

The Canadian Soccer Association

‘A’ License Program

Aim of the Program

To educate and develop coaches to be leaders in the technical/tactical development of soccer in Canada. Candidates will be trained in the practical and theoretical developments in modern soccer, so that they may devise, organize, conduct and evaluate coaching sessions in advanced skills, tactics, strategies and systems of play. Candidates will also better understand and employ the complimentary managerial, and coach-related aspects, appropriate to the role of the coach at the elite levels of soccer.

Structure of the Program

The CSA ‘A’ License Program is divided into two annual periods of ten days. Both periods will be conducted as residential courses, approximately twelve months apart, at the National Training Centre in Toronto. Each candidate will be required to complete a Log Book, involving a number of team related assignments between parts 1 and 2. Both Part 1 and Part 2 will include practical and theoretical aspects of study with the Final Practical assessments being held during Part 2 of the course.

Program Objectives

On completion of the Program, successful candidates will be competent in the following and be able to:

- Operate effectively in a variety of coaching situations with players and teams at the elite level of Youth and/or Senior Soccer.
- Plan, organize, conduct and evaluate practical coaching sessions on various aspects of play.
- Plan, organize, conduct and evaluate a year round development Program.
- Successfully employ various coaching and teaching methods and styles as appropriate to the needs of the players.
- Analyze both individual and team performance and thereby devise practices and training to suit the needs of the players and team.
- Understand the physical and physiological demands of playing the game, and so devise specific training and conditioning programs as necessary.
- Understand the importance and timely application of the various theoretical aspects appropriate to the role of the coach at the elite level.

Who is eligible?

Applications are welcomed from all qualified coaches. Due to the limited number of places, applications are accepted on a first come first served basis and 24 coaches will be selected to enter the Program. Only those applicants with the following certification and experience will be considered:

- CSA B License-National (Good Pass)
- CSA B License-National (Canadian Equivalency awarded based on overseas certification)
- Acceptable International Certification (CSA Technical Department approval required)

Program Content

The following aspects will be included in the program curriculum:

- Development & Use of Possession
- Possession Skills
- Tactical Use of Possession
- Development of Flank Play
- Working with a winger
- Central Attacking Play
- Attacking & Defending at Set Plays
- Positional Profiles
- Defending in the Attacking Third
- Defending in the Midfield Third
- Defending in the Attacking Third
- Defending when Outnumbered
- Defending in Wide Positions
- Defending in Central Positions
- Physical Preparation for Soccer
- Communication and the Coach
- Psychology and the Coach
- Game Planning
- Game Analysis
- Goal Setting
- Season/Year Planning
- Developing and Delivering a Training Program

Various coaching styles and methods will be developed throughout the course, and the use of small sided games (9v9), functional practices, phase of play and 11v11 game structures will be employed in the presentation of the practical content.

Course Results:

Candidates will receive their results from the Technical Office within 3-4 weeks following the conclusion of the Course unless informed otherwise.

Application Conditions and Requirements

1. Application

To apply for a place on an A License course, please complete and return the enclosed application form, along with proof of eligibility, to the **Technical Office, The Canadian Soccer Association, BMO Field, 170 Princes Blvd., Toronto, Ontario, M6K 3C3**. A **certified cheque** in the amount of the course fee, made payable to The Canadian Soccer Association should accompany each application. **Please note, any applications without a certified cheque will not be considered.**

The Canadian Soccer Association has introduced a new fee structure for their National Licensing Courses as follows:

Residency: The Residency course fee includes the cost of tuition, course materials, all meals and accommodation.

Commuter: The Commuter course fee includes the cost of tuition, course materials, and lunch each day.

Note: Flights are not included in the fee and each candidate is responsible for his/her own travel to the course location. Course fees shown include the CSA subsidy for all Canadian Citizens and official residents of Canada.

Download application form in PDF format.

2. Acceptance

Candidates accepted onto an A License Course will be notified as soon as possible after the application is received, and payment acknowledged.

Joining instructions and Course information will be sent to candidates at least 2 weeks before the commencement of the course.

Should a candidate not be accepted onto the course, a full refund will be provided.

Please note, Due to the limited number of places on the CSA “A” License Program, applications are accepted on a first come first served basis and 24 coaches will be selected to enter the Program. Applicants should supply proof of eligibility in order to demonstrate that they can meet the following requirements:

- **Good Pass in the CSA B License Program.**
- **CSA B License-National (Canadian Equivalency awarded based on overseas certification)**
- **Acceptable International Certification (approved by the CSA Technical Department).**

Arrival and Departure Times:

- Course Check-in/Registration is between 6.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. on the first day of the Course.
- Course wrap up is at 1.00 p.m. on the final day of the Course.

3. Cancellation

All cancellations must be made in writing to the Canadian Soccer Association, Technical Department.

Should a candidate withdraw after a position has been offered on either part of the Program, a refund will be made up until seven (7) days prior to the commencement of the course, subject to a \$100 processing fee.

Cancellations made any time within seven (7) days of the commencement of the Course **will not** be subject to a refund.

4. Visiting a Course

The Courses are only available to candidates enrolling on a specific Course and admittance will NOT be provided to visitors.

5. Fitness

It is strongly recommended that Candidates for the CSA ‘A’ License course be in good physical condition to meet the demands of the Course.

- 6. This course of training will be conducted in English.**
- 7. Places on all CSA courses are limited, therefore, you are advised to apply early.**