

Dear Coaches and Club Representatives,

We are pleased to share an update on the RCA Coach Pathway with the launch of a **pilot revised delivery model**, designed to enhance the learning experience and better support the needs of coaches and clubs.

What's Changing?

As part of this Row Ontario pilot, the RCA Coach modules, previously offered across two workshops (Weekend #1 and Weekend #2), will be **restructured into five smaller, more focused learning chunks**. This revised structure is intended to improve accessibility, reduce cognitive load, and allow coaches to engage more effectively with the material alongside their coaching and other commitments.

To further strengthen coach development, **specific modules will be prioritized for in-person delivery**, particularly those where practical application, skill development, and peer interaction add the greatest value. This hybrid delivery approach balances flexibility with high-quality, hands-on learning opportunities.

Technical Logistics: Pilot Delivery Format

The pilot will be delivered using a combination of **virtual learning and in-person sessions**, as shown in the breakdown below. To support a progressive and coherent learning experience, the **preferred sequence** for completing the pilot delivery is as follows:

1. **Virtual Session #1** (4 hours)
2. **Virtual Session #2** (4 hours)
3. **In-Person Session** (7 hours)
4. **Virtual Session #3** (3 hours)
5. **Virtual Session #4** (3 hours)

This sequencing is designed to introduce key concepts through virtual learning, reinforce and apply those concepts during the in-person session, and then consolidate learning through the remaining virtual modules.

While this represents the **suggested and preferred order**, some flexibility will be built into the pilot. **Exceptions may be accommodated to allow coaches to complete sessions as they are offered and as schedules permit**, particularly where availability, geography, or seasonal coaching commitments create constraints. Wherever possible, participants are encouraged to follow the recommended sequence to gain the greatest benefit from the integrated design of the pathway.

Options for Coaches Who Have Completed RCA Coach Weekend #1

For coaches who have **previously completed RCA Coach Weekend #1**, there will be two options for completing the remaining training requirements (**Weekend #2**):

- **Option 1:** Attend a **traditional RCA Coach Weekend #2**, which will be offered in the fall and/or winter.
- **Option 2:** Complete the training through the **new delivery format**, which includes:
 - The **In-Person session**, plus
 - **Virtual Session #3** and **Virtual Session #4**

Pricing and Registration Options

To improve accessibility and support coaches in progressing through the full **RCA Coach Pathway**, two payment options will be available as part of this pilot:

Option 1: Full RCA Coach Workshop Package (Pre-Pay)

- Participants may choose to **pre-pay \$360 +HST** for the full RCA Coach workshop package.
- This option allows coaches to **complete all required sessions over a period of up to three years**, providing flexibility to progress through the pathway in alignment with personal schedules, seasonal coaching demands, and session availability.
- Pre-payment supports long-term planning and continuity as coaches work toward **NCCP certification**.

Option 2: Pay-As-You-Go (Session-by-Session)

Alternatively, participants may register and pay for sessions individually as they are offered, using the following pricing structure:

- **Virtual Sessions #1 and #2:** \$80 +HST each
- **In-Person Full-Day Session:** \$120 +HST
- **Virtual Sessions #3 and #4:** \$60 +HST each

This option allows coaches to engage with the pathway incrementally and select sessions based on availability and individual development needs.

Additional information regarding registration processes, payment timelines, and session availability will be shared alongside scheduling details.

Why This Approach?

This revised delivery model was developed through **consultation with Coach Developers**, with a specific focus on identifying how the pathway can better support coaches as they progress through each stage of the **RCA Coach Pathway**, ultimately leading to **NCCP certification**.

Feedback highlighted the importance of breaking content into more manageable learning segments, increasing opportunities for applied, in-person learning, and providing a clearer, more supportive progression through the pathway. The pilot model reflects these insights and is intended to better align learning design, delivery format, and coach development needs.

By combining flexible virtual learning with targeted in-person experiences, this approach aims to:

- Better support coaches in navigating and completing the full RCA Coach Pathway
- Strengthen readiness and confidence as coaches advance toward NCCP certification
- Improve engagement, learning continuity, and long-term retention
- Maintain quality and consistency while accommodating the realities of coaching schedules

What Happens Next?

This revised delivery model will be **piloted through the remainder of the 2026–27 season**. The pilot period will be used to evaluate learning flow, accessibility, and coach experience, with feedback from coaches, Coach Developers, and clubs helping inform future refinements to the RCA Coach Pathway.

A key goal of this approach is to have **sessions scheduled several months in advance** wherever possible, allowing coaches to plan their participation around training, competition, and personal commitments.

At present, the following virtual sessions have been scheduled:

- [Virtual Session #1: May 11 \(5:00–9:00 pm\)](#)
- **Virtual Session #2:** June 2-4 (exact evenings and times TBC)

Additional virtual and in-person sessions will continue to be added. **Coaches are encouraged to regularly check the [Row Ontario Events page](#)**, where new sessions will be posted in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement as we pilot this new format. We look forward to working alongside coaches and clubs to strengthen development opportunities and support progression through the full RCA Coach Pathway toward NCCP certification.