NCCP Competition 1

(Introduction)

COACH EVALUATION Guidelines for Success

A guide to becoming a Certified Comp 1 coach





This resource has been compiled from several resources produced by the Coaching Association of Canada, in particular the Evaluation Toolkit.

Gymnastics Canada would like to thank, in particular, Gymnastics Saskatchewan and all the coaches and Evaluators who participated in the pilot evaluations. The contribution of CAC consultants Gérard Lauzière, and Isabelle Cayer is also greatly appreciated.

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The National Coaching Certification Program is a collaborative program of the Government of Canada, provincial/territorial governments, national/provincial/territorial sport federations, and the Coaching Association of Canada.



Contents

Evaluation Process for Competition 1*	1
STEP 1: Competition 1 Portfolio	2
Completing A Yearly Training Plan	3
Completing A Lesson Plan	3
Completing an Understand/Teach Model	4
Portfolio Guidelines for Success	5
Sample Evaluation Form - Coach Portfolio	10
STEP 2: Competition 1 Lesson Observation	13
Sample Pre Brief Checklist – Completed by Evaluator	14
Filming Your Lesson	15
Sample Lesson Observation Evaluation Tool – Completed by Evaluator	17
Lesson Observation Guidelines for Success	23
Competition 1 Coach Certification Pathway	30

Gymnastics Canada certifies Competition 1 coaches who can demonstrate their ability to:

- 1. Make Ethical Decisions;
- 2. Design a Basic Sport Program;
- 3. Plan a Practice;
- 4. Provide Support to Athletes in Training; and
- 5. Analyze Performance.

If you do all those things well, you will have a successful EVALUATION.

SUCCESSFUL EVALUATION = CERTIFICATION

There are 2 steps to the Competition 1 Evaluation:

STEP 1: Successfully complete the Coaching Portfolio evaluation; and

STEP 2: Successfully complete the Lesson Observation evaluation.

Evaluation Process for Competition 1*

How do coaches get certified?

1. Contact your Provincial/Territorial Gymnastics Organization to determine process for Portfolio submission



2. Receive feedback from a Gymnastics Canada NCCP trained Coach Evaluator



3. Complete Pre-brief with Coach Evaluator



4. Coach Evaluator completes gymnastics lesson observation



5. Receive feedback from Coach Evalutor based on the lesson observation

^{*}Exact process varies by province, please contact your P/TSO for more information http://gymcan.org/programs/coaching/provincial-offices

STEP 1: Competition 1 Portfolio

THE DOCUMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE THE DOCUMENTS YOU HAVE TO COMPLETE IN ORDER TO BUILD YOUR PORTFOLIO

The portfolio is a compilation of tasks required of the coach to prove their understanding of the coaching expectations in this level.

By building a portfolio, coaches develop competencies and increase the likelihood that they will be successful in the evaluation/certification process.

Use the sample Evaluation Form to guide you through the minimum standards for success.

Checklist of Portfolio Contents

1. Coach Profile Form
2. Emergency Action Plan
3. Yearly Training Plan
4. Detailed Lesson Plan
5. Understand/Teach Model Select a level appropriate skill
6. Nutrition Quiz
7. Coach Spotting Skills (MAG, WAG, TG, Acro ONLY)
8. Coach Self-Assessment & Action Plan
9. Making Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation proof of completion

Completing A Yearly Training Plan

- A template is provided in this Coach Evaluation Temples document. Other variations of a year plan are acceptable provided that they meet the evaluation criteria.
- Identify the number of practices per week and the number of hours per practice.
- Identify the major events occurring in the year or season. Include competitions, demonstrations, testing/monitoring days, and other major events.
- Identify the testing and monitoring dates for physical/skill ability tests, and mock competitions.
- Include when important milestones should be achieved; such as ½ routines, skill combinations, etc.
- Divide the season into appropriate pre-competitive, competitive & transition periods.
- Comment on the important objectives that will guide your lesson plan objectives (for example, identify the months that will be focused on skill based learning versus practicing routines).
- Include when you will introduce, develop, and refine Mental Prep and Physical Prep.

