



New Hampshire Soccer Association NHSA and USSF Coaching Schools



TO NH Coaches and Club Officials
FROM Jeffrey Cousineau – NHSA Director of Coaching Education
RE New Coaching Education Requirements
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NHSA has created two pathways to address the needs of the ‘professional’ and the ‘volunteer’ coach. The two pathways are based on coaching curriculum designed by US Soccer Federation (USSF) and National Soccer Coaches Association (NSCAA). The USSF coaching courses are the primary coaching curriculum promoted and supported by NHSA. All other certifications from other organizations are secondary to the USSF courses.

NHSA COACHING CERTIFICATION PATHWAYS

The NHSA coaching course curriculum has two distinct pathways for both types of coaches as they move through their coaching education:

- **Competitive Level:** The primary pathway focuses on the highly motivated coach who has a strong technical and tactical understanding of the game. These coaches are likely to be ‘professional’ coaches and coach competitive teams that participate in the top divisions of the NHSL and other elite or premier leagues, like MAPLE and NEP.
- **Travel & Recreational Level:** The second pathway focuses on the travel team coaches and recreational coaches. These coaches are likely to be volunteers and work with travel and/or recreational teams. The teams could participate in a recreational league or various travel soccer leagues, but are not in the top divisions (e.g. NHSL Division 2 or 3, or recreational leagues).



NHSA Coaching Education Pathways

Competitive Pathway	Travel and Recreational Pathway
USSF C License or NSCAA High School Diploma	NSCAA Level 5 & 6
USSF D License	NSCAA Level 3 & 4
USSF E License	Youth Module U10-12
USSF F License	Youth Module U6-8

NOTE: *The USSF courses are the primary coaching education pathway and are backwards compatible for the travel/recreational pathway. The Youth Modules and NSCAA level 3 - 6 courses are only valid for the travel/recreational pathway. Coaches transitioning to the competitive pathway will be required to start the educational pathway at the USSF F License.*



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NHSA COACHING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

AGE GROUP	COMPETITIVE LEVEL	TRAVEL & RECREATIONAL
U-6	USSF F License <i>(new USSF on-line course)</i>	State Youth Module U6-8 or USSF F License
U-8	USSF F License <i>(new USSF on-line course)</i>	State Youth Module U6-8 or USSF F License
U-10	USSF E License Prerequisite is the F License	State Youth Module U10-12 or USSF E License
U-12	USSF E License Prerequisite is the F License	State Youth Module U10-12 or USSF E License
U-14	USSF D License Prerequisite is the E License	NSCAA Levels 3 and 4 or USSF D License
U-15 and older	USSF C License or NSCAA High School Diploma	NSCAA Levels 5 and 6 or USSF C License or NSCAA High School Diploma

DESCRIPTION OF COACHING CURRICULUM

1. USSF Licenses

The USSF coaching courses are the primary coaching curriculum promoted and supported by NHSA. All other certifications from other organizations are secondary to the USSF courses. The USSF Licenses are building blocks to the USSF National Coaching Courses. Each builds on proper coaching methodology, training periodization and long term athletic development.

The USSF courses are backwards compatible between the two coaching pathways, Competitive and Travel/Recreational.

NOTE: *The curriculum of the Youth Modules is now overseen by USSF. The coaching certifications will continue to be recognized by state soccer associations, but the certifications are not part of the USSF coaching pathway.*

2. NSCAA Courses

The NSCAA has created a dynamic coaching curriculum and support network for soccer coaches. The courses are structured differently from the USSF courses, but the NSCAA course still cover similar material and topics. The NSCAA coaching curriculum will provide additional coaching courses and resources to NH coaches.

The NSCAA course and the Youth Modules are only valid for the Travel/Recreational pathway. Coaches transitioning to the Competitive pathway will be required to start with the USSF F License.