COACHING IN THE A.C.T.

BOWLS AUSTRALIA COACHING COURSES:

Bowls ACT supports the Bowls Australia National Framework of accreditation for coaching.

The following information is to be read in conjunction with relevant key documents and policies provided by the Bowls Australia National Coaching Advisory Group.

This framework provided by Bowls Australia includes a combination of self paced online learning, virtual workshops and face-to-face learning, observation and accreditation.

A national framework ensures consistency, minimum standards of expertise, and the broad understanding of best practice in coaching.

DO YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Coaches play a huge part in the sustainability of Bowls. Coaches are often the first person a new player meets and therefore should possess the necessary personality, skills and approach to ensure the player is welcomed and learns the appeal of bowls.

Coaching today is about more than refining technique. The most effective coaches create environments where people feel valued, supported and motivated to return week after week. Every bowler walks onto the green for a reason. Great coaches know how to recognise that reason and coach the person, not just the player.

Bowls Australia has modernised its coaching accreditation pathway, now covering three new levels of accreditation - Bowls Host, Community Coach, and Performance Coach.

The Bowls Host: - Welcome to the Bowls Host course presented by Bowls Australia designed to equip you with the knowledge and practical skills to confidently step into the role of a Bowls Host. Whether you're welcoming a corporate group, hosting a casual barefoot bowls session, or supporting social events at your club, your role is crucial in shaping a fun, safe, and inclusive experience for all participants.

This course prepares the Bowls Hosts to deliver simple, fun and safe barefoot or casual bowls experiences for participants who may be new to the sport. The course is interactive and includes practical video demonstrations to support learning.

The Community Coach: - Welcome to the Community Coach Accreditation presented by Bowls Australia designed to equip you with the knowledge and practical skills to become a great coach.

The sporting landscape has changed and so has the role of the coach. Creating an inclusive, positive and engaging environment that encourages people to play bowls and return each week is a critical component of modern coaching.

The coaching landscape has also changed since the original Club Coach accreditation was developed. Coaching now is participant-centred, focused on developing the whole person to foster long-term enjoyment and involvement. Expectations of coaches have also risen, with clearer standards around integrity, behaviour and safeguarding, and a stronger focus on trust and professional boundaries.

The updated accreditation reflects the full range of participants in club and community bowls, from new players to experienced pennant competitors. The refreshed program is more practical and interactive, and better reflects contemporary coaching practice.

This accreditation equips you with the practical skills, clear frameworks and confidence to lead at club level, whether you're stepping into coaching for the first time or formalising years of experience, this course prepares you to make a lasting impact at your club.

The Performance Coach: - **Designed** for coaches operating towards the top end of the pathway, this course challenges and refines every aspect of your practice. It is Bowls Australia's most advanced coaching accreditation, built for experienced coaches ready to lead in representative environments.

At this level, coaching extends beyond the technical aspects of the sport. It requires the ability to shape strong performance cultures, build trusted relationships, and develop the mental frameworks that underpin success under pressure.

There is also the Competition Module, the Selection Module, and Team Coaching (team building) Module. They are useful for selectors, skips and players - you do not have to be a Coach to attend.

THE PATHWAY FOR ACCREDITATION FOR NEW COACHES:

The Bowls Host Course – **ENROL IN THE BOWLS HOST COURSE**

To be eligible for the Bowls Host accreditation, prospective hosts must be at least 18 years of age, or be eligible to work in a licensed venue serving alcohol. They must hold a valid Working with Children Check (or equivalent) from the state or territory in which they reside.

The cost is $100, paid at the time of enrolment. Prospective Club Hosts can access and enrol in the course via BowlsLearn, using their BowlsLink account. They are required to review and confirm they meet eligibility requirements prior to enrolment.

The Community Coach Accreditation - **ENROLL IN THE COMMUNITY COACH ACCREDITATION**

Pre-requisites - Aged 16 or over. Completed the Sport Integrity Australia Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction. Hold a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC) for your state or territory.

