The introduction of UKCC is a significant change to the formal coach education system and many coaches will have a number of questions regarding UKCC and their own personal circumstances. Therefore, UKA have prepared a series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) to help address your needs.

**Overview**

**What is UKCC?**

The UKCC is a UK wide endorsement of sport specific, quality coach education. It is one part of The UK Coaching Framework which is a nationwide initiative that aims to create a cohesive, ethical, inclusive and valued coaching system where skilled coaches can support athletes at all stages of their development, and is world leading by 2016.

The UKCC enables ALL sports to develop a nationally recognised and standardised program of quality coach education. If a sport is delivering UKCC endorsed coaching qualifications you can be sure that they are at the cutting edge.

**Why is Athletics moving from UKA to UKCC qualifications?**

Athletics is evolving its qualification structure to help meet the needs of athletes and coaches. There has been widespread recognition of the need to address the vast differences in levels of coaching across sports in the UK and give due recognition where expertise exists. For example, a coach may complete a Level 1 in sport A, which would be more equivalent to a Level 2 in sport B.

To ensure consistent national standards a set of criteria was developed across ALL sports to indicate what a Level 1 coach (regardless of sport) should be able to do. Each sport was then tasked with contextualising their technical content into a generic framework resulting in UKCC qualifications in Athletics.

**What are the benefits of UKCC?**

- More technical content – so coaches can be confident with not just HOW to coach but also WHAT to coach.
- UKCC is a qualification that proves you really know your stuff and includes a fair and independent assessment process.
- As well as the course you also get access to the very best coaching resources plus expert mentoring support.
What is the difference between current UKA and UKCC courses?

As a whole the course and assessment period will be longer for UKCC, allowing coaches more time to assimilate and integrate the knowledge they receive into their coaching practice.

UKCC courses will offer an enhanced level of technical knowledge and a more balanced delivery between the “how to coach” and the “what to coach” skills. For example, at UKCC Level 2 the course runs over four days (with 2 days of general and 2 days of event specific content). This doubles the number of days spent on technical content compared to the existing UKA Level 2 course.

The new UKCC courses allow more time for the technical elements than the current qualifications offer and provide examples of a range of activities and progressions suitable for athletes at different stages of development.

The assessment process is improved, with additional time to ensure coaches are attaining the required standard before being awarded a qualification, therefore enhancing the quality of coaching.

The qualification provides an enhanced resource package incorporating video footage for athlete analysis and exemplars of session plans to annual plans for athletes at different stages of development. Resources will be accessible online for easier access.

The qualifications provide the opportunity for supported coach development both on and off course; mock assessments will provide specific feedback to assist coaches in their own development and their preparation and readiness for their final assessments.

Athlete development is introduced at level 1 and is explored in more depth at each subsequent level.

- The level 1 qualification is geared towards the earlier stages of athlete development (fundamentals, foundation and event group development).
- Level 2 is geared towards the early to mid stages of athlete development (foundation and event group development).
- Level 3 is geared towards the mid to latter stages of athlete development (event group development - specialisation).
- The requirements for the Level 4 qualification for all UKCC sports are still being refined by Sports Coach UK and development of the Athletics qualification will begin once these have been agreed.

In the future the UKCC courses will be expanded to create specific streams for coaches who wish to specialise in a specific population (children, elite performance etc).

How do these developments compare with other sports?

Initially there were 31 sports involved in developing their current coach education programmes into UK recognised and approved UKCC qualifications. More details on the UKCC can be found at http://www.sportscoachuk.org/Investing+in+Coaching/UK+Coaching+Certificate/ and you can also see how other sports are using the programme by visiting their homepages.
A large number of these sports have already had their qualifications approved and have commenced implementation of the UKCC.

**When will UKCC happen?**

- The official UK wide launch of the UKCC in Athletics will get underway in autumn 2009.
- UKCC Levels 1 and 2 will launch in autumn 2009 across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- Scotland has already begun running UKCC Level 1 courses and Level 2 will begin shortly.
- UKCC Level 3 will launch in 2010.

