



AHJSA Coaching Standards Policy (Revised October 2015)

That AHJSA has an objective of providing quality coaching to our member players. As an affiliate of the FFSA we are aligned with the FFA coaching requirements and guidelines and need to set minimum coaching requirements for AHJSA and affiliated club activities. This policy describes the coaching requirements for the AHJSA.

The FFA provides coaching standards based on two streams: *Community Pathway* and *Advanced Pathway*. The AHJSA supports a junior grass-roots competition and as such is aligned with the Community Pathway stream.

The FFA Community Pathway structure is outlined below.



The motivation for these courses is provided by the FFA in *The National Football Curriculum* (available on the FFA website), and we encourage all coaches to explore this document.

Information on the community coaching pathways, including the course manuals, is available at myfootballclub.com.au.

The AHJSA has the following minimum coaching standards for coaches participating within the AHJSA competition.

Club coaching

Coaches of non-competitive age groups U7, U8 and U9

- Completion of the Grass-Roots Certificate (Required)

This certificate provides the basics required to be able to run small-sided training programmes targeted at young players.

Coaches of non-competitive U10, U11, U12G

- Completion of the Skill Training Certificate (Desirable) or Grass-Roots Certificate (Required)

This course is aimed at coaches of players aged 9-13 years of age who are in the 'Skill Acquisition Phase'

The Skill Training Course is designed to give coaches the knowledge and competency to plan, organise and run age appropriate practices based on the National Curriculum. This course replaces the Junior Licence.

The course has been designed to further enhance the knowledge of those coaches who are currently coaching players of a junior age.

While the AHJSA doesn't require coaches to have this certification, we encourage coaches to complete this level of training. Where the coach has not obtained this certification (or better) we require that the coach complete the Grass-Roots Certificate, as outlined above.

Understanding that clubs and players benefit from informed coaching, and that players should expect their club to provide appropriate coaching, the AHJSA requires all competitive coaches to meet the following minimum standards.

Coaches of competitive U12, U14, U13G, U14G

- Completion of the Skill Training Certificate (Required)

This course is aimed at coaches of players aged 9-13 years of age who are in the 'Skill Acquisition Phase'

The Skill Training Course is designed to give coaches the knowledge and competency to plan, organise and run age appropriate practices based on the National Curriculum. This course replaces the Junior Licence.

The course has been designed to further enhance the knowledge of those coaches who are currently coaching players of a junior age.

Coaches of competitive U16, U17G

- Completion of the Game Training Certificate (Required)

The course is aimed at coaches of players aged 13-17 years of age who are in the 'Game Training Phase'

The Game Training course is designed to give coaches the knowledge and competency to plan, organise and deliver practices in a 'team setting'. This course replaces the Youth Certificate and Youth Licence.

The course has been designed to further enhance the knowledge of those coaches who are currently coaching youth players.

In recognition of the commitment required of coaches to the Skill and Game Training certificates, the AHJSA will accept a current Skill Training Certification in lieu of the Game Training Certification. This is a transitional measure, and coaches who need to gain

certification or re-certification must do the training as described above. The AHJSA encourages all coaches to improve their skill base by completing the Game Training Certification. These courses are specifically structured to help coaching at the junior age levels. We encourage all clubs to motivate their coaches to undertake these courses, as this will improve the overall standard of coaching within the Hills community and encourage the implementation of the FFA national curriculum.

Advanced Development / Representative Coaching

All age groups

- A minimum of 2 years of club coaching of AHJSA junior competitive teams, or equivalent
- Completion of the Game Training Certificate (Required).

It is desirable that the certification be completed prior to the State Championships in June.

Training Delivery

Training courses are generally organised by the FFSA and we encourage coaches to enrol in the course most appropriate to them.

As part of the AHJSA coaching development programme, the AHJSA may run these three courses on behalf of the FFSA, with the focus on the Hills coaching community, and in line with the AHJSA junior season.

The Skills and Game Training courses typically are 12-14 hours in total duration.

The former FFA Junior and Youth Licences are aligned with the Skills Training and Game Training certificates, and the AHJSA recognises these certifications if they are less than 3 years old. Coaches with older certifications should either do a refresher course or upgrade the certification. We recommend that coaches with the Junior or Youth Licence do the Game Training course as this has changed substantially from the Youth Licence.

Financial support for these certifications is provided by the AHJSA, and is described in the *AHJSA Coach Support Policy*.