

Swim Ireland Teacher and Coach Licensing Revised Programme 2018

As part of our constant review of programmes we are going to re-structure the licensing process to make it simpler 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
- On completion of a coaching/teaching qualification you will automatically be awarded a license at the applicable level at the same time
- Annual license will cost €10
- Removal of the need to show delivery evidence
- License will be renewed online through the Swim Ireland Database meaning no paperwork and you will be able to download a PDF card straight from the system
- Licensing will become **mandatory** for all Swim Ireland affiliated club coaches and teachers by the 1st January 2019

Section A: What is a Teacher or Coach licence?

A Swim Ireland Teacher/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 1-3 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 will be required to meet the following:

- 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
- Pay the fee of €10

*** Please be aware that by completing a qualification Teachers/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	Level 3 Licence
ASA/SI Assistant Teachers Qualification (old system)	ASA/SI Full Teachers Qualification (old system)	ASA/SI Club Coach or Coach Qualification (old system)
ASA/SI Assistant Teacher of Disabilities Qualification	ASA/SI Full Teacher of Disabilities Qualification	SI Level 3 Coaching Swimming Qualification (new system)
SI Level 1 Teaching Aquatics	SI Level 2 Teaching Aquatics	SI Tutor / Assessor
SI Level 1 Coaching Swimming	SI Level 2 Coaching Swimming	
SI Level 1 Coaching Diving	SI Level 2 Coaching Diving	
SI Level 1 Coaching Water Polo	SI Level 2 Coaching Water Polo	
SI Level 1 Coaching Synchronised Swimming	SI Level 2 Coaching Synchronised Swimming	

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

All license 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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pay the fee of €10

Teachers and 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 licenses are processed at the same time, then only 6 CPD points will be required to meet the criteria for all license applications

Renewing License: All Teaching and Coaching Licenses 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.

Overseas Qualifications: If Teachers and 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 under the 'Education' tab or by contacting the Swim Ireland Education Team on 01-625 1128.

Up-dating of Licences Due to Changes in Qualifications: Teachers and Coaches will be eligible for an up-date to their licence if they achieve new qualifications during their licencing period. Licenses will automatically update on the system when a higher qualification is achieved within the same discipline. 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 license application they need to be completed within the prior 12 months of application.

Current Licenses: If you currently hold a valid license the current 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

The focus of a clinic is the swimmer. A Teacher or Coach attending any poolside session led by a more experienced Coach or Teacher, 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 Teachers, Coaches and Tutors 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 Teaching and 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

1st August 2018 – New process of licensing will take effect and anyone applying for a new license will apply under the requirements.

1st January 2019 –Licensing will become mandatory for all club coaches and teachers. This means that assigning the role of coach/teacher 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 membership@swimireland.ie