

BCLCTG Chair Report September 2024

Provincial Update

The 2024 season was one filled with challenges in regards to many areas within this portfolio. I have noted some of the areas of development and concern below. The entire Governance structure within the BCLA needs to be audited to ensure the roles and responsibilities are well defined and that each group understands where they fit in the governance model. As I have stated in the past, this Coaches Technical group should be spearheading the growth and development of our coaches, from Team BC to grassroots. It should be focused on leading development of new programs, facilitating the programs we have and pursuing new development opportunities. It has been used recently as more of a discipline body for coaches, and that is not its function of use. The clubs themselves should be the initial point of holding their own coaches accountable for their actions with this body only being engaged in larger more egregious coach behavior. The general lack of policing their own coaches by the associations, and their inability to work with their colleagues to develop strict guidelines for their coaches is a major concern. I introduced new bylaws this year that will allow for monetary fines to coaches and to clubs for a lack of action within their own jurisdiction. This change is far overdue. We often will have clubs DEFENDING a coach that has been involved in an incident as if they were a union head or general counsel, this is not a proper governance structure. This is an “old boys club” mentality that is holding our sport back from developing. We cannot be bogged down in protecting the way we have been operating with the cliques in our organizations, we have to put the sport and the youth that are participating first and foremost.

National Update

I wish I could send a positive national update, but that is not the case. Lacrosse Canada has not been a good partner. There has been little to no communication from LC on future development of lacrosse. There is rarely collaboration with our province and they have made decisions on coaching resources without input. The coaching manuals are disturbingly old and outdated and there was to be new manuals (according to LC) in 2023. When LC unveiled this private and confidentially held document we realized it was simply a Facilitators manual and new process for delivery but there has been little to NO change to the material for any sector. This area is a major concern, without LC properly leading the country we will be forced to pivot and do our own thing. We have no new functional national coaching resources outside of this facilitator manual. The coaching course is old and stale and it needs a major refresh. I think a strategic partnership with Alberta and Saskatchewan to develop a Western Canada Coaching enrichment manual is money well spent. I think a group of individuals from those provinces can take the old manual and go through a minor revision bringing it up to date and ensuring compliance with Via Sport concepts as well as the CAC. This project needs financial resources though and will have to supported by the BCLA financially.

Top 10 Areas Requiring Growth

1. Sixes Development for Coaches at the National Level.
2. A new Coaching Manual for Box and Field.
3. More LF clarity on training and implementing new LF's in the province.
4. Advocate for change at the LC level.
5. Development of discipline processes that ensure Clubs are the first point of contact.

6. PD and Growth opportunities.
7. Having club head coaches engaged and accountable for their club coaches certifications.
8. Ensuring clear and consistent communication with the Officials group.
9. Work with BCLA executive on governance restructure.
10. Work with Team BC to develop processes and criteria for coach selection.

Finally I am confirming that I am not allowing my name to stand for another term in this role. Since COVID I have purchased and am an operating owner of the NLL Albany FireWolves. This role has become much larger with me being on several NLL committees this year. I also run numerous businesses and have three children that need and deserve my time. Although I am passionate about coach development, I have not been able to commit the time necessary to make the changes I noted above and below. I apologize to Dave Showers who needs a coaching chair that is more able to commit time to this portfolio. There is much to this position, and I have noted a few pressing areas below that need to be dealt with by any incoming coaching chair. I would caution any new candidate to ensure they can commit the time necessary both provincially and nationally to this role or they will be no development. I feel proud that we did develop many new processes and resources over the past 8 years, including our own LF PowerPoint and guide that is more intuitive to our clientele, we hosted and developed three years of putting on online in person Coaching development zooms "the Playbook", pivoted and implemented online courses, and have tirelessly tried to advocate for change at the National level. Most importantly we have identified areas of concern regarding governance and process, I am hopeful that the BCLA engages a governance expert to review and recommend changes to the current structure, creating a more functional role for this Technical group.

I appreciate the support of all the coaches I have worked with throughout the past number of years. I want to thank Dave Showers for being such a tireless worker and advocate for the game and its technical side. I also want to thank the coaching executive committee for all their work this year, in particular Dan Chetner and Rob Arden who were involved at ground zero. I want to thank Deb for always being patient with me missing deadlines for reports and for providing great support overall. I wish Jill and the BCLA the best in their future endeavors regarding lacrosse and its progression, getting to know Jill I am incredibly confident that she will be able to take this sport to the next level if she is given the freedom to do so. I am hopeful that we can at some point get out from in front of ourselves so we can grow this game. We are stuck in the history of the game and the structure of old, in order to grow and develop we need to have difficult conversations that are healthy and committed to change.