Course dates and venues will be advertised in on the Home Country websites ([www.englandathletics.org](http://www.englandathletics.org), [www.welshathletics.org](http://www.welshathletics.org) and [www.niathletics.org](http://www.niathletics.org)) from early August 2009. Please visit the coach education pages of your respective Home Country website for a full list of course dates as and when they become available.

**Is there going to be a UKCC Level 4 and when will it be launched?**

The specification for a UKCC Level 4 qualification is currently being determined by Sports Coach UK (the national governing body for sports coaching). Until this exercise is complete we cannot provide an accurate prediction of when a UKCC Level 4 in athletics is likely to be launched.

**If I am currently a licensed coach do I have to now do UKCC?**

The UKCC qualifications are new, and anyone beginning their coach education journey after autumn 2009 will only have the UKCC qualifications available to them when the courses leading to the current UKA qualifications cease.

There are currently no plans to require UKA Licensed coaches to hold a UKCC qualification and so coaches with existing UKA qualifications may choose to stay with their current UKA level and not transfer into the UKCC system.

If you are currently a UKA coach wishing to move to the next UKCC level this is possible although there will be a small amount of additional work in preparation for the course if you have not come through the UKCC system.

**What does UKCC mean to me?**

This depends on how you view your future development. New aspiring coaches will go straight onto the UKCC system. Existing UKA coaches who do not wish to transfer do not have to do anything. If they did want to access the new information on the UKCC courses this could be accessed through attendance at certain course modules or Continuing Professional Development (CPD) events run locally, but this will be entirely the coach’s choice.

If you are already a UKA qualified coach at any level and wish to progress to the next level of the qualification you should contact your local coach education contact when submitting your application as additional pre-course work will be required before you are able to attend the course - this is simply to ensure a smooth progression onto UKCC.
What do I have to do to stay qualified?

Nothing, all current and past qualifications will remain valid providing a current Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) check is held on file.

Can I upgrade my UKA Level 1-4 qualification to a UKCC qualification at the same level?

The standards and competencies for each level of the UKCC qualifications are different from the current UKA awards; therefore it is not possible to directly transfer a coach straight across from UKA level 1, 2, 3 or 4 to the equivalent UKCC level. This is because there are a number of assessment areas in the new structure that you will not have needed to do in the existing course.

If you would like to upgrade your qualification from say a UKA Level 2 to a UKCC Level 2 you would need to take the entire UKCC course. While you could do this, there is some overlap in content between the UKA and UKCC courses and so a better use of time and financial resources would probably be to undertake CPD activities – conferences, masterclasses, mentoring etc – or undertake a UKCC course at the next level up from your UKA qualification.

This last option is not currently possible for existing UKA Level 3 coaches because the framework for UKCC Level 4 qualifications has not yet been finalized by Sports Coach UK and so will not be available for some time. In the interim we would recommend an existing UKA Level 3 coach look for CPD opportunities to improve their coaching.

If I choose to progress from my current UKA qualification to the next level up at UKCC, is there anything I need to do to catch up on the material I will have missed by not previously taking the UKCC route?

There will be a small bridging module which covers material not previously included in UKA courses at your current level.

What am I qualified to do at each level?

The UKCC will eventually present 4 levels of qualification; a coach will be able to perform different duties at each level.

- Level 1: Assist more qualified coaches, delivering aspects of coaching sessions, normally under direct supervision
- Level 2: Prepare for, deliver and review coaching sessions in a chosen event group
- Level 3: Plan, implement, analyse and revise annual coaching programmes
- Level 4: Design, implement and evaluate the process and outcome of long-term/specialist coaching programmes

What UKCC levels will be available from autumn 2009?

Levels 1 and 2 will be available when UKCC is launched in autumn 2009. UKCC Level 3 is currently being developed and will be released when the course content has been finalised. Until it is available the current UKA Level 3 qualification will continue to be available with slightly revised content. The UKCC Level 4 qualification is currently being determined by Sports Coach UK (the national governing body for sports coaching) and will launch when it is ready.
Is there a minimum age for the qualifications?

