



TEAM STAFF CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR 2026-27

Note: Hockey Canada is officially replacing the **Respect in Sport** program with a new, modernized platform titled "**The Shift Forward: Evolving Hockey Culture**". This new home for national education will provide age-appropriate, engaging, and progressive content specifically designed to change unhealthy behaviors on and off the ice.

- **Current Qualifications:** If you currently have a "Respect in Sport – Activity Leader" qualification on your hockey profile qualifications, it will remain recognized for the next **two hockey seasons**, expiring June 2028
- **New Certification:** Starting June 1, 2026, all new coaches, rostered staff, officials, and parents/guardians will utilize the **Shift Forward** platform for their required training.
- **You cannot add your Respect in Sport from another sport, as that functionality has been disabled.**

U7 (ALL LEVELS)

***female registered teams must have a minimum of one registered female coach**

Head coaches: Hockey Canada Coach 1 (Coach 1-Intro), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Assistant coaches: Hockey Canada Coach 1 (Coach 1-Intro), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Manager, Trainer, Volunteer, Stick boy: SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP Level 1 or HU SAFETY) – 1 of the registered team officials (manager, coach, trainer or volunteer.) must have this certification

U9 (all levels – male & female teams)

***female registered teams must have a minimum of one registered female coach**

Head coaches: Hockey Canada Coach 1 (Coach 1-Intro), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport), Checking

Assistant coaches: Hockey Canada Coach 1 (Coach 1-Intro), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Manager, Trainer, Volunteer, Stick boy: SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Coach Instructional Stream Goaltending 1 – one of the Coaches must have

SHAPING CHARACTER FOR LIFE... MORE THAN A GAME.



Checking – head coach must have one of either

- online HU-online Checking
- online Hockey Canada Checking Skills
- **Instructional Stream Checking Skills 1**

Hockey Canada Safety (HCSP Level 1 or HU SAFETY) – 1 of the registered team officials (manager, coach, trainer or volunteer.) must have this

U11 (all levels – male & female teams)

***female registered teams must have a minimum of one registered female coach**

Head coaches – Hockey Canada Coach 2 (Coach 2 Level), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport), Checking

Assistant coaches – Hockey Canada Coach 2 (Coach 2 Level), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Manager, Trainer, Volunteer, Stick boy – SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Coach Instructional Stream Goaltending 1 – one of the **Coaches** must have

Checking – head coach must have one of either

- online HU-online Checking
- online Hockey Canada Checking Skills
- **Instructional Stream Checking Skills 1**

Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP Level 1 or HU SAFETY) – 1 of the registered team officials (manager, coach, trainer or volunteer.) must have this

U13 A, B, C, D (male & female teams)

***female registered teams must have a minimum of one registered female coach**

Head coaches – Hockey Canada Coach 2 (Coach 2 Level), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport), Checking

Assistant coaches - Hockey Canada Coach 2 (Coach 2 Level), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Manager, Trainer, Volunteer, Stick boy – SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Coach Instructional Stream Goaltending 1 – one of the **Coaches** must have



Checking – head coach must have one of either

- online HU-online Checking
- online Hockey Canada Checking Skills
- **Instructional Stream Checking Skills 1**

Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP Level 1 or HU SAFETY) – 1 of the registered team officials (manager, coach, trainer, volunteer) must have this certification

U13 AA (male & female teams)

***female registered teams must have a minimum of one registered female coach**

Head coaches - Development 1 certified (or HP1), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport), Checking

Assistant coaches - Hockey Canada Coach 2 (Coach 2 Level), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Manager, Trainer, Volunteer, Stick boy – SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Coach Instructional Stream Goaltending 1 – one of the **Coaches** must have

Checking – head coach must have one of either

- online HU-online Checking
- online Hockey Canada Checking Skills
- **Instructional Stream Checking Skills 1**

Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP Level 1 or HU SAFETY) – 1 of the registered team officials (manager, coach, trainer, volunteer) must have this certification

U15 A, B, C, D (male & female teams)

***female registered teams must have a minimum of one registered female coach**

Head coaches – Hockey Canada Coach 2 (Coach 2 Level), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport), Checking

