

COACH ACCREDITATION · COACH GUIDE

DEVELOP YOUR COACHING CRAFT

Your guide to Scottish Rugby Coach Accreditation: why it matters, how it will help you and how to get started.



THE WHY

WHY COACH ACCREDITATION?

Coaches shape whether players start, stay and succeed in rugby. Coach Accreditation gives you a clear, flexible way to keep learning throughout the season and beyond, and it recognises the coaches who do.

CONTINUED LEARNING

Coaching Essentials is your starting point. Coaching knowledge, practice and confidence keep growing after that first course.

FLEXIBLE LEARNING

Practical, online and e-learning, at a pace that fits around volunteering, work, family and the rugby season.

SPECIFIC LEARNING

Workshops for mini to adult rugby covering technical and tactical knowledge, coaching craft and player development.

WHAT WE WANT IT TO ACHIEVE

IMPROVED COACHING QUALITY

Regular learning gives you repeated chances to develop your craft and your knowledge of player development and welfare.

BETTER ENVIRONMENTS FOR PLAYERS

Stronger coaching practice means better experiences every time players train and play.

NATIONAL CONSISTENCY

One accreditation target and points structure for coaches across Scotland. Recognising clubs and schools who invest in quality coaching.

A STRONGER CONNECTION TO THE GAME

Workshops, online learning and conferences keep you connected with other coaches and current thinking.



WHY GET INVOLVED

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

Coach Accreditation is built around you: your time, your players and your development as a coach.

BECOME A BETTER COACH

Keep growing your knowledge, practice and confidence long after Coaching Essentials.

BETTER SESSIONS FOR YOUR PLAYERS

Learning that is relevant to the age and stage of the players you coach, from minis to adults.

LEARN YOUR WAY

Practical, online and e-learning options that fit around volunteering, work, family and the season.

FREE TO TAKE PART

Workshops, in person and online, and e-learning modules cost nothing for coaches.

GET RECOGNISED

Your accredited status is recorded on SCRUMS, and it opens the door to the Advanced and Master Coaching Courses. Your club or school will also get recognised.

CONNECT WITH OTHER COACHES

Workshops and conferences put you in a room with coaches from across Scotland, sharing ideas.

READY TO START?

LOG IN TO SCRUMS

scrums.scottishrugby.org



KNOW THE DIFFERENCE

MINIMUM STANDARDS, THEN COACH ACCREDITATION

Minimum Standards let you coach. Coach Accreditation recognises that you keep developing.

MINIMUM STANDARDS in place + **100 ACCREDITATION POINTS** in a rolling 12 months = **ACCREDITED COACH** recorded on SCRUMS

1 YOUR LICENCE TO COACH
MINIMUM STANDARDS

What you need to coach contact rugby in Scotland.

WHAT'S INVOLVED

- **Coaching Essentials**
- **RugbyRight**
- **PVG for youth rugby & vulnerable adults**

HOW OFTEN

Coaching Essentials once, RugbyRight every season, PVG kept valid

EARNS ACCREDITATION POINTS?

NO

WHAT IT UNLOCKS

The ability to coach contact rugby

THEN

2 YOUR COMMITMENT TO KEEP LEARNING
COACH ACCREDITATION

How you keep developing, and get recognised for it.

WHAT'S INVOLVED

60 PTS 40 PTS 20 PTS

100 Accreditation Points from workshops and e-learning

HOW OFTEN

Rolling: each set of points stays live for 12 months

EARNS ACCREDITATION POINTS?

YES

WHAT IT UNLOCKS

Accredited status, and the route to apply for the Advanced Coaching Course

Both are recorded on your **SCRUMS profile**. You must keep your Minimum Standards in place to stay accredited, so reaching 100 points is only one part of the check.



THE POINTS SYSTEM

BUILD 100 ACCREDITATION POINTS

Every piece of Scottish Rugby learning carries points. Reach 100 Accreditation Points, with your Minimum Standards in place, and you are an accredited coach.

60 PTS — PRACTICAL WORKSHOP

Hands-on, face-to-face learning with other coaches. Recommended method of learning.

40 PTS — ONLINE WORKSHOP

Live learning you can join from wherever you are, around your commitments.

20 PTS — E-LEARNING MODULE

Short, flexible modules done in your own time. A maximum of 3 e-learning modules count towards the 100 points each year.

OTHER WAYS TO EARN POINTS

COMMUNITY GAME CONFERENCE

Attend the annual Community Game Conference to achieve **100 accreditation points**.

SPECIFIC COURSES

Introduction to Match Officiating (ITMO), Athletic Performance, Director of Rugby, Coach Developer and Talent ID courses can also earn **points**.

RUGBY MATTERS

Some Rugby Matters workshops on pitch-side behaviours can earn up to **60 points**.

£ FREE TO TAKE PART

All workshops, in person and online, and e-learning modules are free for coaches.

ONLY SCOTTISH RUGBY LEARNING COUNTS TOWARDS ACCREDITATION

Points come from learning that Scottish Rugby plans and delivers. External courses don't currently earn points.



ACCREDITATION CYCLE

KEEP IT LIVE



- ONLINE WORKSHOP · 40
- E-LEARNING MODULE · 20
- PRACTICAL WORKSHOP · 60

Each set of points stays live for 12 months from the date you earn it. Your total rolls, rising with new learning and falling as older points expire.

- Different points have different expiry dates, so check them on SCRUMS.
- If you drop below 100, your accredited status changes until you're back at 100. A three-month grace period is in place.
- Workshops run throughout the season, but primarily in **May, August, September and November**.