Yes, the level 1 qualification requires a minimum age of 16 before entry onto the qualification. The level 2 qualification has a minimum age limit of 18 because as a coach you are solely responsible for the health, safety and welfare of the athletes therefore only those aged 18 or above will be awarded the qualification. For the level 3 although there is not a strict age limit, however, it is expected that coaches will have sufficient experience of coaching in their event before embarking on this programme. As a guideline we are expecting coaches to have experience of coaching for 2 - 3 years at level 2 before embarking on the level 3 programme.

Course Content and Assessment

How long are the UKCC courses?

- Level 1: Two days course time with a 45 minute assessment.
- Level 2: Four days course time with an hour assessment

With all courses, assessment occurs on a separate day from the main course delivery, with the courses themselves broken down into a number of days or weekends separated by several weeks.

How will I be assessed?

The qualifications are made up of a number of assessment mechanisms including, short multiple choice question papers, written assignments and practical coaching.

Coaches will be required to submit their written assignments first; when successfully passed coaches will be eligible for their practical assessment. Coaches will be assessed by an independent assessor (who has not tutored them on the course) and will receive an assessment decision on the day.

The UKCC assessment process is considerably longer than existing courses. This is to provide the candidate with enough time to be thoroughly briefed, for them to demonstrate their coaching competence and allow for a face to face discussion and debrief with the assessor. All this is necessary to ensure each candidate has a fair and equal opportunity to evidence the competencies required during assessment.

UKCC course cost and funding

How much does it cost?

There will be a standard national rate for all levels of the qualification, Home Countries and regions will have a range of funding support options for coaches. These costs will be confirmed on the website shortly. The actual cost will be more expensive than recent qualifications; however each Home Country will be able to provide a range of funding sources to offset the cost of the qualifications.
Why are they more expensive?

Athletics is working closely with Sports Coach UK to develop a framework to recruit and support current and potential coaches to create a sporting legacy that goes beyond the 2012 Games. Key to this achievement is the provision of high quality sporting opportunities for children and athletes at all stages of their development.

By falling in line with the Association of Sports Qualifications (ASQ) and Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), who regulate and develop educational qualifications and UKCC requirements, it means qualifications are acknowledged outside of sport as part of a National Qualifications Framework. It is a major step towards athletics coaching being recognised as a professional career choice.

Courses meeting the UKCC standard are structured and resourced in a completely different way to the previous courses. There are far more comprehensive Quality Assurance mechanisms involved in assessing each candidate. Each course has resources, which are constantly being reviewed and updated for the tutors to deliver and therefore enhance the learning experience.

Approved Centres delivering UKCC accredited qualifications need to ensure that training resources meet minimum criteria; there is on-going training for their tutors; incorporated internal verification processes and appropriate advice and guidance given to all candidates. All Approved Centres will be monitored to ensure they meet the minimum criteria laid down.

Athletics is committed to “raising the bar” and feels that the UKCC will benefit the participants and the sport.

How can I access funding support?

Home Countries (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) are responsible for securing funding to subsidise the cost of UKCC courses. Please contact your respective Home Country to find out more about funding support that might be available to you.

The Status of Existing UKA Courses

Will the existing UKA courses continue to run once UKCC launches?

Once UKCC launches in the autumn new candidates wishing to start a Level 1 or 2 course must undertake the UKCC qualification.

UKA Level 3, with slightly revised content, will continue to run until UKCC Level 3 is released.

Should I start my next level now, or wait?

This depends on which level you are aspiring to.

At Level 1, you should go ahead as the qualification only takes one day.

At Level 2 you can still go ahead with the current Level 2, but before embarking on the course you should check the availability of the core and the two separate modules required. You only have until April 2010 to complete any outstanding UKA modules before delivery stops and
UKCC takes over fully so be prepared to commit to this timeline if you wish to start a course before the autumn.

At Level 3, from the autumn UKA will be running a slightly revised version of the current UKA course to bridge the gap until UKCC Level 3 is ready. The UKCC qualification will be of significantly higher quality than the existing qualification so if you choose to wait you will receive a better Level 3 experience.

