

CANADA SOCCER | GRASSROOTS COACH EDUCATION

Coaches are the heartbeat of soccer in Canada and the closest connection to its greatest resource, the players. Quality coaches support the player experience and help foster environments that are safe, fun, accessible, inclusive, and welcoming, and developmentally appropriate, building relationships with families and ensuring players return year after year. To ensure coaches have the appropriate training to delivery a high-quality experience, the Canada Soccer Safe Sport Roster presents the required minimum standards of training for all coaches in Canada. More information on the Canada Soccer Coach Education Minimum Standards is [available here](#). To make it easier to access this training, the flowchart below includes information on the required trainings and direct links to register.

CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK WITH VULNERABLE SECTOR SCREEN

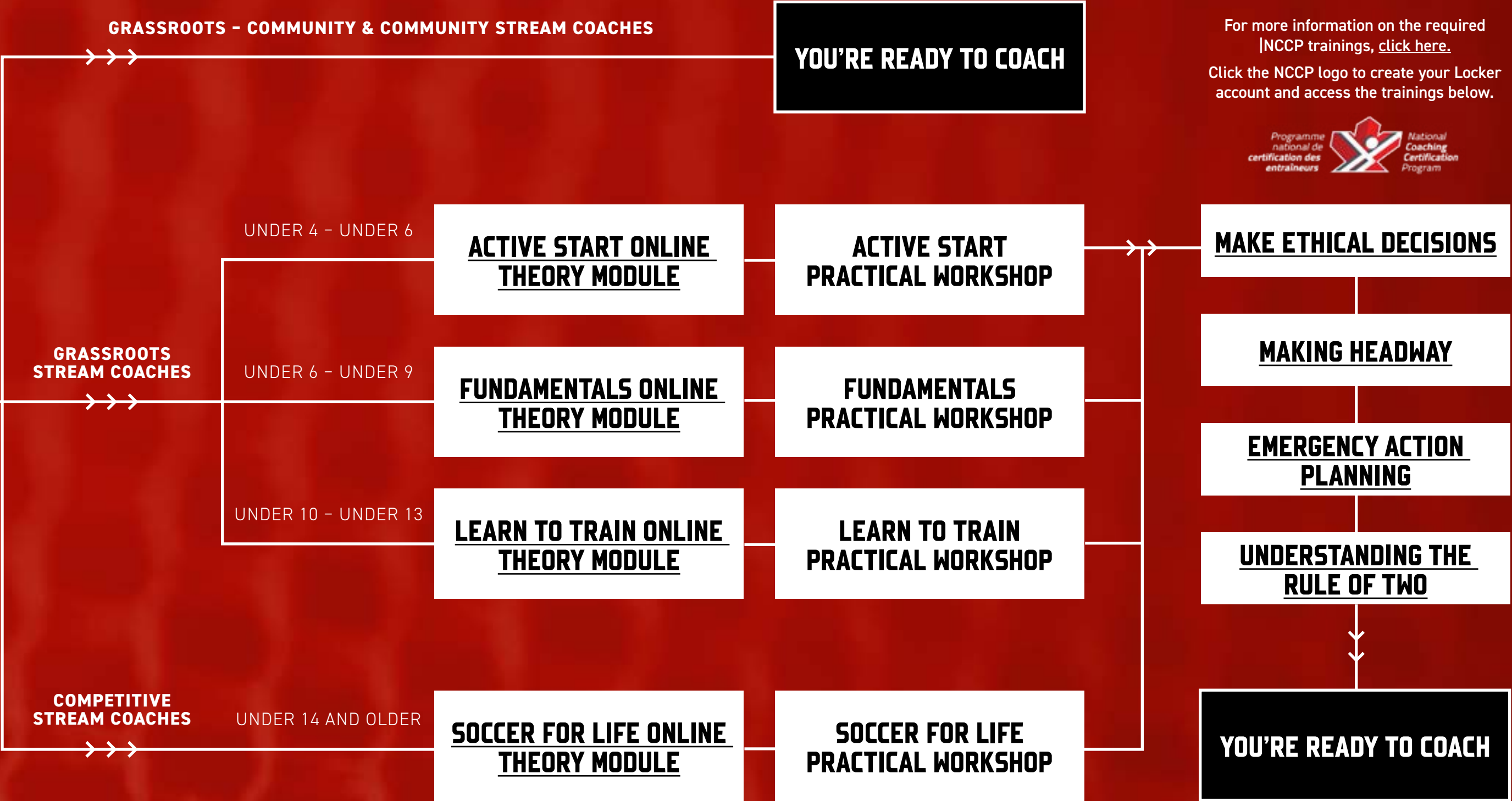
To complete a Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Screen, contact your local Police Service or RCMP. A letter from the club outlining the coaching role can be helpful.