Assistant coaches - Hockey Canada Coach 2 (Coach 2 Level), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Manager, Trainer, Volunteer, Stick boy – SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Coach Instructional Stream Goaltending 1 – one of the **Coaches** must have



Checking – head coach must have one of either

- online HU-online Checking
- online Hockey Canada Checking Skills
- **Instructional Stream Checking Skills 1**

Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP Level 1 or HU SAFETY) – 1 of the registered team officials (manager, coach, trainer, volunteer) must have this certification

U15 AA (female & male teams)

U15 (Sport Academy's)

***female registered teams must have a minimum of one registered female coach**

Head coaches - High Performance 1 certified, SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport), Checking

Assistant coaches - Development 1 (or HP1), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Manager, Trainer, Volunteer, Stick boy – SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Coach Instructional Stream Goaltending 1 – one of the **Coaches** must have

Checking – head coach must have one of either

- online HU-online Checking
- online Hockey Canada Checking Skills
- **Instructional Stream Checking Skills 1**

Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP Level 1 or HU SAFETY) – 1 of the registered team officials (manager, coach, trainer, volunteer) must have this certification

U18 A, B, C, D (male & female teams)

***female registered teams must have a minimum of one registered female coach**

Head coaches – Hockey Canada Coach 2 (Coach 2 Level), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport), Checking

Assistant coaches - Hockey Canada Coach 2 (Coach 2 Level), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Manager, Trainer, Volunteer, Stick boy – SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Coach Instructional Stream Goaltending 1 – one of the **Coaches** must have



Checking – head coach must have one of either

- online HU-online Checking
- online Hockey Canada Checking Skills
- **Instructional Stream Checking Skills 1**

Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP Level 1 or HU SAFETY) – 1 of the registered team officials (manager, coach, trainer, volunteer) must have this certification

U18 AA (male & female teams)

***female registered teams must have a minimum of one registered female coach**

Head coaches - Development 1 certified (or HP1), SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport), Checking

Assistant coaches - Development 1 (or HP1) & SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Manager, Trainer, Volunteer, Stick boy – SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Coach Instructional Stream Goaltending 1 – one of the **Coaches** must have

Checking – head coach must have one of either

- online HU-online Checking
- online Hockey Canada Checking Skills
- **Instructional Stream Checking Skills 1**

Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP Level 1 or HU SAFETY) – 1 of the registered team officials (manager, coach, trainer, volunteer) must have

U18 AAA (male & female teams)

U16AA (male & female teams)

U16, U17, U18 (Sport Academy's)

***female registered teams must have a minimum of one registered female coach**

Head coaches - High Performance 1 certified, SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport), Checking

Assistant coaches - Development 1 (or HP1) & SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Manager, Trainer – SHIFT FORWARD (or Respect in Sport)

Coach Instructional Stream Goaltending 1 – one of the **Coaches** must have



Checking – head coach must have one of either

- online HU-online Checking
- online Hockey Canada Checking Skills
- **Instructional Stream Checking Skills 1**

Hockey Canada Safety Program (HCSP Level 1 or HU SAFETY) – 1 of the registered team officials (manager, coach, trainer, volunteer) must have

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*All registered team officials aged 18 and over must have the **SHIFT FORWARD** or **Respect in Sport** certification. A registered team official is any individual listed for insurance purposes. This is an individual who will be on the ice with the team at practice or on the bench during games. #8.01.01.f)

*Communicate with your minor hockey registrar and or division coordinators to make sure that your coaches have their proper coaching credentials.

DECEMBER 15 – final date for any TEAM OFFICIAL to be removed from a team roster – the appropriate certifications will be required after this date.

DECEMBER 20 - final date for all team officials to obtain appropriate certifications. Teams will be fined \$50 per infraction by HSK as per regulation 8.01.01.b

Please remember:

If an individual will ever be on the ice with the team or on the bench with the team, they must be registered with Hockey Canada for insurance purposes. Any unregistered individual who is injured on the ice or on the bench will NOT BE INSURED.

A helper can be listed as a stick boy, volunteer, trainer or assistant manager if they will be assisting on the ice at practice or swinging a gate during games. This individual does not require a coaching certification, but they will require SHIFT FORWARD or Respect in Sport if they are 18 or older.

****Contact the HSK Coaching Development if you have questions 306-789-5101**