2

Gateball Coach Level 1, 2, 3

How can I become an accredited Croquet Australia Coach?

Complete an application form or contact your State Coaching Coordinator (SCC) for more details. Their contact details can be found HERE <https://croquet-australia.com.au/>

Once the coach application is approved, courses/sessions are then scheduled with a qualified, trained presenter.

Competency training is then provided and successful participants are officially recognised.

What are the criteria to be a Croquet Australia accredited Coach?

The criteria to be an ACA accredited coach can be found on the application form located on the ACA and State Association websites.

A flow chart is also available to refer to. (Refer to attachment 1)

What are General Principles?

The ASC General Principles course was initially a 4-hour online course. Now it is a 1-hour face to face course that must be completed by all current coaches and covers the fundamental principles of coaching that apply across all sports.

What is Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and how is it used?

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is all about the skills and knowledge a person has developed through work and life experiences and then transferring them to current training course requirements. RPL may be used in an application or given by Presenters/Assessors for any or all elements of the National Coaching Program. The Presenter/Assessor must be satisfied that those seeking RPL are competent in those elements of the program for which they are seeking RPL.

Who needs a Working with Childrens Check?

All Coaches must complete a Working With Children Check (WWCC) before they can attend any coach training. State and Territories have their own requirements in relation to WWCC and/or Working With Vulnerable People so you should check with your own State Association.

Do I have to use a logbook?

Yes, we need an accurate record of the hours and levels dedicated to coaching for planning purposes and to demonstrate currency as a coach.

Where do I find the logbook?

The Coach Logbook can be located on the ACA Learning Management System (LMS). <https://croquet-australia.com.au/>

Coach Logbooks can be used online or hardcopies can be printed and completed.

Can I photocopy the Coaching Manuals?

The ACA Coaching Manuals should not be copied. However, there will be PDFs of various skills and drills on the ACA Learning Management System <https://croquet-australia.com.au/> that are available for printing. These can be used by coaches and players.

I am having trouble signing in the Learning Management System

Contact the National Coaching Co-ordinator Greg Bury or the Assistant National Coaching Coordinator Barb Piggott if you require assistance signing into the Learning Management System. Their details can be found on the ACA website. <https://croquet-australia.com.au/>

Do I require a First Aid certificate?

It is not mandatory for Coaches to obtain their First Aid Certificate. However, it is desirable and is something you should discuss with your Club as there may be grant funding available for coaches and other members to complete a First Aid/CPR course and well as training in how to operate a defibrillator.

Please be aware of where the First Aid cabinet and defibrillator is located at your Club and how to contact emergency services if needed.

How long does the accreditation last?

ACA Coach accreditation is valid for 4 years and refresher training is provided every 2 years.

Refresher Training

Refresher Training is now due and the course content has been reviewed for all disciplines. The SCC's will be rolling out Refresher Training shortly in each State.

What is the difference between Coaching and a Mentoring?

Coaching should be delivered by an accredited Coach and refers to a method of training, guidance or instruction to an individual or a group on how to develop skills to enhance their performance, achieve their goals and reach their full potential.

Mentoring is often provided by a more experienced and trusted advisor, who may or may not be a current or former accredited Coach. The role of a mentor involves sharing their knowledge, skills and/or experience to help another to develop and grow.

Coach example

A player is having trouble making a hoop/gate. An accredited Coach may provide instruction to the player in relation to adjusting their technique, stance, position or type of shot and advise on specific tactics the player can employ to allow them to have greater success in making a hoop/gate.

Mentor Example

A player just lost a match and the Mentor provided some encouragement, support and/or feedback to assist the player to reflect on the key learnings from the game and how to approach the next match.

Mentors are not qualified to provide any coaching advice unless they are an accredited Coach.

Can I coach at my Club if I am not Accredited?

It is highly desirable that all Club Coaches are ACA accredited. All Clubs should aspire to provide members with at least one qualified/accredited coach for every discipline they offer.

Whilst all ACA members, volunteers and players are covered for general insurance and personal accidents if they are acting in connection with Club activities whilst conforming to the rules of the Club, only ACA accredited Coaches are covered for professional indemnity insurance.

All ACA Accredited Clubs Coaches are required to follow the National Coaching Program.

The ACA and State Associations are here to help and assist with this process.

What is a Club Head Coach?

It is strongly recommended that all Clubs appoint a Head Coach.

The Head Coach is responsible for overseeing, planning and providing training for all disciplines and levels.

All Club coaches report to the Head Coach and are rostered when needed.

Training Manuals and Badges

There is now a National hub in Canberra. Any State requiring additional manuals or badges can order them by contacting the ACA Administrative Officer – Rob Murray via email admin@croquet-australia.com.au Reprints will be completed if needed. All manuals and badges are provided to all successful candidates free of charge.

National and State Coaching Coordinators

The National Coaching Coordinator (NCC), the Assistant National Coaching Coordinator (ANCC) and State Coaching Coordinators all play a vital role in planning and coordinating Coach Presenters to provide training for our Coaches and assist in reviewing the content for the National Coaching Program.

The contact details for the NCC, ANCC and SCCs can be found on the ACA Website. <https://croquet-australia.com.au/>

Youth Training Program

The Youth Training Program manuals and resources have been reviewed and Clubs have been nominated to trial the session plans.

The ACA are currently working with the ASC to roll this program out nationally as part of the Sporting Schools program.

Every National Sporting Organisation must provide their members with Accredited Coaches

Croquet Australia has a National Coaching Program that has been developed to service all disciplines at every level.

The key ACA requirements in relation to the National Coaching Program include:

- Only ACA Accredited Coaches are recognised and qualified to coach in all ACA affiliated Clubs, State Associations and for the ACA.
- It is highly desirable that all Affiliated Clubs provide their members with current accredited coaches to be able to deliver safe, effective and enjoyable coaching programs for all players.
- It is strongly recommended that all Clubs appoint a Head Coach to oversee and drive their coach and player development programs.
- All ACA Accredited Coaches are required to follow the National Coaching Program and ensure their qualifications remain up to date.
- An incident report should be completed in the event of any injury that occurs during a coaching session. A sample injury report form can be found on the Croquet Queensland website at <https://www.croquetqld.org/incident/>

ACA Insurance requirements

- All ACA accredited coaches & officials are covered by the ACA's professional indemnity insurance for breaches of professional duty.
- Any member/player of ACA is covered for personal accidents when actively engaged in and appropriately registered for the purpose of playing the sport of croquet or associated disciplines. This includes any officials and/or volunteers acting for and on behalf of any Club, Region, State Association or the ACA.
- All volunteers and members are covered if they are acting in connection with Club/organisation activities whilst conforming to the rules of the Club or organisation.
- General liability is provided for all Clubs and their facilities. It covers any member, player or volunteer acting in connection with Club activities.

Please note: Whilst all ACA members, volunteers and players are covered for general insurance and personal accidents if they are acting in connection with Club activities whilst conforming to the rules of the Club, only ACA accredited Coaches are covered for professional indemnity insurance.

There may be an element of risk to members, volunteers and players who provide instruction or direct a member/player and that person is injured. The Club and the person providing the instruction may be liable for any injuries a person sustains as a result of any instruction or direction given by a non-accredited coach.

Special Thanks

On behalf of the ACA, we would like to acknowledge and thank all ACA accredited coaches who continue to train and develop our players across Australia.

Our special thanks to our active State Coaching Coordinators and our Presenters and Mentors across Australia who do an amazing job developing our current and future coaches and players.

The ACA appreciates everything you are doing!

COACHING APPLICATION PROCESS