COACHING SOCCER IN CANADA

Coaching Soccer in Canada is a foundational online training to support new coaches. It is the first module of each online theory module and can be accessed by purchasing the training for the age you are coaching.

RESPECT IN SPORT FOR ACTIVITY LEADERS

The Respect in Sport Activity Leader Program educates coaches to recognize, understand and respond to issues of bullying, abuse, harassment, and discrimination and is a foundation component of ensuring a safe environment for all.



For more information on the required INCCP trainings, [click here](#).
Click the NCCP logo to create your Locker account and access the trainings below.



For more information on the Grassroots Coach Education Program, [click here](#).



As coaches gain experience and transition into Competitive and Development/Performance Stream programs, additional trainings may be required through the [Canada Soccer Advanced Coach Education Program](#).
For more information on the specific coaching requirements for your programs and Grassroots Practical Workshops, click your Provincial/Territorial Member Association logo for a Directory of Contacts.



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CANADA SOCCER ECOSYSTEM STREAMS OF PARTICIPATION:

GRASSROOTS STREAM

Within the Canada Soccer Ecosystem, Grassroots is defined as all programming up to Under 13. Guided by the [Canada Soccer Grassroots Standards](#), this includes the first three stages of Long-term Player Development; Active Start, Fundamentals, and Learn to Train. The primary goal in grassroots soccer is for the players to have fun and fall in love with the game at an early age because a child's first experience in sport can leave a lasting impression, igniting a passion for soccer that will fuel development in the years to come. Within the Grassroots Stream, there are community-based programs, which are more recreational in nature and programs with a higher developmental focus, which typically includes more commitment to training and formally organized play. There are different coaching requirements for Grassroots and Grassroots-Community Programs. To confirm what training you require as a coach, please contact your Provincial/Territorial Member Association.

COMMUNITY STREAM

Community Stream programming focuses on fun, friendship, and staying active and is connected to the Soccer for Life stage of Long-term Player Development for players at Under 14 and older. These programs are typically offered locally with limited commitment and travel required. At youth ages, this may include house leagues, recreational soccer, or other similar programs. At senior ages, programs like men's, women's, and co-ed adult recreational leagues, as well as different age classifications (e.g., Over 35, Over 50) and modalities (e.g., Walking Soccer, small-sided or drop-in senior leagues) ensure adults can continue to participate in Soccer for Life.

COMPETITIVE STREAM

While continuing to facilitate fun, friendship, and physical activity, Competitive Stream programming also focuses on testing oneself against others of similar ability in competitive environments at Under 14 and older. Players in the Competitive Stream are generally more committed to training than community soccer and leagues and tournament play often involve travel. Across the country, these programs are known by many different terms including, select, all-star, travel, A, AA, or AAA and are typically operated by clubs or regionally. Connected to the Soccer for Life – Competitive stage, the Competitive Stream often includes Provincial/Territorial Championships and culminates in the Canada Soccer National Championships for Under 15, Under 17, Men's, Women's, Men's Masters (Over 35), and Women's Masters (Over 30) teams.

NATIONAL COACH CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (NCCP) TRAININGS:

NCCP MAKE ETHICAL DECISIONS

training and online evaluation equips coaches to handle ethical situations with confidence and surety. The training helps coaches identify the legal, ethical, and moral implications of difficult situations that present themselves in the world of team and individual sport. The NCCP Make Ethical Decisions module is a cornerstone of the NCCP and is required to achieve "trained" status within the Grassroots Coaching Program.

NCCP MAKING HEAD WAY IN SPORT

is the NCCP's free, online answer to the prevalence and ambiguity of concussions in sport. Parents, coaches, and athletes all benefit from knowing as much as possible about concussions; this online learning tool is designed to help coaches gain the knowledge and skills required to ensure the safety of their athletes.

NCCP EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

is a free 15-minute online training that prepares coaches to respond calmly, quickly, and effectively if a sport participant is seriously injured during practice or competition.

NCCP UNDERSTANDING THE RULE OF TWO

is a free 20-minute online training on the importance of ensuring all interactions between coach and athlete are open, observable, and justifiable. The [Rule of Two](#) is an essential component to ensure the safety of both athlete and coach.



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For more information on the Canada Soccer Ecosystem, please visit the [Canada Soccer website](#).