No new UKA Level 4 courses will be started. Opportunities for Level 3 coaches to improve their knowledge and skills will be available both locally through the Home Countries and centrally via UKA initiatives.

What if I am half way through my current qualification?

You will have until April 2010 to complete any qualification you have started under the current UKA qualifications framework. The Home Countries will run courses to allow coaches to attend any necessary modules in parallel with UKCC.

However, please be aware that as we get closer to a stage where most people have completed their qualifications we will not be able to economically run each type of module across the country and courses will become increasingly centralised. The sooner you undertake any modules you need to complete the more likely it is they will be located close to where you live.

The Transition from UKA to UKCC Qualifications

With the introduction of the new UKCC Athletics qualifications, UKA will shortly begin phasing out the courses that lead to the current UKA qualifications. This article is designed to clarify issues concerning this transition and provide information for those part way through completion of the UKA qualifications.

Levels 1 & 2

I want to start a UKA Level 1 or Level 2 qualification, is this still possible?

As of autumn 2009, UKA will cease to offer their Level 1 and 2 qualifications. All candidates beginning Level 1 or 2 after autumn 2009 will have to take the UKCC courses.

I have already started my UK Level 2 qualification, can I still complete it?

Yes. Even though UKA will stop offering new candidates the opportunity to gain a UKA Level 1 or 2 qualifications in autumn 2009, they will continue to support those who have started Level 2 to complete the qualification through to April 2010. However, the number and locality of the opportunities laid on will be in direct proportion to demand and, therefore, we cannot promise that a course will be available at your location. If you still need to complete parts of your UKA Level 2 qualification please contact your Home Country representative as soon as possible to begin planning the completion process.

After autumn 2009 there will be a very limited number of opportunities for you to complete the existing UKA Level 2 qualification and if you cannot attend these phases when they are made available you may be unable to complete the qualification before it is phased out. Therefore, it is essential you act now if you want to finish your UKA Level 2 qualification.
I have started but not completed my UKA 2 qualification and there are no more opportunities for me to complete the modules I am missing. Am I exempt from any part of the new UKCC qualification because of my prior learning?

No. The UKCC is a completely new course, the curriculum for which is set by an external qualifications organisation. The existing UKA courses do not include all of the competencies required for the UKCC and so you will need to attend the entire equivalent UKCC course.

I have started but not completed my UKA 2 qualification and cannot attend any of the opportunities for me to complete the modules I am missing. Can I have a refund for the cost of the modules I have taken?

No. Information regarding the process for completing the current UKA qualifications will have been available for a year before the courses finish giving all coaches in the UK ample opportunity to complete the process. Therefore, UKA will not offer refunds for any modules coaches have currently undertaken.

Level 3

I want to start a Level 3 qualification, is this still possible?

Yes, until the more refined UKCC Level 3 is available nationwide the Home Countries will be running a limited number of the existing UKA Level 3 courses but with updated content. These courses will commence in autumn 2009.

I have already started my UKA level 3 qualification, can I still complete it?

Yes, until the more refined UKCC Level 3 is available nationwide UKA will continue to run a limited number of UKA Level 3 phases. However, the number and locality of the courses laid on will be in direct proportion to demand and, therefore, we cannot promise that a course will be available in your location.

If you still need to complete parts of your UKA Level 3 qualification please contact your Home Country representative as soon as possible to begin planning the completion process.

Once the UKCC Level 3 becomes available there will be a very limited number of opportunities for you to complete the existing UKA qualification and if you cannot attend these phases when they are available you may be unable to complete the qualification before it is phased out. Therefore, it is essential you act now if you want to finish your UKA Level 3 qualification.

I have started but not completed the UKA Level 3 qualification and there are no more opportunities for me to complete the modules I am missing. Am I exempt from any part of the new UKCC qualification because of my prior learning?

No. The UKCC is a completely new course, the curriculum for which is set by an external qualifications organisation. The existing UKA Level 3 does not include all of the competencies required for the UKCC and so you will need to attend the entire UKCC Level 3 course.

