



April 2026 Update

## **Every Coach Certified**

Coaches are ambassadors of our sport and vital to the success of our sport. Investing in their knowledge, practical learning experiences and opportunities to assess their competencies will positively shape our sport and prepare us for future growth. Ensuring we know who our coaches are and that they meet our standards, is necessary for rowing to be one of the safest and most respected sports in Canada.

In January 2018, Rowing Canada Aviron (RCA) announced the Every Coach Certified initiative as one of our top Safe Sport priorities. RCA has reviewed existing coach education materials to ensure its alignment with the appropriate target audience, addresses key topics essential for all coaches, and ensures the delivery methods meet the needs of our participants.

Every Coach Certified is an initiative that ensures coaches increase their knowledge base in safety, athlete development and technical coaching. Coaches are encouraged to continue their leadership and skill development in the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) Coaching Pathways, gaining further experience in technical skills and practical coaching to demonstrate their coaching competency with NCCP Coach Certification.

RCA will ensure all coaches are equipped with safety, ethics and athlete development training and is also requiring that coaches submit to screening processes, as overseen by their RCA Member Organization.

### **Summary of Coaching Requirements**

- **Complete online eLearning modules as outlined below in the NCCP Locker.**
- Complete screening requirements as outlined in the [RCA Safe Sport Policy](#).
- Obtain the Pleasure Craft Operators Card (PCOC)
- Member Organizations must register all active coaches in the RCA Web Registration System.

\*Coaches: Please confirm with your Member Club and Provincial Rowing Association if there are additional Safe Sport or Coach Education requirements.

\*All Coaches must complete Every Coach Certified requirements prior to attending a NCCP Learn to Row, RCA Coach or RCA Performance Coach Workshop.

## Every Coach Certified eLearning Modules

All coaches are required to complete two or three eLearning modules in the [Coaching Association of Canada \(CAC\) Locker](#). All eLearning modules need to be completed only once.

- 1. NCCP Coach Initiation in Sport. (Only required by Coaches who do not have previous NCCP training)** Developed by the CAC, Coach Initiation in Sport is an online NCCP module developed to introduce new or experienced coaches to the foundational skills in coaching, such as: long-term athlete development, ethics, coaching motivation, and athlete safety and wellness. The Coach Initiation in Sport module will also introduce coaches to the NCCP, a valuable tool for preparing for a coach's first in-person NCCP workshop.
- 2. RCA Rowing Essentials** Developed by RCA, Rowing Essentials equips coaches to provide a positive and safe experience for *all* rowers. This course will introduce you to the RCA Athlete Development Pathway preparing coaches to identify the athlete development stages and be a framework for developing programming. Rowing Essentials will inform coaches on the RCA Safety Guidelines, RCA Safety Video, and prepare coaches to identify strategies and implement plans to minimize rowing safety risks.

### **NCCP Make Ethical Decisions (MED) eLearning Module/Online Evaluation.**

Developed by the CAC, MED training is a cornerstone of the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP). By successfully completing the MED eLearning Module/evaluation, coaches will be fully equipped to handle ethical situations with confidence and surety. MED training helps coaches identify the legal, ethical, and moral implications of difficult situations that present themselves in the world of team and individual sport.

## Fees

NCCP Coach Initiation in Sport   \$15  
RCA Rowing Essentials               \$20  
Make Ethical Decisions Module/Evaluation - \$85

## Important Resources

- [Make Ethical Decisions\(MED\)](#)
- [NCCP Code of Ethics](#)
- [CAC eLearning modules instructions](#)
- [RCA Coach Pathways](#)

Please connect with us for questions related to these requirements and implementation.

[Colleen Miller](#) – Manager, Coach Education and Development

[Jennifer Fitzpatrick](#) – Director, Partnerships and Sport Development