Yours in Lacrosse
Russ Sheppard

MD Vice Chair Coaches – Minor Year End Report - 2024
Respectfully submitted by Rob Arden

I first off would like to thank all the people involved in the Coaches Technical support group and the BCLA office for all the work they do throughout the year

This season once again brought out allot of craziness with all involved ...Player, Coaches, Officials, Parents, Association Presidents. We had coaches still thinking it is ok to swear at officials, parents drinking in the parking lots and yelling, swearing and fingering minor players and officials. I will say that this is the first season since I have been in this position that we have not had to do a hearing for a coach in minor. As a sport we still have a great deal of work to do and it has to happen sooner rather than later of there won't be anyone to play this game. It is time that associations start to deal with their own problems instead of pushing it off to the BCLA and all the executives.

The Coaches Technical group is always looking for more clinicians especially in all the areas outside the lower mainland. I would ask all clubs to look for someone in your own association that may want to do this so we can have more clinics and be able to train more coaches.

This year we held 26 clinics for Community Development-Level 1, We had 418 people attend and 64 no-shows. We had 16 clinics for Competitive Introduction-Level 2 with 190 attending and 19 no shows. I will be recommending to the office it is time for these clinics are paid for up front. We need associations to take more responsibility for their coaches training to make sure coaches have the proper training before it becomes too late in the season. Most associations have no idea if a person has any training till it is told to them half way through the season.

I would like to thank all the host clubs that took on all the provincials and Summer Games this season, and a huge thank you to all the volunteers that spent many hours of their time to make them all successful

Rob Arden
Vice Chair Coaches – Minor

Hello

My first year in the VC-Sr role was very quiet; there were no hearings for coaches during this time. I want to thank those who helped me to familiarize myself with the required duties during this time. I do look forward to opportunities to become more involved and helpful in dealing with Sr Directorate coaches in the next year.

Thank you

Dan Chetner
BCLCG Vice Chair – Senior Box

Vice Chair - Men's Field Coaches

Coaches Group Special Sessions 2024

Congratulations to everyone on a successful 2023-2024 field season! Thank you to all the players, coaches, clubs and volunteers for a great year. There was lots of great lacrosse played last season, ending with the U11 Provincial Tournament and Youth Field Provincial Championships.

Last year an overwhelming majority of coaches successfully completed the required training and were able to complete the season with their teams. Thank you all for your efforts on this front. I know there were some gaps in availability of coaching clinics in some areas of the province and this is something we hope to address this year. With that said we are in need of Coaching Facilitators to run these clinics so if anyone in your club or area is interested please let me know.

There were 6 coaches suspended during the 23/24 field season. None of these suspensions were more than 5 games and there were no hearings with the BCLA Coaches Group. Most of these suspensions were issued for Abuse of Officials. Please use this as a reminder that coaches are there to be role models and leaders for the youth players and conduct like this is not acceptable at any level.

For this season the Field Directorate has issued discipline guidelines to further combat abuse of officials. Your field club and league should have advised all coaches of these new guidelines already. There was also a new policy passed at the Field Directorate Special Sessions earlier in this year. At the start of each field season, all Youth coaches will be required to take a rules knowledge quiz and receive 80% or higher. This was implemented to ensure coaches are up to date on rule changes and has a baseline understanding of the field lacrosse rules

I would like to thank Dave and the entire BCLA office for their continued support throughout the year. I am looking forward to an awesome 24/25 field season!

Shawn Donahue

Special Sessions Women's Field Coaches Report Fall 2024

There are 3 new facilitators for women's field this year. Many rule changes have happened in the last few years and the course and materials have been revamped. Looking forward to the growth of the game.

Naomi Walser
BCLCG Vice Chair – Women's Field

2024 Special Session Report – Team BC Box Lacrosse Program

By: Darcy Rhodes, Team BC Box Lacrosse Coordinator

It was an historic Summer for the Team BC Box Lacrosse program. The Box Lacrosse Nationals Championships hosted by Saskatchewan Lacrosse were played in Regina, Saskatchewan from August 11-18. Team BC Box was well represented with 7 teams, 140 athletes and 35 Coaches/Managers. All teams competed hard throughout the week in round robin stage and all teams were rewarded by playing in the gold medal game. The FU22, U13 and U15 teams battled hard and came up short bringing home silver. The FU13, FU15, FU17 and U17 brought home gold and are National Champions.

