



# The United States Center for Coaching Excellence

## »»» Who We Are/Our Work

**The United States Center for Coaching Excellence, a national nonprofit organization, supports coaches and athletes across all levels of sport through better coach development systems and coaching education.**

Originally the National Council for the Accreditation of Coaching Education within the Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (now SHAPE America), in 2017 the USCCE grew to become an independent organization dedicated to raising awareness about the need for quality systems of education and development for sport coaches. It also supports the growth and evolutions of these systems.

The USCCE believes well prepared and supported coaches are a central part of healthy and productive athletic development and training programs. Sports programs and organizations need to support their coaches, volunteer and paid, with high expectations and high support for well-developed sport knowledge, teaching skills and age-appropriate development strategies. USCCE brings together individuals who develop and deliver sport coaching education and development in private industry sport organizations, public sport and recreational programs, national sport governing bodies and academic programs across the spectrum, from recreational engagement through elite performance.

### Vision

For all sporting organizations in the United States to have a systematic, integrated and continuous approach to develop coaches that is guided by theory and best practice and led by qualified coach developers. For the coaching profession to be elevated to a status where coach developers and coaches are fully prepared for the sporting environment in which they work.

### Mission

To strengthen the quality of coach development systems through guided program development, training and support for coach developers and the accreditation of coach education and training provisions, all of which are based on cutting-edge sport coaching practices.

**Well prepared and supported coaches are a central part of healthy and productive athletic development and training programs.**

The National Youth Sports Health & Safety Institute will be the recognized leader and advocate for advancing and disseminating the latest research and evidence-based education, recommendations and policy to enhance the experience, development, health and safety of our youth in sports.

[www.nyshsi.org](http://www.nyshsi.org)



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## Recognition & Accreditation

USCCE provides accreditation or recognition to sport organizations responsible for the preparation of coaches at any and all levels of sport through the National Committee for the Accreditation of Coaching Education (NCACE). NCACE's rigorous review process ensures alignment with SHAPE America's National Standards for Sport Coaches (NSSC) and that coaches are trained to create a positive, safe and inclusive sport experience. It also assists in holistic development appropriate to the athletes' needs based on evidence-based practices.

»» **Accreditation:** Accreditation is the process of verifying that professional preparation is of sufficient quality to ensure that coaches will be prepared to engage in safe and appropriate sport coaching practices. The process involves coach education programs demonstrating alignment with 15 accreditation guidelines focused on: 1) mission and oversight of the program; 2) quality and expertise of personnel; 3) operational procedures associated with the transparency and inclusivity of program qualifications and learner assessments, evaluation of program effectiveness and practical field experiences; and 4) curricular content aligned with the NSSC.

»» **Recognition:** Recognition is the process of verifying that the coach education program delivers curricular content aligned with the NSSC as well as has a clear mission, inclusivity of entry qualifications and qualified instructional staff.



## Education & Engagement

With the ever-changing landscape of sport and with an eye on recruiting, retaining and developing coaches, the USCCE offers a range of opportunities to help coach developers access a network of support and resources to develop their practice.

**1. Programs:** The Coach Developer Academy, which is offered virtually and face-to-face, helps develop coaches' skills and understanding of more effective ways to enhance athletes' experiences.

**2. Events:** We offer a range of engagement events and other interactive and discussion-based experiences that aim to share best practices and ways to apply the principles of quality coaching.

**3. Networking:** Our communities of practice enable coach developers to engage with other practitioners to actively share and address concrete challenges faced in the field.

**4. Volunteering:** We welcome volunteers for our various committees, which work to create and share resources on coach development with our growing community. Our committees focus on several key areas that range from marketing to research, professionalization, networking, as well as diversity, equity and inclusion, to name a few.

Find more information at  
[www.USCoachExcellence.org](http://www.USCoachExcellence.org).