A WORKED EXAMPLE



Plan ahead. One practical workshop and one online workshop within 12 months takes you to 100 Accreditation Points.



GET STARTED

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Everything happens on SCRUMS, Scottish Rugby's membership and coaching system.

1 CHECK YOUR MINIMUM STANDARDS BY VISITING SCRUMS

Complete a Coaching Qualification (e.g. Coaching Essentials) and the annual RugbyRight e-learning course. Make sure your PVG is in place if you coach youth rugby or are involved with vulnerable adults. Log in at **scrums.scottishrugby.org/login** to open your coaching profile and check your status.

2 FIND AND BOOK YOUR LEARNING

Use your Coaching Profile or Browse Courses to find workshops and e-learning that suit your players and your role.

3 CHECK IN AND BUILD POINTS

Scan the QR code at each workshop. Your points are added to your profile automatically, and a manual back-up is available.

4 KEEP IT LIVE

Watch your expiry dates and plan your next workshop before points drop away.

WHAT'S ON YOUR SCRUMS PROFILE?

scrums.scottishrugby.org/login

- Completed learning
- Live points & expiry dates
- Accreditation status
- Future courses and workshops to book, and e-learning to complete



FAQS

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

What is Coach Accreditation?

It is Scottish Rugby's way of recognising coaches who keep learning after meeting the Minimum Standards. You build points through practical workshops, online workshops, e-learning modules and other recognised development opportunities.

Who is it for?

Any coach who has met the Minimum Standards can aim towards accredited status.

What do I need to become accredited?

You need to have completed Coaching Essentials, hold current RugbyRight status, meet the PVG requirements for your role (required for youth coaches) and hold **100 live points**.

How do I earn points?

Through completing coach learning workshops and programmes that Scottish Rugby plans and delivers: practical workshops (60 points), online workshops (40 points) and e-learning modules (20 points). Other recognised courses, conferences and events may offer additional points. External learning does not currently count.

Do RugbyRight and Coaching Essentials earn points?

No. They are minimum standards that let you coach contact rugby. Points come from the continued learning you do after that.

How long do my points stay live?

Each set of points stays live for **12 months from the date you earn it**. Because the total rolls, different points will have different expiry dates.

Can I become accredited through e-learning alone?

No. E-learning can count for up to 60 points in a cycle (three modules), so you will also need at least one workshop. E-learning is there to complement practical and interactive learning.

What happens if my points drop below 100?

Your accredited status changes until you are back at 100 live points. A three-month grace period is in place to give you time to catch up.

How do I check my points and status?

Your completed learning, live points, expiry dates and Coach Accreditation status are all recorded on your **SCRUMS profile**.



FAQS CONTINUED

MORE ANSWERS

Will the learning be relevant to the players I coach?

Yes. Opportunities cover different coaching environments, player ages and levels. Each one explains who it is for, what it covers, how it is delivered and how many points it provides.

Does it cost anything?

Workshops (in person and online) and e-learning modules are free for coaches to access.

I already hold a coaching qualification. What changes?

Coach Accreditation replaces the Aspiring Coaching Course (formerly Level 2). Transition arrangements for existing qualifications will be confirmed.

How does accreditation link to the Advanced Coaching Course?

To apply, you will need to show you have built and maintained accreditation points. While you are on the Advanced Coaching Course you hold accredited status, and it lasts for 12 months after you complete the course.

Do I need to be accredited to coach?

The minimum standards are what let you coach contact rugby. Accreditation recognises your continued development. By 2027/28, coaches in roles funded through Scottish Rugby will need to be accredited.

What if I can't check in with a QR code?

A manual back-up is available where Wi-Fi, device access or confidence with technology is a barrier.

STILL HAVE A QUESTION?

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

EMAIL
training.education@sru.org.uk

YOUR PROFILE
scrums.scottishrugby.org/login

MORE INFORMATION
scottishrugby.org



SIGNPOSTING

WHERE TO GO NEXT

Coach Accreditation is one step on your coaching pathway. Keep it live, and it opens the door to the next stage.

1



YOUR STARTING POINT

MINIMUM STANDARDS

The ability to coach contact rugby in Scotland: Coaching Essentials, RugbyRight and PVG.

2



KEEP LEARNING

COACH ACCREDITATION

YOU ARE HERE

60 40 20 Build 100 Accreditation Points in a rolling 12 months

3



STEP UP

ADVANCED COACHING COURSE

For coaches delivering U16 rugby and above.

4



SPECIALISE

SPECIALIST COURSES

- MASTER COACHING COURSE
- COACH DEVELOPER COURSE
- TALENT IDENTIFICATION COURSE

SCRUMS
Log in, book learning and track your points.
scrums.scottishrugby.org/login

SCOTTISH RUGBY WEBSITE
Coaching resources and news.
scottishrugby.org

GAINLINE
Scottish Rugby's resource hub.
gainline.scottishrugby.org

QUESTIONS?
Email the Training & Education team
training.education@sru.org.uk



YOUR NEXT STEP

DEVELOP YOUR COACHING CRAFT

GET STARTED
scrums.scottishrugby.org/login

FIND OUT MORE
scottishrugby.org

QUESTIONS
training.education@sru.org.uk

STAY CONNECTED

Follow us and be the first to hear about courses, workshops and events in your region. Open your phone camera, point it at a code and tap the link to follow.

INSTAGRAM

@srcommunitygame

News, stories and highlights from the community game

WHATSAPP CHANNEL

Scottish Rugby Game Development

Courses, workshops and events happening in your region