



New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation National Coaching Accreditation and Development Program (NCAP)



What is the NCAP?

The National Coaching Accreditation and Development Program is an NZIHF initiative to put in place a national ice hockey coaching protocol that will be used to help establish qualified coaches within New Zealand over the next few years.

The NCAP is designed to help form a clear coaching pathway from Club to Rep to National Teams as well as from Learn to Play (LTP) up to Senior Elite level across New Zealand.

It aims to establish mandatory accreditation of all persons actively coaching ice hockey in the country. We will attempt to cross credit all overseas accreditation from National Associations when provided transcripts or certification for any overseas coaches. As well we will fully recognise any older NZIHF Coach Education Courses done in the past using our records.

The NCAP is part of the IIHF Coach Education Program and all qualifications given by the NCAP are IIHF recognised.

Over the next two years ('09 & '10), a graduated protocol will be established to ensure that coaching standards are being upheld across New Zealand with the full and complete backing of the NZIHF and its regional associations. The program began to be established and planned in 2008. In 2009 the protocol will be released and introduced to NZIHF Clubs and Associations beginning April 1st with the plan of full implementation the following season beginning January 1st 2010.

The Philosophy behind the protocol is simple: We believe that by deepening the knowledge base of coaches in NZ we will help develop our players; in turn this will improve our IIHF World Ranking in all grades.

How are we going to do it?

The protocol will focus on two areas: coach education/development (NCAP) and player development. These two distinct areas cannot survive without each other. As one grows, the other needs to blossom right along side it in order for there to be true growth in the sport.

Coaching Education/Development (NCAP)

- Mandatory enrolment of all active coaches with each club in New Zealand (through the Coach's Code of Conduct agreement form and Club Coaches Registration form)
- Mandatory 'Basic Coaching Course' for all Club and Rep Coaches (beginning April '09)

- Offering 'Learn To Play' directives to coaches to follow along from the 'Basic Coaching Course' as an optional continuation of the same course
- Offering Level I Course to all regions (this level will mandatory for Rep Coaches from '10)
- Offering a Level II each year in alternating islands (Chch March '09)
- Offering Level III when possible in conjunction with IHA (every 5 years)
- Providing an IIHF recognized Coaching Accreditation Program
- Provide Regional and National Development Camps as a professional learning environment (Regional Women's Camp in November 2008, Summer Development Camps for U13 and U16 in January 2009 and planned for Dunedin January 2010)
- Set up a Coach Mentorship Programs with qualified Level II coaches in regions
- IIHF Development Camps overseas (when offered)

Player Development

- Regional Development Camps (as above)
- U13 Development Camp (Chch Jan '09, Dunedin '10)
- U16 Development Camp (Chch Jan '09, Dunedin '10)
- U16 National League (will begin play in 2010)
- U18 Development Camp (Jan '10-proposed)
- National League (NZIHL) expansion as possible

What do you have to do for the NCAP?

Any player registered to play hockey with any club or association in the NZIHF is eligible to attend any of the Development Camps run by the NZIHF or that are sanctioned by the NZIHF. Registrations must first go through each club as part of the registration to the club. Information pertaining to the registration with the NZIHF are then gathered and sent on the NZIHF registrar.

For coaches enrolment into the NCAP is as simple as agreeing to abide by the NZIHF Coach's Code of Conduct and sending in your signed and dated form to the National Coaching Coordinator who acts as the registrar for coaches.

Each regional association/club will be asked for a list of their active coaches for the season and the two lists shall be scrutinised to make sure all coaches are registered.

In return for enrolment each registered coach receives access to the full NCAP Program. This includes:

- A monthly newsletter from the National Coaching Coordinator;
- Support documents published by the NZIHF including a Skills Progression Handbook, Small Area Games Handbook and NZ Playbook;
- Access to the library of resources owned by the Federation all held centrally. All items are available for loan to coaches for three weeks at a time. The only cost is the return shipping to Hamilton at then end of the loan period.
- Access to Professional Development/Up-skilling Courses run by the NCAP under guidelines set down by the IIHF. All accreditation is IIHF recognised.

- Access to an online bank of drills and practice plans for the entire season.
- A support network of coaches from around NZ that the coach can access for advice, discussion and debate.
- Access to several other support documents created by the NZIHF NCAP like parent meeting guidelines, practice plan blank, player selection guidelines etc.

We aim to improve the quality of our hockey players by improving the quality of our coaching through education, common philosophy and up to date practise.