The Community Coach accreditation has been designed for new and existing coaches to deliver inclusive, player-centred sessions that keep people engaged in the sport. Perfect for coaches helping players develop skills and compete at club level. These coaches recognise that participation is driven not just by performance, but by positive experiences.

This accreditation builds practical coaching skills to help players become "more accurate more often, session design capability and the confidence to lead meaningful coaching experiences within clubs and community environments.

The cost is $200, paid at the time of enrolment. Prospective Community Coaches can access and enrol in the course via Bowls Learn, using their BowlsLink account. They are required to review and confirm they meet eligibility requirements prior to enrolment.

The Performance Coach Accreditation **ENROLMENT BY WRITTEN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ONLY**

The new accreditation reflects the Australian Sports Commission's modern coaching approach – one that goes beyond tactics and technique to address the full picture of what performance coaching requires today. That includes psychological safety, athlete motivation, mental performance, integrity, and the ability to build authentic relationships with athletes who are performing under pressure.

The program has been redesigned in its delivery. The four-day residential at the Australian Institute of Sport takes place alongside a Bowls Australia High Performance camp, to give coaches direct exposure to the elite environment. The addition of mentoring, self-reflection frameworks, and post-course requirements ensures the accreditation translates into long-term coach development.

NATIONAL INTEGRITY FRAME WORK:

Coaches play a vital role in developing athletes through sport. They provide athletes with the skills and knowledge needed to develop, improve and succeed. More often than not, coaches have a major influence on participants and their enjoyment of their chosen sport.

As exceptions for safety and ethical behaviour within coaching continue to increase, it has become increasingly important that all coaches are trained and accredited.

Bowls Australia has adopted the Australian Sports Commission's Code of Ethics and has produced a Code of Behaviour for Coaches and Officials. You will need to submit a signed copy to the assessor during the course.

For all levels of national coaching you should have a current Working with Vulnerable People (ACT) and/or Working with Children (NSW) registration.

Bowls Australia has also adopted the Sports Integrity Australia (SIA) recommendations and to obtain the national coach accreditation, you will also be required to successfully complete a number of SIA (free) Sports Safety Courses as advised by the course Presenter / Assessor / Facilitator prior to being eligible to receive your accreditation.

- Bowls Australian and the National Integrity Framework
- Sports Integrity Australia.
- Required courses - Register or Log-in to SIA Learning portal.
- Australia Sports Commission Learning centre.

COSTS:

Club Host Course	$100.00 This is payable at the time you register for the course through BowlsLearn.
Community Coach Accreditation	$200.00 This is payable at the time you register for the course through BowlsLearn.
Performance Coach Accreditation	$2,500.00 per person which includes access to the online learning, access to the virtual sessions plus accommodation and meals at the Australian Institute of Sport.
THE FOLLOWING MANUALS ARE AVAILBLE FROM BOWLS AUSTRALIA	
Selection Module Handbook	$24.95
Competition Module Handbook	$29.95
Activities Handbook	$24.95
High Performance Activities Handbook	$24.95

Important - The information include in this document is to be read in conjunction with relevant key documents and policies provided by the Bowls Australia National Coaching Advisory Group.

BOWLS ACT COACHING COMMITTEE:

The term of Reference for the ACT Coaching Committee.

The Bowls ACT Coaching Committee is an advisory sub-committee that reports to the Bowls ACT Board of Directors in accordance with clause 22.4 of the Constitution.

Its purpose is to create, plan, develop and organise a high quality coaching program for Bowls ACT on behalf of Bowls Australia and the Bowls Australia National Coaching Advisory Group.

Provide recommendations and advice to the Board and Executive Officer (EO), to ensure that sufficient coaches are accredited in the ACT to meet club and state coaching requirements and other coach related matters.

Be a centre of excellence on coaching for Bowls ACT.

BOWLS ACT CONTACT:

BOWLS ACT

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