I would like to highlight and thank the Coaches and Managers for dedicating hours and hours of time to the program to make sure our athletes were prepared and ready to compete for a National Championship. I would also like to thank Jill Krop, Deb Heard and Dave Showers for their help and support throughout the process and lending a helping hand at Nationals.

Team BC Female U22 – Head Coach – Ryley Brown, Assistant Coaches: Geordie Wells, Daniela Carey, Geordie Wells, Russ Auger Manager: Jennifer McKinnon

Team BC Female U17 – Head Coach: Olivia Paterson Assistant Coaches: Ian Paterson, Graham Palmer, Gord Cooper Manager: Tanya Peresin Trainer: Moira Berg

Team BC Female U15 – Head Coach: Will Lockwood Assistant Coaches: Colby Rope, Ryan Campbell, Jessica Soenen Manager: Danika Palmer

Team BC Female U13 – Head Coach –Kevin Hamaoka, Kyle Goundrey, Pete Tellis, Elisabeth Sinow Manager: Nicole Tellis

Team BC U13 – Head Coach - Chris Seller Assistant Coaches – Andrew Guindon, Scott Frizell Manager: Shawna Sironen

Team BC U15- Head Coach: Chris McKay Assistant Coaches: Rich Catton, AJ Lockwood, Jeff Gombar Manager: Dennis Windsor

Team BC U17- Head Coach: Rob Williams Assistant Coaches: Brian Smith, Connor Abrams, Rick Williams Manager: Gina Goller

A special thank you to the coaches and evaluators that stepped up to take part in the 2024 District Camps. I would like to thank local volunteers with managing and coordinating these camps.

Fraser Valley & Vancouver –Josh Wahl – Port Coquitlam

Vancouver Island – Shane Mellish – Vancouver Island

Interior/North – Travis Mann, Clayton Schlaak and Colin and Miranda Marchand - Armstrong

Provincial Training Camps –Alex Vanichuk and Gina Goller

2024 Minor Box Lacrosse National Championship Results:

Female U13 – Gold

Female U15 – Gold

Female U17 – Gold

Female U22 - Silver

U13– Silver

U15 – Silver

U17 - Gold



Team BC Field Lacrosse Report

The 2024 Season has been an exciting time for Team BC Field Lacrosse. Again, we had over 470 athletes participate in our Men's and Women's Try Out Camps this year. From there, 5 Men's Teams (U14 / U15 / U16 / U17 / U19) and 6 Women's Teams (Middle School / Freshmen / Sophomore / Junior / Senior / U19) were selected to train and compete at elite events across the United States. Our teams safely traveled this summer to Delaware, Maryland, Winnipeg and Calgary. The teams are looking forward to the upcoming trips to Arizona, California, Maryland, and Florida.

In the 2024 graduating class, we had an impressive number of athletes (28 Male and 15 Female) receive their official scholarship offers to attend a variety of Colleges and Universities in the United States and Canada to play Field Lacrosse. Team BC Field Lacrosse Program has over 100 Female and Male athletes actively competing at the collegiate level.

I am very pleased with the growth and development of both our Female and Male Lacrosse Coaches and Athletes! The 2024 Jenny Kyle Cup Women's U19 Field Nationals took place in Winnipeg, Manitoba and we are pleased to share that Team BC defeated Team Alberta 18-5 in the Gold Medal Game to be named National Champions. The 2024 Alumni Cup Men's U17 Field Nationals took place in Calgary, Alberta and our U17 Team defeated Team Ontario in the Gold Medal Game 10-5 to be named National Champions. Running alongside the Alumni Cup was the 2024 First Nations Trophy Men's U19 Field Nationals where our U19 had a similar outcome defeating Team Ontario by a score of 10-5 in the Gold Medal Game to be named National Champions.

It was a summer of GOLD for Team BC Field and this marks the first time in program history that Team BC Field has won all the major Field Lacrosse National Championships in the same summer!

Mitch Cavallarin

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Master Learning Facilitator Box and Field Report

September 2024

Terry Mosdell

The Box and Field Season for later part of 2023 and 2024 Box Season was back to a full season with clinics being held for both Level 1 and 2 in both Box and Field Coaching Clinics. The Season itself was much better than what had happened in 2023 as we were able to get all league play starting in April for most box leagues and May for the remainder.