Completing A Lesson Plan

- A template is provided in the Coach Evaluation Templates document. Other variations of a lesson plan are acceptable provided that they meet the evaluation criteria.
- Recall that lesson planning was covered in Gymnastics Foundations Theory.
- Identify your athletes and the total time for this training session.
- State the training period. You may also include the date/week from the yearly training plan for more detail of where the week falls in the year.
- Identify the lesson objective or focus. This may include objectives from all areas of physical, technical, or artistic.
- State your introduction and conclusion activities.
- Insert appropriate warm-up and cool-down activities.
- For the main part of the lesson, state each apparatus, a specific apparatus warm-up, and the activities on each apparatus, including equipment required. Note where the inherent risks are and safety considerations.
- Be sure to include the timeline for all sections of the plan.
- The evaluation section is to be completed by the coach after the lesson as a review of its effectiveness and potential changes for improvement.

Completing an Understand/Teach Model

The following steps are provided to assist you in completing an Understand/Teach Model:

UNDERSTAND:

STEP ONE: IDENTIFY THE SKILL

Indicate the chosen skill and provide an illustration of the skill. The use of a combination of pictures and words can be useful. Also provide a description including some of the following: the Fundamental Movement Patterns, anatomical muscles and actions that are involved, competitive code of points or program rules that describe the skill (element group or requirements fulfilled). The description should include the difference between how the skill is clearly achieved or not achieved.

STEP TWO: MECHANICS (F.M.P.'s)

Indicate which fundamental movement patterns are involved in the skill (Stationary, Spring, Rotation, Swing, Landing, and Locomotion).

STEP THREE: BODY POSITION/ACTIONS (P.B.A.'s)

Correctly state the body (anatomical) actions are involved in the skill (trunk extension, hip flexion, etc.).

TEACH:

STEP ONE: PREREQUISITES

Indicate strength, flexibility or progression skills that are required before teaching this skill.

STEP TWO: PHYSICAL PREPARATION FOR THE SKILL

Determine what type of physical abilities you will target (ESPF, ABC'S), and include the best methods to improve the athlete's fitness. Use gymnastics and discipline-specific terminology.

STEP THREE: MOTOR PREPARATION FOR THE SKILL

Explain how you will lead the athlete to learn the proper technique and execution of the skill. Include progressions, drills, movement pattern training, and artistic emphasis.

STEP FOUR: ERROR DETECTION, CAUSE and CORRECTIONS

Identify the potential causes of performance error and identify what intervention may be required. Where appropriate, indicate the most common correction to have the greatest improvement in performance. This analysis may extend beyond the common corrections and include changes to program design, yearly planning objectives, or teaching method.

Portfolio Guidelines for Success

We are providing you with these Portfolio Guidelines for Success to use as a reference as you complete your portfolio.

You don't have to complete this document, but to make sure that you have completed your portfolio well, read over these Guidelines for Success. They list what the Coach Evaluator will be looking for when they evaluate your portfolio.

Design a Basic Program Criteria & Evidence (Coach Profile & Yearly Training Plan)

Criterion: Outline program structure based on available training and competition			
opportunities			
Achievement	Evidence:		
Exceeds	"Meets Expectations" and:		
Expectations	☐ Identify the importance of competitions in order to promote athlete long-term development		
	☐ Identify sufficient opportunities for recovery and learning/athlete		
	development between important competitions		
	☐ Indicate the importance of the training factors (physical, technical,		
	artistic preparation) for each period (e.g., weighted line, colour, percentage)		
Meets Expectations	On a Yearly Training Plan		
- Minimum NCCP	 Identify major program goals and objectives 		
Standard	 Identify basic athlete information (age, stage of sport 		
	development, differences in growth and development)		
	 Identify competition/major event schedule and number of 		
	competitions/major events during the program		
	 Identify length of each period of the program (preparation, 		
	competition, and transition)		
	 Identify number, duration, and frequency of training sessions 		
	in each period of the program (preparation, competition,		
	transition)		
Needs Improvement	☐ Present only basic information and logistics (practices vs.		
	competitions/major events)		
	Does not present a calendar outlining program plan		

Questions the evaluator may ask in regards to the year plan:

- What did you first think about when setting out your calendar?
- How did you determine the start and end points of each period?
- Are the program goals the same as the athletes' (families') goals? How can you (or did you) find out the goals and objectives for each gymnast?
- How did you monitor your athletes and evaluate if they were on track to your major events?
- How did your gymnasts perform at the peak events within the year?
- What strategies and tactics did you plan with your gymnasts?
- What were the highlights of the year?
- Was your original plan modified during the training year? How and why was it modified?
- What will you do differently next year?

