

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Policy and Procedure

What constitutes appropriate prior learning?

Prior learning is learning which occurs before a coaching course is undertaken and which results in a coach's acquisition of appropriate competencies for a particular accreditation level. A major reason for including the RPL in a coach education program is to avoid the problem of participants having to repeat learning experiences.

Prior learning may be formal (e.g. course, structured coaching experiences) or informal (eg range of life experiences).

How might prior learning occur?

- coaches may have recently (within 4 years) been an athlete and consequently been coached by an appropriately accredited person
- coaches may have recently worked as an assistant to an appropriately accredited coach
- coaches may have recently completed a recognised training program (within Australia or overseas)
- coaches may have recently coached and learned from "experience on the job"
- coaches may have recently acquired knowledge through formal and informal self-education by reading relevant material, observing other coaches, discussing methods with other coach educators, watching coach education video programs and talking with athletes

Rowing Australia recognises the skills and knowledge that coaches obtain through formal training as well as those gained through life experiences. RPL focuses on what has been learned, not how, when and where it has been learned.

There will be no honorary accreditation - all coaches must satisfy the competencies of each particular accreditation level in order to obtain accreditation

ALL APPLICANTS MUST FOLLOW THE RPL PROCEDURES OUTLINED ON THE NEXT PAGE:

If you wish to apply for RPL for any of the Rowing Australia coaching accreditation levels, contact Rowing Australia and you will be sent the application form –

coaching@rowingaustralia.com.au



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If you are applying for Level 1 accreditation:

Step 1: Return the completed application form to Rowing Australia. Your details are then sent to your local State Development Officer (SDO).

Step 2: Contact your local SDO to discuss the process and your application. Show your Community Coaching General Principles course certificate to the SDO.

Step 3: Complete the self-administered Knowledge Test, provided by the SDO. This test is a 20-question quiz, taken from modules of the Level 1 Rowing Coaching Online Course. Send your answers to your SDO for marking. If completed successfully, you can move to Step 4 of the process. If unsuccessful, you will be required to complete the Level 1 Coaching Online Course.

Step 4: Once you have successfully finished the first three Steps of the RPL process, you are required to provide a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate you meet the requirements and obligations as a coach. Please provide details of your rowing experience as a participant and/or coach as well as evidence of any related qualifications or accreditations. Your SDO will provide you with a Code of Ethics Agreement Form and three scenario-based written activities to finalise. You also complete the Child Protection online course on the Play by the Rules website: (<https://www.playbytherules.net.au/got-an-issue/child-protection/child-protection-online-course>) and print off the certificate to include in your application. Obtain a signed written reference from at least one currently accredited rowing coach (150-400 words).

Step 5: Submit your portfolio of evidence to your SDO. They will assess your application and determine whether you have been successful. Your paperwork will be passed to Rowing Australia and the payment will be processed when your accreditation is confirmed. An accreditation card will be posted to you a few weeks later.

To apply for other levels of accreditation:

Step 1: Compare the Course Competencies and Learning Outcomes with your current competencies, skills and prior learning experiences.

Step 2: If you decide to apply for RPL, complete the RPL Application Form and address the competencies by email, demonstrating your knowledge, where appropriate. Send your application to Rowing Australia with the RPL fee of \$22 for each module (GST included).

Step 3: Rowing Australia will have the application assessed and advise the applicant of the outcome and if further information is required. This can be supplied through an email, interview or demonstration.

All applicants across all levels will be notified of the decision by Rowing Australia. Appeals against this decision must be lodged in writing with Rowing Australia within 14 days of receiving the result.