



BCU Coaching Awards Update - New BCU Coaching Awards Roll out

Following the initial National Trainer training and Phase 1 training courses it is clear that we need to gain ourselves some catch-up time to ensure that the required resources for the roll out of the new learning programmes are fully in place.

The original timeline for both National Trainer training and Phase 1 training was set against the scheduled roll out of the new Level 1 learning programme in April this year. This timeline itself was set against the overall UKCC set timeline for the implementation of UKCC endorsed awards by the end of 2007.

Despite the challenges this timeline presented, members of the National Source Group (NSG) and everyone associated with the development have been working very hard to that end and we remain fully committed to the new BCU Coach Education programme and firmly believe that the changes, along with National accreditation will benefit both paddlers and coaches.

However, and while bolstered by the increasing recognition of the benefits of the emerging BCU Coach Education Programme and the support of engaged coaches and volunteers, the NSG, mindful of the feedback from these early training courses, has been able to challenge the UKCC deadline to gain the opportunity of further time to complete the final resource requirements and provide a more effective launch of the new scheme.

As always in such instances a revision of timeline arrangements may well be seen as a negative step. However, it is clear that the immediate roll out of Level 1 in April would not be to the standard we feel is acceptable or that which our members and coaches deserve. We therefore hope that you will recognise and support this move.

See the timeline page 11.

What does this delay mean for:-

Temporary Training Directors - In order to best manage the new timeline arrangements it is necessary to put a temporary freeze, with immediate effect, on Phase 1 re-orientation as it is here that the complete resource requirements are needed in order that the full details of the new levels can be fully appreciated.

A revised re-orientation course programme and timeline will be circulated as soon as details are available.

- If you are currently booked on a course – please note the postponement of this training will affect you. We will contact you separately to either refund or transfer any payments made.
- If you have already completed the Level 1 orientation day we will forward the resources to you when complete along with final learning programme guidance and registration details.
- If you have Phase 2 elements to your action plan - Once we have completed the Phase 2 application process and set a programme for re-training we will circulate this to you. The application audit is planned for April / May.
- If you are planning to run a new Level 1 course prior to the autumn please contact James Glover – 08453709513 or e mail james.glover@bcu.org.uk to let us know your dates and plans.

Phase 2 Applicants - The timeline for phase 2 applications to be audited is set for April / May 07. Once this has been completed we will contact each and every applicant to confirm the orientation requirements and programme.

Contracted Course Providers (CCP's) – The remit of the CCP's will be extended to meet the extended opportunities for the running of old style BCU courses. Application for course authorisation is as previous.

Coaches - As we have stated throughout there is no immediate impact on any existing coaches. All will be continued to be recognised. Transfer to the new scheme will be a personal journey. Remember the only date to bear in mind here is 2012 by which time we hope we will have provided opportunities for all coaches to transfer their awards. In the short term however, don't worry if you're confused, there is no panic to rush and do anything. **BCU Star Awards** - while there will be the need for some coaches to attend updates to Star Award assessment there is no link between this and the need to transfer to the new coaching awards. Existing coaches will be able to attend the required updates. The requirements here will be confirmed by the end of April.

Approved Centres - BCU recommendations to approved centres will not be subject to any immediate change. If there is a requirement to employ existing coaches or train staff within the existing scheme then you should go-ahead. Training within the existing scheme can continue against the revised timeline on page 11.

In making the above decisions and in circulating the information to you the UKCMC and the NSG would again firmly underline their commitment to the new BCU Coaching Awards, confirming that the focus for the timeline reviews are set against the completion of resources and subsequent training and **not against any concern as to the suitability of UKCC endorsement to Paddlesport or of the current Level 1 learning programme.**

Earlier communications, discussions and requests for comment re the remit of the Level 1 award relate simply to the specified recommended NGB remit for the Level 1 Coach. In this respect, and as we have stated on numerous occasions, we continue to press the principles of the UKCC to ensure that endorsement outcomes, while clearly needing to meet the sport wide endorsement criteria set, reflect the specific technical and remit needs of paddlesport coaches.

There has been much concern as to the 'assistant' remit of the Level 1 coach award and with your help, along with club concerns and partners in the wider outdoor industry we have now managed to ensure that the Level 1 remit reflects those concerns.

A Level 1 Coach is trained and assessed to assist BCU Level 2 Coaches and above, delivering aspects of a coaching session, normally under direct supervision.

The Level 1 coach can operate alone in very sheltered water (e.g. small lakes / quiet canals with easy bank side access and egress) with groups of up to 8 paddlers, if the Level 1 coach to follow.

A deployer / employer can use a Level 1 coach in sheltered water (e.g. flat water rivers, specified or zoned areas of larger lakes) situations, if the coach has undertaken site specific, in house training.

There is no restriction as to whom the Level 1 can assist; this will be dependent upon their personal experience, the venue, coaching group, and the Level 1's area of interest. The Level 1 Coach can assess the BCU Discovery Award and PaddlePower Start.

The Level 1 Coach is able to coach participants in flat-hulled and keeled, solo and tandem canoes and kayaks, up to BCU 1 Star and PaddlePower Passport standard.

Star Award Revisions

The planned roll out of the revisions to the Star Award scheme are going ahead as planned with the new awards offered from September 2007 onwards. A further update on the update requirements will be issued in the next edition of Code.

Finally, while some may feel that this timeline review is a negative move or if the review has affected your plans and diary commitments we apologise, however, we hope that all will appreciate the desire to ensure the overall success of the new BCU Coaching Awards.

New BCU Coaching Awards Timeline Review

We are confident we can achieve a quality product being implemented on the following dates, providing we achieve awarding body status and endorsement by 1st May 2007. Delays in this process will cause a knock on effect to these dates.

New Awards:

Level 1	First courses from 1 st October 2007
Level 2	First courses from 1 st October 2007
Level 3	First courses from 2008 (Exact date to be communicated during May 2007)
Level 4	First courses from 2008 (Exact date to be communicated during May 2007)

Flat Water Safety Module - First courses from '08 (Exact date to be communicated during May 07)

Specialist Safety Modules - First courses from '08 (Exact date communicated during May 07)

Level 5 To be confirmed

Current Awards:

Level 1	Run until 31 st August 2007
Level 2 Training	Run until 31 st August 2007
Level 2 Assessment	Run until end of 2009
Level 3 Training	Run through to autumn 2007 (details to be communicated during May 2007)
Level 3 Assessment	Run until end of 2009
Level 4	No further registrations
Level 5 Training	Will continue for the foreseeable future - details to be communicated
Level 5 Assessment	Run until end of 2009
Coaching Process	Run until 2008 (details to be communicated during May 2007)
CST	Will continue as a pre-requisite for coaching awards into 2008
WWSR	Run until 2008 (details to be communicated during May 2007)