Plan a Practice Criteria & Evidence (Lesson Plan & Emergency Action Plan)

Criterion 1: Identify appropriate logistics for practice			
Achievement	Evidence:		
Exceeds	"Meets Expectations" and:		
Expectations	☐ Provide a clear rationale for each goal and objective, based on		
	objectively identified athletes' needs		
	☐ Provide evidence of optimal use of the available time and equipment		
	to promote a high degree of active engagement time, learning, and		
	training on the part of athletes		
	☐ Identify potential risk factors (environmental, mechanical)		
	☐ Identify the location of the practice in the yearly plan		
	☐ Provide justification for chosen practice goals		
	☐ Include detailed logistical evidence that would allow an assistant or		
	other coach to implement the practice and achieve the desired		
	learning or training effect		
Meets	☐ Identify athletes' ages, abilities, and performance levels		
Expectations –	☐ Clearly identify a practice goal that is consistent with the sport's		
Minimum NCCP	long-term athlete development / Canadian Sport for Life principles		
Standard	and the level of the athletes		
	☐ Identify main segments of the practice: intro, warm-up, main part,		
	cool-down, and conclusion or reflection		
	☐ Outline facilities and equipment required to achieve practice goal		
	☐ Provide a timeline for the activities		
Needs	☐ Do not identify practice plan goals		
Improvement	☐ Identify vague practice plan goals		
	☐ Do not clearly identify main segments or timeline of practice		
	☐ Do not include athlete information (i.e. level)		
	☐ Do not identify required facilities and equipment		

Questions the evaluator may ask in regards to the lesson plan:

- Can you expand on the goals for the practice and what you are trying to achieve on this day?
- Do the athletes understand the goal or plan for the day?
- Do you feel your warm-up is preparing the athletes physically and mentally for the rest of the practice?
- Are there any safety considerations for this activity (referring to specific apparatus drills)?
- What coaching points, cues and descriptive words will you use while coaching __ skill?
- Is there a drill in this circuit that you plan to be the spotter at? If so, why did you choose that drill?
- Do you have a set order you would like the drills/skills to be completed in?
- Do you feel this plan is/was effective at achieving your goal?
- Is the practice the right length to sustain athlete focus and energy? Are the appropriate segments ordered to maintain athlete focus and energy?
- Will athletes be given the opportunity to choose any activities within the lesson?

Criterion 2: Identify appropriate activities in each part of the practice			
Achievement			
Exceeds	"Meets Expectations" and:		
Expectations	☐ Sequence activities appropriately in the main part to promote		
1	learning, skill development, and to induce desired training effects		
	Adequate sequencing refers to the timing of practice activities within		
	the practice. E.g., the sequence of the activities provides a progression		
	that builds towards execution under realistic competitive situations		
	☐ Include variations of activities or practice conditions that can be used		
	to create specific challenges to elicit a particular training effect		
	☐ Include activities that promote basic concepts of decision training		
	☐ Identify appropriate work–rest ratios, target training loads, or target		
	intensities for activities		
	☐ Select activities that address the specific needs of the athlete or team		
	based on analysis of performance during competition		
	☐ Include activities that integrate mental skill development (goal		
	setting, visualization, arousal control, focus)		
	☐ Adapt activities to assist an athlete returning from injury (physical,		
	mental, and emotional considerations)		
	☐ Ensure optimal types of practice are purposely selected to promote		
	skill development. (Optimal types of practice could relate to relevant		
	"decision training tools" like random practice, variable practice,		
	modeling)		
Meets	☐ Describe planned activities through illustration, diagram, and		
Expectations –	explanation		
Minimum NCCP	☐ Select activities that are appropriate to the time and apparatus		
Standard	☐ Indicate key factors (coaching points) that will be identified in the		
	practice activities		
	☐ Identify duration of overall practice and each practice segment and		
	ensure consistency with the sport's long-term athlete development		
	/ Canadian Sport for Life principles		
	☐ Ensure activities are purposeful and linked to overall practice goal		
	(purposeful means that the activities match the sport's long-term		
	athlete development / Canadian Sport for Life principles)		
	☐ Ensure activities reflect awareness / control for potential risk		
	factors		
	☐ Ensure activities contribute to the development of skill(s) and are		
	appropriate to the stage of skill development (Acquisition,		
	Consolidation, Refinement)		
	☐ Ensure activities contribute to the development of athletic abilities		
	(as outlined in the sport's long-term athlete development /		
	Canadian Sport for Life principles)		
Needs	Do not link activities to overall purpose of practice.		
Improvement	Do not reflect awareness of safety concerns in plan		
	Do not ensure activities are consistent with NCCP growth and		
	development principles		
	1 development principles		