Clinics for the 2024 Box Season were all in person which was great to see. This year we saw a few of the courses become a combo course. This a course where we have both Community Development and Competitive intro classes combined into one course. Of course, some of the material had to be done separately however it worked very well for the areas where we could not have enough participation from both of the levels. Having it combined allowed us to do the on-floor portion with enough participation to cover all the necessary floor elements.

One new thing that was introduced during the Box Season in 2024, which will also filter into the upcoming Field Season, is the updated Community Development Clinic. Effectively this year any coach who attends either a Field or Box CMD course will only have to do the Theory portion once. This means that if you attend a full Theory and Technical CMD Box course and then later would like to attend a CMD Field course in the Fall you will only have to attend the on-Field portion of the course. This has attracted many coaches to jump at the offer of only having to complete the Technical portion of the course for a different discipline at a later date.

The Competitive Intro Course have also had an upgrade – coaches will only have to attend a 1 day course now rather than a 2 day course. This also became effective at the start of the 2024 Box Season. The CPI one day course is also available for Field Lacrosse.

We also had several coaches apply for their certification this year. This was great to see as in Covid time frame no in persons certifications were allowed. Things are back to normal!

The Clinics for Field for the 2024 Season will be starting shortly – September - and again they will be full classroom presentations along with the on-field portion. We also expect to start Competitive Intro courses for Field under the same format.

We continue to face challenges in regard to referee recruitment. When speaking with the Chair of Officials, Doug Wright, he outlined the continuing problem with obtaining and keeping entry level referees. The reason for this is there are not enough scheduled games to keep them interested and involved. Level 1 & 2 referee numbers are at 60% of what they were pre-covid. Field lacrosse referee numbers are still low and as all games are played on a Sunday, this creates further challenges in recruitment. In some associations we cannot guarantee games if we do not have a larger base of referees to draw upon. Many games were cancelled this past season in all areas of the province due to lack of officials. Doug Wright said that some organizations have tried to use the three referee system if numbers allow having that extra person on the floor.

We need to make a concerted effort to recruit clinicians, coaches, referees and volunteer's province wide. We need a united effort to increase our officials and explore avenues of support in regard to abusive behaviour during games. Abuse of officials is still a huge problem especially of young referees. Generally, the parents attending the games are the ones that are being abusive and organizations should monitor this behaviour and offenders should be disciplined and sanctioned. There is no room in lacrosse for this kind of behaviour.

Thank you to Doug Wright for his tireless efforts in serving as Chair of Officials this past year.

A special thank you to everyone at the BCLA office for their dedication and hard work.

Dennis Quigley

VP Technical Programs.



**2024 BC Lacrosse Coaches Technical Support Group Special Session
October 2024
BCLA Technical Director Report: Dave Showers**

It has been a busy year for coaching clinics. In this report, I have highlighted the activities that the BC Lacrosse Coaches Association (BCLCTG) has had in the last year, along with some statistics. First of all, I would like to thank everyone involved with the BCLCTG, from Russ Sheppard (Chair), Rob Arden (Vice-Chair – Minor), Dan Chetner (Vice-Chair – Senior), Shawn Donahue (Vice-Chair – Field), Naomi Walser (Vice-Chair – Women’s Field), Terry Mosdell and Bryan Baxter (Master Learning Facilitators) and to all our Learning Facilitators who stepped into a classroom or into an arena or onto a field to teach or evaluate our coaching programs. A final thank you to all the volunteers, whether it be behind the scenes or in the action; we wouldn’t be an association without you.

BCLCTG ACTIVITIES AND SUCCESSES

Coaching Program- Starting in 2024, the Coaching Clinic Program has changed, with the removal of the pre-course work and the Competitive Introduction – Level 2 online workbook. In place of these changes, Lacrosse Canada has mandated the completion of online modules, found on the Locker, to get Trained/Certified. All information can be found on the BCLA website in the Coaches section.

FIELD Coaching Clinics

The BCLCTG offered **20** In-Person coaching clinics from September 2023 to January 2024. There were **11** FCMD clinics (Field Community Development – Level 1), **5** FCPI (Field Competitive Introduction – Level 2) and **4** WFCMD clinic (Women’s Field Community Development – Level 1).

The total number of participants was **282**:

FCMD – 172 attended (24 No Shows)

FCPI – 54 attended (11 No Shows)

WFCMD – 56 attended (13 No Shows)

Any Coach who attended the Online Classroom only portion during COVID will now need to attend the full clinic to become Trained.

