

USA SWIMMING COACH MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

From the USA Swimming rulebook: “Anyone who coaches athletes at a USA Swimming practice or competition must be a coach member of USA Swimming and must have satisfactorily completed safety training, criminal background checks and other coaches’ education as required by USA Swimming.”

Requirements must be kept current at all times. There is no grace period; coach membership is not valid if any of the requirements lapse or expire. Coaches do not have USA Swimming insurance coverage if their membership is not valid. To help coaches manage their membership requirements, the date that each requirement expires is printed on their USA Swimming coach membership card, as well as being available on the Deck Pass phone app and through the online Club Portal. Additional information and links for each requirement can be found at www.usaswimming.org/coachmember.

APPLICATION FORM, SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS, MEMBERSHIP CARD

Memberships are processed by each LSC (Local Swimming Committee). Non-athlete application forms can be found on most LSC websites. A map of LSCs and a list of their websites can be found at www.usaswimming.org/lscmap. If you cannot find the form online, please contact the LSC directly. Coaches should complete and mail their application to the address printed on the application form. The membership fee is also printed on the application form. The LSC will mail the coach membership card after all membership requirements have been met.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

All non-athlete members must pass a criminal background check every two years. **Coaches must pass a Level II background check.** Go to www.usaswimming.org/backgroundcheck for additional information and to initiate the background check. When the background check has been passed, the membership database is updated and the LSC is notified automatically.

ATHLETE PROTECTION TRAINING

All non-athlete members must complete the online Athlete Protection Training course every two years. The course takes approximately 60 minutes to complete and is offered at no charge. Go to www.usaswimming.org/protect for additional information and to access the course. When the course has been completed, the membership database is updated and the LSC is notified automatically.

Current and previous members can access the course at any time. New non-athlete members must register through their LSC first. New members cannot initiate the course until their membership application has been processed by their LSC, so it is recommended that new members wait ten days after mailing their application before attempting to log in to take the course. Once their membership application has been processed, the log-in procedure can be completed. (An error message will appear during the log-in if the new member’s application hasn’t been processed yet.)

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS – FOUNDATIONS OF COACHING AND RULES & REGULATIONS FOR COACHES

This requirement has changed for new coaches effective February 4, 2013. New coaches who joined prior to that date will be exempt from the Foundations requirement until they renew for the second year. New coaches joining on or after that date are required to meet the new requirements.

A new coach who registered between September 1, 2012 and February 3, 2013 has two options:

1. New Course Option:

- a. Complete the Foundations of Coaching 101 course requirement (\$15).
- b. Prior to 2nd year of registration complete the Foundations of Coaching 201 requirement (\$25) as well as the Rules & Regulations for Coaches (free).

2. Old Course Option

- a. Prior to second year of registration complete the original Foundations of Coaching DVD based test (purchase of DVD required; no cost for the test).

For a new coach who registers on or after February 4, 2013:

1. New Course Option Only:

a. Complete the Foundations of Coaching 101. Foundations 101 must be completed prior to becoming a coach member of USA Swimming. The fee for this course is \$15.

b. Prior to 2nd year of registration complete the Foundations of Coaching 201 (\$25) and the Rules and Regulations for Coaches Test (no fee).

For a former or existing coach member renewing for 2013 as 2nd year of coach membership:

1. Old Course Option Only

a. Prior to second year of registration complete the original Foundations of Coaching DVD based test (purchase of DVD required; no cost for the test). The coach must have an online account in order to access the test. This test can be found at www.usaswimming.org> Member Resources> Coaches> Online Testing. Scroll down to the Foundations of Coaching information. Create a new online account or sign into an existing account to access this test.

SAFETY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

From the USA Swimming rulebook: "Anyone who coaches athletes at a USA Swimming practice or competition must be a coach member of USA Swimming and must have satisfactorily completed safety training, criminal background checks and other coaches' education as required by USA Swimming." Coach members must maintain three safety certifications: CPR/AED, first aid, and Safety Training for Swim Coaches (STSC). A list of acceptable certifications is below. Certifications must be on this list. Online-only courses are not acceptable. Coaches should enclose a copy of their CPR/AED, first aid, and Safety Training for Swim Coaches/Lifeguard certifications with their application and payment to their LSC.