I have started but not completed my UKA Level 3 qualification and cannot attend any of the opportunities for me to complete the modules I am missing. Can I have a refund for the cost of the modules I have taken?
No. Information regarding the process for completing the current UKA qualifications will have been available for a year before the courses finish giving all coaches in the UK ample opportunity to complete the process. Therefore, if you choose not to finish your UKA qualification by the time the courses end no refund will be offered for any parts of the qualification you may have already completed.

Level 4

I want to start a level 4 qualification, is this still possible?

As of autumn 2009, UKA will cease to offer the courses that lead to their Level 4 qualification and no replacement will be offered. This is because the specifications for a UKCC Level 4 qualification have not yet been agreed between all sports involved in the UKCC. Therefore, it will be some time before a UKCC Level 4 qualification becomes available in Athletics.

The UKA Level 4 was originally conceived to help accommodate coaches who had previously qualified as a BAF Club Coach to ensure they developed the same competencies as candidates undertaking the UKA Level 3. It also provided several opportunities for coaches to reflect on the experience they had gained through coaching and create their own tailor made development program to cover their weaknesses and reinforce their strengths.

Because the UKA Level 4 was designed as a bridge from the BAF qualification system it did not provide coaches already qualified at UKA Level 3 with a significant increase in knowledge or skills, other than those gained through the reflective practice and CPD it required for completion. Therefore, existing UKA Level 3 coaches should not be unduly concerned that the Level 4 is no longer available because CPD opportunities will continue.

However, until a UKCC Level 4 is available UKA will offer a number of high quality continuing professional development opportunities, both in conjunction with the Home Countries and centrally, specifically targeted at Level 3 coaches with aspirations of improving their knowledge and skills. These initiatives will provide considerable room for self study and development until the UKCC Level 4 is in place.

I have already started my UKA level 4 qualification, can I still complete it?

Yes. Even though UKA will stop offering new candidates the opportunity to gain a Level 4 qualification in autumn 2009, they will continue to support those who have started Level 4 to complete the qualification through 2009 and 2010.

However, the number and locality of the opportunities laid on will be in direct proportion to demand and, therefore, we cannot promise that a course will be available at your location. If you still need to complete parts of your UKA Level 4 qualification please contact your Home Country representative as soon as possible to begin planning the completion process.

After autumn 2009 there will be a very limited number of opportunities for you to complete the existing UKA Level 4 qualification and if you are unavailable to attend these phases when they are made available you may be unable to complete the qualification before it is phased out. All candidates who are still to complete UKA Level 4 must do so by 31 March 2010.
I have been waiting for the event specific technical weekend to become available so I can complete my Level 4 qualification. Will one be made available before Level 4 is phased out?

Yes. An opportunity to undertake all of the outstanding modules will be provided before the existing UKA qualifications are phased out. The date of the event technical weekend will be announced shortly and will be held in September-October 2009.

I have started but not completed my UKA Level 4 qualification and cannot attend any of the opportunities for me to complete the modules I am missing. Can I have a refund for the cost of the modules I have taken?

No. Information regarding the process for completing the current UKA qualifications will have been available for a year before the courses finish giving all coaches in the UK ample opportunity to complete the process. Therefore, if you choose not to finish your UKA qualification by the time the courses end no refund will be offered for any parts of the qualification you may have already completed.

I have completed all the modules required for my UKA Level 3 or UKA Level 4 and would like to be assessed so I can gain my qualification, will UKA pay for the assessment of my logbook?

If your Level 3 or Level 4 logbook is submitted on or before the 31 December 2009, UKA will pay for it to be marked. If you wish to submit your logbook after this date you must pay an assessment fee of £50 to cover the costs incurred in doing so.

I have completed all the modules required for my UKA Level 3 or UKA Level 4 and would like to be assessed so I can gain my qualification, will UKA pay for my practical assessment?

Up until the 31 March 2010 UKA will hold Level 3 and Level 4 assessment days at predefined venues where you can undertake your assessment and these days will be free of charge to attend. If you wish to be assessed after this date you must pay an assessment fee of £50 to cover the costs incurred of putting on the days.