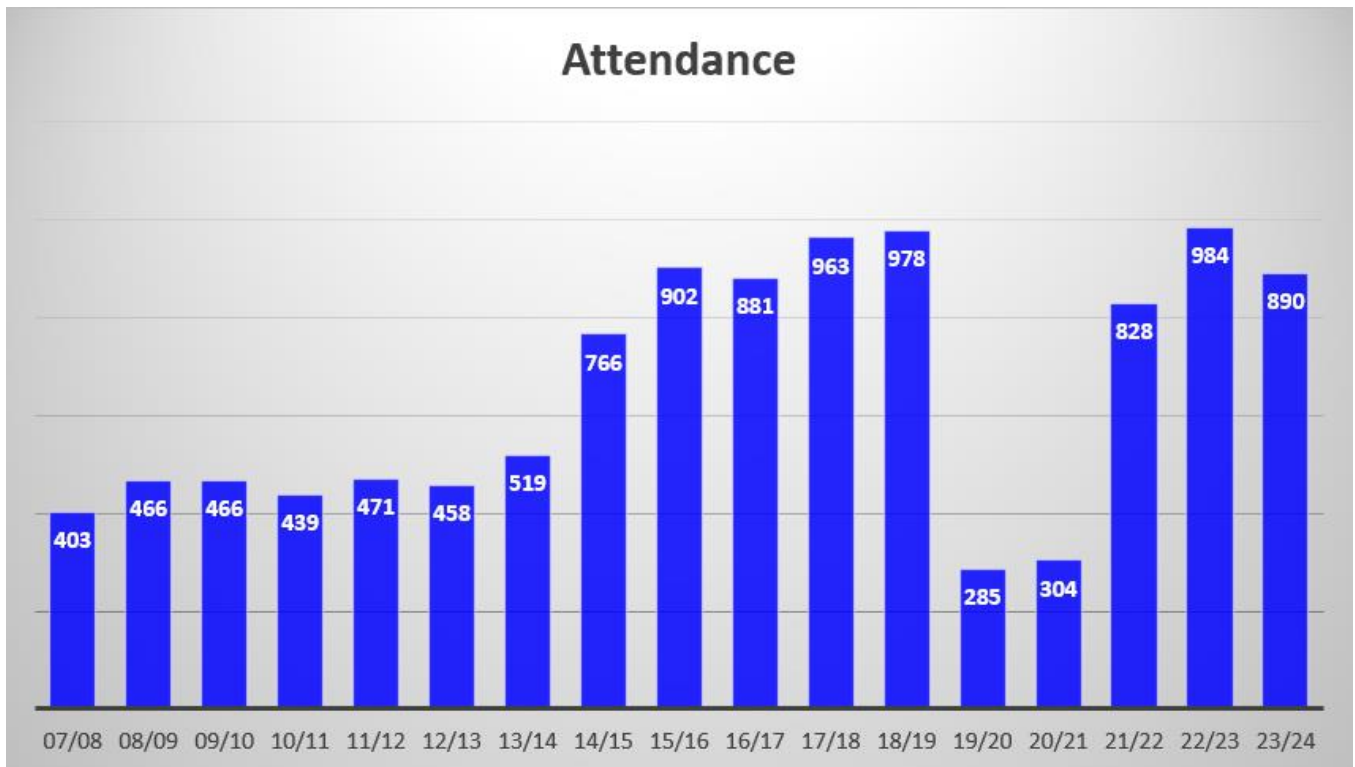
BOX

The BCLCTG offered **42** box coaching clinics from February 2024 – June 2024. We ran **26** CMD Clinics (Community Development – Level 1) and **16** CPI Clinics (Competitive Introduction – Level 2). The total number of participants was **608**:

- **CMD – 418** attended (64 No Shows).
- **CPI – 190** attended (19 No Shows)

Our maximum clinic size is 30 for CMD and 25 for CPI, so we had to have waitlists for over half our clinics. We had 83 coaches sign up for clinics and not attend. So those on the waitlist lost out.

CLINIC ATTENDANCE – Coaches attendance from 2007/2008 to current. The big jump between the 2013/14 season and the 2014/15 season is due to the 'Door Person' roll being changed from the PeeWee division and up. Another change between the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 season is due to the 'Door Person' role being removed from the Mini-Tyke, Tyke and Novice divisions. COVID-19 affected the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 totals.