If you do not have access to an acceptable course, or you have taken a course that is not on this list, you can call your local American Red Cross chapter to challenge one of their courses. The challenge involves passing the skills assessment with an ARC instructor without having to take the entire course. The ARC will charge a fee for each challenge.

Safety Training for Swim Coaches (STSC)

Safety Training for Swim Coaches is offered by the American Red Cross only. There are two four-hour sessions: classroom and pool. You can test out of the classroom session by downloading the study materials and passing the online test at www.usaswimming.org/coachmember (study materials and online test are available thru this link or the ARC link: www.redcross.org/images/MEDIA_CustomProductCatalog/m4240201_TrainingforSwimCoaches.pdf). Print the confirmation email that you receive after you pass the online test and take it to the pool session with you. You must complete the pool session within 30 days of passing the online test. **Schedule the pool session thru any ARC lifeguard instructor (LGI) at your local pool** (if the LGI isn't familiar with STSC, s/he has access to the course materials via the ARC instructors' website under the tab 'Swim Coaches'). If you don't have access to an LGI and your local ARC chapter cannot provide you with information about the course or any instructors locally, contact an ARC Aquatics Representative in your area. Go to www.redcross.org/aquaticsrepresentatives for a list of them by region. When you complete the pool session, you will receive a STSC certification from your instructor. Send this card to your LSC registrar.

If you have a current lifeguard cert from any of the organizations on the list above, then you only need to complete the STSC online test; you don't need to complete the pool component of STSC. If you have an acceptable lifeguard cert, forward it to your LSC registrar along with the printed email confirmation that you completed the STSC online test.

APPROVED SAFETY CERTIFICATIONS

Requirements must be kept current at all times. Certifications from courses not on this list will not be acceptable. There is no grace period; coach membership is not valid if any of the requirements lapse or expire. Coaches do not have USA Swimming insurance coverage if their membership is not valid. To help coaches manage their membership requirements, the date that each requirement expires is printed on their USA Swimming coach membership card, as well as being available on the Deck Pass phone app and through the online Club Portal. Below is a list of courses that have been approved by the Operational Risk Committee. **Certifications from courses not listed below will not be accepted.**

ORGANIZATION	COURSE NAME	CPR	FIRST AID	STSC	NOTES RE THIS COURSE
American Red Cross 1-800-red-cross or support@redcrosstraining.org <i>NOT ACCEPTABLE:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Instructor certifications ▪ First Aid, Health & Safety for Coaches ▪ Foreign Red Cross certs 	Adult and Child CPR/AED	Yes			
	Adult and Pediatric CPR/AED	Yes			
	CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers and Healthcare Providers	Yes			
	Adult and Child First Aid/CPR/AED	Yes	Yes		
	Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED	Yes	Yes		
	Responding to Emergencies	Yes	Yes		
	Lifeguarding/First Aid/CPR/AED	Yes	Yes	Yes	For STSC, must also complete online written test
	Emergency Medical Response	Yes	Yes		
	Lifeguarding, Lifeguarding Review or Lifeguarding/First Aid		Yes	Yes	Waterfront/Waterpark optional; to use for STSC, must also complete STSC online written test
	Lifeguarding/First Aid/CPR/AED	Yes	Yes	Yes	For STSC, must also complete STSC online written test
	First Aid – Responding to Emergencies with CPR/AED – Adult and Pediatric	Yes	Yes		
	First Aid		Yes		
	Adult and Pediatric First Aid		Yes		
	Safety Training for Swim Coaches			Yes	
American Heart Assoc. <i>NOT ACCEPTABLE:</i> Heartsaver CPR/AED	ACLS Provider	Yes			
	Adult & Pediatric Basic Life Support	Yes			Two separate cards issued – one for Adult and one for Pediatric – both are required
	Heartsaver First Aid w/CPR & AED	Yes	Yes		
	Healthcare Provider	Yes			Also known as BLS for Healthcare Providers
	Heartsaver First Aid		Yes		
	AHA Basic Life Support Instructor	Yes			
AHA Instructor or Instructor Trainer	Yes			Applies to any of the AHA courses above	
ASHI (American Safety & Health Institute)	CPR and AED	Yes			
	CPR Pro	Yes			
	Basic First Aid		Yes		
	Pediatric CPR, AED, and First Aid	Yes	Yes		(The pediatric course does include adult CPR/AED)
	Basic First Aid, CPR and AED	Yes	Yes		
California Parks & Rec	California State Lifeguard	Yes	Yes		
Ellis & Associates	International Lifeguard Training	Yes	Yes	Yes	One year certification; for STSC, must also complete STSC online written test
	Water Safety+	Yes	Yes		
	Int'l Lifeguard Training Instructor	Yes	Yes	Yes	For STSC, must also complete STSC online written test
EMS Safety Services	CPR & AED for Community Rescuers	Yes			
	CPR & AED for Professional Rescuers	Yes			
	CPR, AED & First Aid for Community Rescuers	Yes	Yes		
	Basic First Aid		Yes		
EMT	Emergency Medical Technician Basic or Intermediate	Yes	Yes		The training agency for an EMT certification can be a hospital, fire department or other agency.