Accreditation by Prior Learning (APL) to UKCC

I have considerable practical athletics experience (either as a coach or as an athlete) but no formal athletics coaching qualifications, can I be granted a UKCC qualification without undertaking the courses?

With the existing UKA qualifications coaches have the opportunity to gain a qualification through “Accreditation by Prior Learning” (APL). This means that some candidates can be granted a UKA Level 1, 2, 3 or 4 qualifications, without doing the course, if they are able to prove competency through prior learning without undertaking all of the formal assessment processes required of other candidates.

However UKCC is an externally verified qualification, with strict rules governing assessment. Therefore, you cannot be granted a qualification based on merit of performance by your athletes or previous professional experience. With the introduction of UKCC, the only way to become accredited is through the formal assessment process and there can be NO
exceptions to this rule because the UKCC in Athletics is accredited by an external awarding body (ASQ in England, Wales and Northern Ireland or SQA in Scotland) and not by UKA!

However, previous experience of being a coach or athlete will be of considerable help when undertaking the assessment process.

I have considerable practical athletics experience (either as a coach or as an athlete) and/or a Sports Science Degree but no formal athletics coaching qualifications, can I skip UKCC Level 1 and go straight to UKCC Level 2?

The competencies assessed through the UKCC qualifications address both the “what to coach” (technical and scientific) and the “how to coach” aspects of coaching. Even if you have significant technical or scientific knowledge you must still prove competency regarding the “How to coach” skills. These skills are addressed in other coaching qualifications and during teacher training. Therefore, the only way you can bypass Level 1 and start at UKCC Level 2 is:

- If you have a UKCC Level 1 qualification in another sport
- If you have a UKA Level 1 qualification
- If you are a qualified teacher
- If you have a NON UKCC Level 2 qualification or higher in another sport
- If you have a Level 2 qualification or higher in athletics from another country

In short, if you have no previous coaching qualifications, or teaching experience, you will have to start at UKCC Level 1 and work your way through the levels to become licensed as an Athletics coach.

Please note that even if you are eligible to bypass UKCC Level 1 and start at UKCC Level 2 you will not be issued with a coaching license in Athletics until you have been assessed formally and passed your UKCC Level 2.

I have considerable practical athletics experience (either as a coach or as an athlete) and/or a Sports Science Degree and/or high level coaching qualifications in other sports but no formal athletics coaching qualifications, can I skip UKCC Level 1-2 and go straight to UKCC Level 3?

The competencies assessed through the UKCC Level 3 qualifications address both the “what to coach” (technical and scientific) and the “how to coach” aspects of coaching as applied in Athletics. In order to take a UKCC Level 3 course you must have been exposed to these concepts in an Athletics context prior to entering the course.

Therefore, the only way you can access a UKCC Level 3 qualification is:

- If you have a UKCC Level 2 qualification in Athletics
- If you have a UKA Level 2 or higher qualification

In short, unless you have a UKA or UKCC Level 2 qualification in Athletics you cannot undertake UKCC Level 3 in Athletics.
Other enquiries

I am a UKA Level 4 coach, what is my status within UKCC?

You are not required to upgrade your qualification in order to coach. If you would like to take a UKCC qualification as part of your continuing professional development, then you are eligible to take any UKCC course available. Therefore, you could choose to start at UKCC Levels 1 to 3 at present.

UKCC Pilot Courses

I took part in the UKCC pilots in 2007-2008, will I be issued with a certificate and qualified to UKCC?

So long as the course you undertook meets the UKCC qualification specification and all the assessment paperwork has been completed ASQ will issue you with a UKCC certificate when the first set of certificates are printed in autumn 2009. This means that anyone who successfully completed the pilot courses will eventually gain a UKCC qualification.

I was on a UKCC Level 3 Pilot in 2007-2008, why is Level 3 not launching until 2010?!

