

Horse Sport Ireland (HSI)

Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Programme

Criteria

Changes to our approach

Hsi recognises that great coaches are always learning, and that learning happens in many ways, both through formal and informal education. To better support this continuous learning, several changes have been made to cpd approach.

1. Purpose and HSI'S Role in CPD

Horse sport Ireland plays a pivotal role in recognising the importance of Continuous professional development. By integrating affiliate organisations and specialist led modules, HSI ensures that the CPD offerings are diverse, inclusive and tailored to the needs of the equine community.

Participation in CPD helps coaches

- Develop technical and coaching delivery skills
- Stay current with industry best practise
- Expand professional networks
- Improve career prospects

2. CPD Categories

CPD activities must align with one or more of the following categories:

- **Participation Coaching:** Focussed on grassroots and recreational coaching, promoting inclusive and enjoyable equestrian experiences.
- **Performance coaching:** aimed at enhancing competitive performance and athlete development
- **Equine Health and welfare:** covering horse care, management, and ethical treatment.
- **Rider health and welfare:** supporting the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of the riders.
- **Horsemanship:** encompassing the skills and knowledge required for effective horse handling and riding.
- **Business and legal considerations:** addressing operational, financial, and regulatory aspects of equestrian enterprises.

3. CPD Points system

To support and recognise coaches' commitment to continuous learning, we've introduced a flexible and fair points system. We are aiming to recognise learning and promote those who have attained 20 points in a particular topic to award a badge, as a symbol of commitment to learning.

Target = 20 CPD points to be accumulated over a 2-year period.

How points are awarded:

Webinar	-	1 Hour	-	1 point
Workshop	-	2 Hours	-	2 Points
Workshop	-	3-4 Hours	-	3 Points
Seminar	-	Full Day	-	5 Points.

NB: Coaches Must earn at Least 2 points per year in a coaching specific CPD topic.

4. Eligible CPD Activities

To qualify for CPD Points, Activities must:

- Be relevant to the HSI CPD categories
- Enhance Knowledge and experience
- Include practical and demonstration elements where possible.

Examples of CPD activities: Webinars, Workshops, Seminars, Coach Shadowing, Mentoring, Coach reflections. Officiating, stewarding, Delivering workshops, seminars.

5. Reporting and Evidence

- If a coach wishes to attend an event being run by another organisation to gain CPD credits, the details must be sent to HSI at least two weeks in advance of the event. Details should include a timetable, presenter biography and overview of content to be covered.
- Coaches must submit a completed CPD report by 30th November each year.
- Proof of attendance is required.

6. Recognising affiliate and Coaches

Many of our affiliates and coaches run excellent events that contribute to education and training. We want to acknowledge and support these events as valuable opportunities for learning.

- Event Registration: we encourage affiliates to register their events with us so they can be recognised as CPD training and promoted through our channels.

NB: The event must be approved as eligible for CPD credits by the HSI Coaching Department prior to the event taking place

By Working together, we can create more opportunities for coaches to develop their skills and knowledge.

7. Maintaining coaching accreditation:

To Maintain their accreditation, coaches must adhere to several key requirements:

- Garda Vetting, Valid
- Safeguarding, Valid
- First Aid Certificates, Valid