ORGANIZATION	COURSE NAME	CPR	FIRST AID	STSC	NOTES RE THIS COURSE
Emergency Care & Safety Institute	CPR and AED ("Interactive" is NOT acceptable)	Yes			In conjunction with the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS may appear on card)
	Professional Rescuer CPR and AED	Yes			In conjunction with the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS may appear on card)
	First Aid ("Interactive" is NOT acceptable)		Yes		In conjunction with the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS may appear on card)
Life Education of Florida	First Aid for All Ages: A Common Sense Approach		Yes		
Life Safe Services	American Trauma Event Management Adult/Pediatric CPR/AED	Yes			
Medic First Aid Int'l	First Aid Basic Plus	Yes	Yes		
	Pediatric Plus	Yes	Yes		
National Safety Council	CPR & AED	Yes			Length of certification varies by training agency
	First Aid, CPR & AED	Yes	Yes		Length of certification varies by training agency
	Advanced First Aid, CPR & AED	Yes	Yes		Length of certification varies by training agency
	Emergency Medical Response	Yes	Yes		Length of certification varies by training agency
	First Aid		Yes		Length of certification varies by training agency
Nat'l Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians	Paramedic	Yes	Yes		
	EMT – Basic or Intermediate	Yes	Yes		
National Ski Patrol	Outdoor Emergency Care		Yes		
PADI Emergency First Response	Emergency Responder – CPR/AED/FA	Yes			
	Emergency Responder – CPR/AED	Yes			
	Emergency Responder – CPR/FA	Yes			
ProCPR or ProTraining	Adult/Child/Infant CPR & AED for Health Care Provider (BLS)	Yes			Must have name of Instructor AND Skills Evaluator on back of card; front of card must include "Skills Evaluation"
	ProFirst Aid/ProFirst Aid Advanced	Yes	Yes		Must have name of Instructor AND Skills Evaluator on back of card; front of card must include "Skills Evaluation"
StarGuard	StarGuard	Yes	Yes	Yes	STSC with online written exam confirmation email
Tacoma Fire Dept	First Aid, CPR & AED	Yes	Yes		
Save-A-Life Educators	CPR/AED – Adult/Child, or Adult/Child/Infant	Yes			Must include in-person skills assessment; if "online training" is printed on card, it must be accompanied by a second card stamped "skills assessment passed".
	CPR/AED/First Aid	Yes	Yes		
	First Aid or First Aid Renewal		Yes		Must include in-person skills assessment; if "online training" is printed on card, it must be accompanied by a second card stamped "skills assessment passed".
YMCA	Lifeguarding			Yes	Must also complete online STSC written test
	Lifeguard Crossover			Yes	Must also complete online STSC written test
University Training Centers	Healthcare Provider BLS – Level B or C	Yes			
	Standard First Aid		Yes		

Still have questions? Contact your LSC Membership Chair or cdurance@usaswimming.org. Thank you.

Revised 6/19/13

