

# **LTA Performance Coach Education and Development Course and Workshop Acceptance Policy**

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## 1. Introduction

The LTA as the national governing body of tennis in Great Britain is committed to its mission of getting more players playing tennis more often. Coaches are one of the most influential partners in achieving this mission and part of the LTA's role is to educate coaches to a high level, and then provide or facilitate excellent and relevant Continual Professional Development (CPD) opportunities for our coaches. The development of a high quality coaching workforce will enable our players to succeed in their aspirations at all levels from a beginner recreational player to a high performance professional player. The development and maintenance of a strong coaching career pathway is essential for British Tennis to flourish.

The purpose of this document is to set out how potential candidates are accepted for LTA courses and events. It outlines the Performance Coach Education and Development programme, covering the application and acceptance process, including the criteria used to determine how coaches are selected.

## 2. Performance Coach Education and Development Programme (the "Programme")

2.1 The Programme comprises the LTA's education and CPD programmes aimed at performance coaches working with British players on the LTA Player Pathway. A Performance Coach is one that is:

- 2.1.1 working within the LTA Player Pathway from club to national level; or
- 2.1.2 working to progress their players along the LTA Player Pathway.

2.2 The core elements to the Programme are:

- Level 4 Senior Performance Coach Award (SPC);
- Level 5 Master Performance Coach Award (MPC); and
- The national programme of performance CPD events.

2.3 The Programme will be published on the LTA website, normally at the end of each year however the schedule will be subject to change.

2.4 Typically the Programme will include the SPC course on an annual basis, the MPC course every 18 months and an annual programme of CPD courses.

## 3. Applications for Coach Education Courses and CPD Events

3.1 There are limited spaces for both the coach education courses and the CPD events. CPD events are limited to a maximum of up to 25 candidates, each SPC course accommodates up to 16 candidates and each MPC course accommodates 12 candidates.

3.2 The LTA reserves the right to extend the capacity of a course or CDP event in certain circumstances but this is not mandatory and is dependent on factors such as budgetary

restrictions, venue restrictions, speaker preference and the objectives of the workshop.

There are different methods of application for the education courses and the CPD events:

#### 3.2.1 Coach Education Courses - SPC and MPC

- Applicants must download and complete an application form from the LTA [website](#) and submit it to the Performance Coach Education Team at [PerformanceCoachSupport@LTA.org.uk](mailto:PerformanceCoachSupport@LTA.org.uk).
- Timelines and deadlines will be included on the website.

#### 3.2.2 CPD Events – National, County and Local Events:

- Coaches working on our Player Pathway who have opted in for communications from the LTA will receive an email invitation that sets out the application process to be considered for a place on one of the above events.
- They will need to complete the application form online in order to be considered.

## 4. Acceptance Criteria

4.1 For each course and event there will be a set of acceptance criteria which coaches will need to satisfy in order to attend a course or event. In addition, in the event that a course or event is oversubscribed, the coaches who best satisfy the specific criteria will be selected.

The LTA reserves the right to restrict certain courses or events to a specific group of coaches. An example of this might be an Awareness of Standards event that is exclusively for candidates on the SPC course.

4.2 The following acceptance criteria will apply in respect of each course or event on the Programme. Additional acceptance criteria may apply to a particular course or event and will be published on the LTA website. A coach must be:

- An LTA Accredited coach.
- Working as a coach on the LTA player pathway programmes at a Local Player Development Centre and /or a Regional Player Development Centre, and/or a National Academy and/or on a County Training Programme, and/or a Regional Training Programme. Or, if not working at any of these venues and/or programmes, working with players that are on county, regional or national training as well as players that are part of the Pro Scholarship Programme (PSP).
- Working with players of an age that is relevant to the content of the course or event supported by evidence in their application.
- Provide satisfactory references if requested.

## 5. Acceptance Process

- 5.1 A panel will be established to decide which candidates will be accepted for each course or event. The panel will be chaired by the LTA's Head of Performance Coach Education and Development and will include the Performance Coach Education Manager (or their replacement where necessary as nominated by the Head of Performance Coach Education and Development). For the Coach Education Courses, external experts may be invited to be a member of the panel where the LTA deems this necessary and where applicable, the panel will source guidance from the LTA Performance Team and directorate at the LTA. For the Performance CPD Events, the panel may seek the advice of the National Performance Pathway Team, due to their specific knowledge of coaches working in their regions.
- 5.2 All successful candidates will be notified of the date by which they must accept their place on the course or event. Unsuccessful candidates will be written to and where applicable, placed on the reserve list.
- 5.3 There are different processes for acceptance for the education courses and the different types of CPD events:
- 5.3.1 **Coach Education Courses – SPC and MPC:**
    - The panel will select applicants using an additional and specific set of criteria for the course that will be published on line.
    - Applicants will be asked to provide references, which will be followed up when reviewing applications.
  - 5.3.2 **Performance CPD Events:**
    - The panel will select applicants using a specific set of criteria for the event that will be published online.