COACH TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:

BOX

U7 – U13 – Box Community Development – Level 1 (Head and Assistant Coaches)

U15 – Senior – Box Competitive Introduction – Level 2 (Head and Assistant Coaches) – must have previously completed Box CMD Level 1.

YOUTH FIELD

U7-U13 – Field Community Development – Level 1 (Head and Assistant Coaches)

U15 - Senior – Field Competitive Introduction – Level 2 (Head and Assistant Coaches) – must have previously completed Field CMD Level 1.

WOMEN'S FIELD

U8-Senior – Women's Field Community Development – Level 1 (Head and Assistant Coaches)

Nationals – Women's Field Competitive Introduction – Level 2 (Head and Assistant Coaches) – must have previously completed Women's Field CMD Level 1.

ANY COACH GOING TO A NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP (Box or Field), THIS INCLUDES ANYONE OPENING AND CLOSING THE GATE (Team BC, Mann Cup, Minto Cup, Presidents Cup, Founders Cup, Victory/Ross Cup, and First Nations/Alumni Cup) – need to be **CERTIFIED**. This is a Lacrosse Canada Rule. This requires a coach to be TRAINED at the CPI Level + complete the Online Ethics Course + In-Person Evaluation.

A reminder that there is no 'DOOR PERSON' position. Each person on the bench needs to be a coach and properly trained.

****Starting 2024, any Coach attending a Community Development Coaching course, will just need to attend the classroom portion once for all Disciplines.**

For Example: A new Coach needs to attend the Community Development classroom section and then the On-Floor portion to become Trained at the Box Community Development.

In the Field Season, the same coach would then just need the on-Field portion to become Trained at the Field Community Development or take the Women's Field On-Field portion in order to become Trained at the Women's Field Community Development.

LEARNING FACILITATORS IN ALL AREAS AND DISCIPLINES NEEDED:

Learning Facilitators are crucial to the development of skilled, knowledgeable coaches and through those coaches, athletes/participants are safer, happier and more successful. The goal of a Learning Facilitator is to effectively facilitate sessions that result in the development of coaches who are able to demonstrate their abilities and meet the standards established for certification.

The following training is required by all Coach Developers (I will help with all these steps and **BCLA will pay for any training**)

1. **Core Training:** Provides Coach Developers with the skills to perform their role.
2. **Content-specific Training (sport or multi-sport):** We will meet as a group and discuss what should be delivered in the program. It also will give the Coach Developers an opportunity to

practice delivery with their peers. I can set you up with one of our Master Learning Facilitators for this training.

3. **Co-delivery:** You will help run a clinic alongside one of our current facilitators.

Once a Coach Developer has all of the above training pieces they are considered "**TRAINED**".



CERTIFIED COACHES/PD POINTS - This is a message for all our Certified Box and Field Lacrosse Coaches. Many of you have probably heard of the Professional Development points that certified coaches need to get. This is to help you understand what is required and how to get those points. For NCCP coaches to maintain their certified status, they will be required to obtain Professional Development (PD) points. PD points can be earned through a multitude of activities that coaches already participate in, including national and provincial sport organization conferences and workshops, eLearning modules, NCCP workshops, coach mentorship programs, and active coaching. In most cases coaches are already earning their required PD points -- Maintenance of Certification Status is simply the introduction of tracking these points and recognizing coaches for their efforts.

Coaches can check his/her profile and points by logging into nccp.coach.ca and using his/her NCCP# to check his/her transcript. Remember that PD points will only appear on his/her transcript after the data has been entered in the Locker. Coaches only need to earn the required number of points to maintain certification; however, he/she can accumulate as many PD points as he/she wants. Once the five-year cycle ends, PD points are re-set to 0.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7DI3fYAHdVM>

Recommendations

- Once again, Coaching Coordinators must register their Coaches for coaching clinics. Please include the individual coach's email address so that they can receive the confirmation email.
- We need to hold Coaches accountable for not showing up for clinics. Hoping to start using The Locker for the registration process, where coaches have to pay for the clinics before attending and submitted receipts to their own Associations.
- Please use the new Form 100 spreadsheet moving forward (no paper copies please and please **don't** PDF the spreadsheet). Please also make sure that your Coaches complete the new online coach FairPlay Form before the upcoming field or box season. It will take them five minutes to complete - https://www.bclacrosse.com/teambc_req/bcla_fairplay_coaches.php
- Form 100s found at: <https://bclacrosse.com/forms.php#coaches>