The aim of the pilot courses was to trial the content and delivery methods that will be used in UKCC. Since 2007 UKA have re-evaluated the technical aspects of the course content and they have been updated to fully reflect current world class practice. In the future UKA want to ensure UKCC Level 3 coaches have access to latest cutting edge training methods and coaching practice across all events. Such an undertaking has required a significant development period and the enhanced content will reflect this investment.

I took and successfully passed a UKCC pilot course and have just been issued with my new license. Why is there no mention of UKCC on it?

There is a difference between being licensed to coach and being qualified at UKCC. A UKA license indicates that you are licensed to coach, have a valid CRB check and are insured to do so. A UKCC certificate says you have demonstrated the competencies required of a UKCC coach at a certain level.

When UKCC is fully launched in autumn 2009 your information will be sent to the awarding body ASQ who will process it and send you a UKCC certificate. However, your UKA license will not necessarily be updated to reflect your UKCC status until a review of coach licensing is undertaken.
Personal Circumstances

I have been involved in coaching for a few years at club level but have found it hard to progress my qualification levels due to limitations over course location and the amount of free time I have available at weekends. I do not drive and courses are rarely run locally. Therefore, I would have to travel some considerable distances by public transport incurring travel/ lodging costs on top of course fees. How will changing to your courses assist me in gaining further qualifications?

The introduction of UKCC will see significant changes to the content, assessment, quality of delivery and support coaches receive when undertaking formal coach education courses. However, UKCC will not lead to major changes in terms of where the courses are held.

All coach education courses are run to break even and keep the cost of hosting the courses to an absolute minimum – so these costs are not passed onto the course attendees. Due to logistical realities the Home Countries (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) run courses at locations where they are able to hire facilities for a reasonable price and where there is enough demand to meet the minimum numbers required to break even. Unfortunately for some people this means that some courses will not be run within their locality (for example it is unlikely that a course would ever be run on the Isle of Lewis off the Scottish coast).

There is no easy answer to your travel problems. One solution could be to contact coaches at your club or nearby clubs (perhaps through your Home Country contact in England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland) to see if others are attending a certain course and try and arrange a lift to the course venue.

If time and transportation is a key issue, you may also want to consider if formal coach education is the right way for you to go about improving as a coach? Coaching qualifications are only a small part of becoming an excellent coach, with other informal learning arguably being of far greater importance.

Perhaps a better option given your circumstances would be to engage with the mentoring and technical advice schemes run through the Home Countries? This way you can receive help via telephone or by a mentor coming to see you at your club. Finally, in the not so distant future UKA will be launching a new initiative which will allow coaches to access resources and engage in self directed learning from their own home and more information on this will become available in the autumn.
Getting Help

Where can I find the contact information for my Home Country representatives?

Home Country Contacts

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<tr>
<th>Home Country</th>
<th>Home Country Contact</th>
<th>Contact Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>Anne Stewart 0131 476 7328 Email: <a href="mailto:Anne.Stewart@scottishathletics.org.uk">Anne.Stewart@scottishathletics.org.uk</a></td>
<td>Scottish Athletics Ltd Caledonia House, South Gyle, Edinburgh EH12 9DQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>Jenni Black 028 9060 2707 Email: <a href="mailto:jenni@niathletics.org">jenni@niathletics.org</a></td>
<td>Northern Ireland AF Athletics House, Old Coach Road Belfast BT9 5PR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wales</td>
<td>Neil Wheeler Email: <a href="mailto:neil.wheeler@welshathletics.org">neil.wheeler@welshathletics.org</a></td>
<td>Welsh Athletics Ltd Cardiff International Sports Stadium, Leckwith Road Cardiff, CF11 8AZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>General Enquiries: Tel: 0121 781 7271 Email: <a href="mailto:info@englandathletics.org">info@englandathletics.org</a></td>
<td>England Athletics Wellington House Starley Way Solihull B37 7HE</td>
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I cannot see an answer to a question regarding my personal circumstances, where can I get an answer?

Any questions regarding your personal circumstances that are not addressed in this document can be emailed to ukcc@uka.org.uk and we will add them to this FAQ.