

## Swim Ireland Water Polo Coach Licensing Revised Programme 2019

As part of our constant review of programmes we are re-structuring the licensing process to make it easier for teachers and coaches to obtain. The changes will also help to ensure that teachers and coaches are completing regular and annual CPD. With the latest changes to the CPD structure obtaining CPD points is easier than ever. The key changes to the licensing will be as follows:

- License will be valid for 1 year (changing from every 3 years currently)
- CPD requirements across all levels of license will be 6 points within the 12 months prior to the application/renewal. Water Polo Coaches will not be required to have 6 CPD points for their first licence application only.
- On successful completion of a Water Polo coaching qualification candidates will have six months to apply for a first licence through the Swim Ireland Membership Database and will not need any additional CPD points. Following this six-month grace period, applications must have an additional 6 CPD points in order to apply for licence.
- Annual license will cost €10
- Applications will no longer need to show evidence of delivery
- License will be renewed online through the Swim Ireland Database removing the need to submit hard copies of paperwork and the license will be downloadable as a PDF card straight from the system
- Licensing will become **mandatory** for all Swim Ireland affiliated club coaches by the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019

### Section A: What is a Coach licence?

A Swim Ireland Coach licence is the ‘authority/permit that allows a person to practice professionally in their selected field at the level of qualification that the licence stipulates.’

Each licence is valid for one year and can be gained at Level 1 and 2 depending on your level of qualification. It requires holders to maintain and up-date their knowledge through attendance at accredited Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Seminars and/or through further qualifications.

To apply for your Licence at any level, all applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Membership of Swim Ireland (Club or Associate) – with fee if appropriate
- Completion in the last 4 years a Safeguarding Level 1 course through Sport Ireland (SI) or Sport NI
- Valid Vetting through Swim Ireland or Swim Ulster for Access NI.
- Hold an ASA/SI Qualification or gained equivalency as per table below
- Evidence of having attended Swim Ireland accredited CPD options to the amount of 6 CPD points within the past 12 months prior to the licence application. This does not apply to the first licence application if submitted within 6 months of having completed an accredited course.
- Pay the fee of €10

\*\*\* Please be aware that by completing a qualification Coaches are not required to attend CPD seminars if they apply for your Licence within 6 months of the course completion date.

Level 1 Licence	Level 2 Licence
SI Level 1 Coaching Water Polo	SI Level 2 Coaching Water Polo

**Section B - How do I apply for/renew a licence?**

All licence applications are now processed through your own online profile which is accessed through the Swim Ireland [Membership Database](#).

Once logged in to your profile follow the steps through the membership tab and access the member license area.

If you would like a step by step guide, please see the Swim Ireland website for more details.

Ensure you meet the following criteria:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Membership of Swim Ireland (Club or Associate)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Completion in the last 4 years a Safeguarding Level 1 course through Sport Ireland (SI) or Sport NI
<input type="checkbox"/>	Valid Vetting through Swim Ireland or Swim Ulster for Access NI.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hold relevant ASA/SI Qualification or gained equivalency as per table below
<input type="checkbox"/>	CPD points to the value 6 CPD points within the past 12 months of licence application (not applied when purchasing first licence within 6 months of completing an accredited course)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pay the fee of €10

Coaches may be licenced under multiple disciplines and at multiple levels and the licence card will reflect these qualifications. To become licenced under multiple disciplines the licence application is processed through the online system and you must meet the relevant criteria to hold the level of license being applied for.

If multiple licences are processed at the same time, then only 6 CPD points will be required to meet the criteria for all license applications.

**Renewing Licence:** All Coaching Licences will be valid for one year from date of purchase and are renewed through your online profile. You will then receive notification of expiry by email 3 months, 1 month and on the date of expiry. Please keep your personal details up to date through the membership database to ensure you receive these notifications. 6 CPD points are required for the renewal of your licence.

**Overseas Qualifications:** If Coaches apply for a licence based on international or other qualifications, they must have first received recognition of equivalency from Swim Ireland. Information on how this can be achieved can be found on the Swim Ireland website at [www.swimireland.ie](http://www.swimireland.ie) under the 'Education' tab or by contacting the Swim Ireland Education Team on 01-625 1120.

**Up-dating of Licences Due to Changes in Qualifications:** Coaches will be eligible for an up-date to their licence if they achieve new qualifications during their licencing period. License updates must be completed by the member through their profile on the Membership Database. Members will need to apply for a new license if the new qualification falls within a different discipline to the one currently held.

**CPD Points:** CPD points are valid for 1 year from the date of completion, therefore to be valid for a licence application/licence renewal they need to be completed within the 12 months prior to application.

**Current Licences:** If you currently hold a valid licence the expiry date will remain valid and you will be required to renew on the date of expiry in line with criteria explained above.

## **Section C - CPD Opportunities**

### **Clinics/Academies**

The focus of a clinic is the player. A Coach attending any poolside session led by a more experienced Coach, and which develops their knowledge base or skill set, is considered a clinic. There is no classroom-based element and the learning is informal, delivered in a mentoring format.

### **Bespoke CPD**

The focus of a Bespoke CPD is the Coach. The CPD should be underpinned by a theory session which should include a PowerPoint presentation to consolidate learning and an accompanying practical session.

### **Swim Ireland CPD**

Swim Ireland CPD's comprise of a menu of training opportunities for Coaches that are written and owned by Swim Ireland and delivered by Swim Ireland Tutors. CPD's will be reviewed annually with new content being added to the menu.

### **Swim Ireland On-line CPD**

This CPD option comprises of a menu of Coaching development opportunities, in areas including governance, marketing, communication and anti-doping as well as the technical elements of teaching and Coaching. This will be delivered via our own bespoke Swim Training & Education Platform (STEP). All online CPD's are interactive and can be completed remotely with no requirement to attend any face to face training.

### **Conferences**

A conference will be a one or two-day, face to face opportunity for professional development. Conferences can be hosted by Swim Ireland and the Regions, or any organisation who have the capacity to deliver a one or two-day education event. Conferences will consist of practical and theoretical sessions, including workshops, lectures, and interactive tasks.

## **Section D – Important Dates to Consider**

**1<sup>st</sup> January 2019** –Licensing will become mandatory for all club coaches. This means that assigning the role of head/assistant coach to a member in the database will require the member to hold a valid license - anyone not assigned the appropriate role in the database will not be covered for insurance purposes.

To find out more information please contact [waterpolo@swimireland.ie](mailto:waterpolo@swimireland.ie)