

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Policy and Procedures

What constitutes appropriate prior learning?

Prior learning is learning which occurs before a coaching course is undertaken and which results in a coach's acquisition of appropriate competencies for a particular accreditation level. The rationale for offering an RPL facility in a coach education program is to avoid the problem of participants having to unnecessarily repeat learning experiences.

Prior learning may be formal (eg course, structured coaching experiences) or informal (eg range of life experiences).

How might prior learning occur?

- coaches may have recently (within 4 years) been an athlete and consequently been coached by an appropriately accredited person
- coaches may have recently worked as an assistant to an appropriately accredited coach
- coaches may have recently completed a recognised training program (within Australia or overseas)
- coaches may have recently coached and learned from "experience on the job"
- coaches may have recently acquired knowledge through formal and informal self-education by reading relevant material, observing other coaches, discussing methods with other coach educators, watching coach education video programs and talking with athletes

Rowing Australia recognises the skills and knowledge that coaches obtain through formal training as well as those gained through life experiences. RPL focuses on what has been learned, not how, when and where it has been learned. There will be no honorary accreditation - all coaches must satisfy the competencies of each particular accreditation level in order to obtain accreditation

Credits for prior study or learning

Candidates may apply for exemption from all or individual modules of the course. Such coaches will be required to document their prior learning and submit it in writing. The candidate may be required to demonstrate their expertise in a particular area by written or practical demonstration.

If you think you might be eligible for RPL for any of the Rowing Australia coaching accreditation levels.....

1. Obtain a copy of the appropriate Course Syllabus and an RPL Policy and Application Form from your State/Territory rowing association.
2. Discuss the process with your State/Territory rowing association development officer.

3. Compare the Course Competencies and Learning Outcomes with your current competencies, skills and prior learning experiences.
4. If you decide to apply for RPL, complete the RPL Application Form and return it to Rowing Australia with copies of all certificates relating to the RPL and the RPL fee of \$22 for each module (GST included). Rowing Australia reserves the right to increase this fee as appropriate.
5. Rowing Australia will appoint an RPL Assessment Panel to consider the application, the information provided, and if necessary, other information obtained through an interview or demonstration.
6. Applicants will be notified of the decision in writing by Rowing Australia.
7. Appeals against this decision must be lodged in writing with Rowing Australia within 14 days of receiving the result.