Criterion 3: Design an emergency action plan			
Achievement	Evidence:		
Exceeds	"Meets Expectations" and:		
Expectations	☐ Identify a process for updating and maintaining medical profiles		
	☐ Maintain well organized participant profiles in a secure location to		
	protect privacy		
	☐ Present a checklist of necessary equipment found in a first aid kit,		
	which has been checked/updated on a regular basis		
	☐ Identify specific steps or procedures in the plan if an injury occurs		
	☐ Design an EAP that reflects learning from past experiences, including		
	previous implementation		
	The EAP can be used as a model of best practice in the sport		
Meets	Present a complete emergency action plan (EAP) with all of the six		
Expectations –	following critical elements:		
Minimum NCCP	o Locations of telephones (cell and land lines)		
Standard	o Emergency telephone numbers		
	o Location of medical profile for each athlete under the coach's care		
	o Location of fully-stocked first-aid kit		
	o Advance "call person" and "charge person"		
	o Directions or map to reach the activity site		
Needs	☐ Include less than six critical elements outlined in the Minimum		
Improvement	Standard above		
	☐ No emergency action plan submitted		

Analyze Performance Criteria & Evidence (Understand/Teach Model)

Criterion: Detect Performance			
Achievement	Evidence:		
Exceeds	"Meets Expectations" and:		
Expectations	☐ Knowledge displayed shows developmental link beyond the skill		
	selected to achieve more advanced skills in the future		
	☐ Display variety in teaching methods to target different learning types		
	(auditory, visual, kinesthetic)		
	☐ Use competition based rules and strategies that relate to execution		
	☐ Provide details of training principles (physiology, biomechanics) that		
	vary based on the seasonal training period for optimal performance		
	☐ Display variety in environmental factors, mental training strategies,		
	and competition strategies		
Meets	Display knowledge of sport terminology		
Expectations –	☐ Level of difficulty of the tasks is relevant to the individual athlete		
Minimum NCCP	☐ Use appropriate physical, motor, and technical progressions that		
Standard	will lead to successful skill development		
	☐ Identify factors that have a direct impact on performance		
	☐ Skill refinement		
Needs	☐ Vague understanding of physical and motor preparation required for		
Improvement	skill development		
	☐ Selected activities will not have greatest impact on performance. Better		
	options should be utilized		
	☐ More knowledge of sport terminology required		

Provide Support to Athletes in Training (Coach Spotting Skills, Nutrition)

Achievement	Evidence:
Meets	☐ Coach Spotting Skills Complete (MAG, WAG, TG, Acro ONLY)
Expectations –	☐ Nutrition Quiz Complete
Minimum NCCP	
Standard	

Sample Evaluation Form - Coach Portfolio

This form will be completed by the Coach Evaluator when they evaluate your portfolio.

Coach's Name:

	NC	NCCP #:		
	Gy	m Discipline:		
	Eva	luator Name:		
	Eva	luator NCCP #:		
	Eva	luator Email Address:		
	Coac	hes must successfully pass outcon	nes 1 to 4 before the ev	valuator schedules an observation.
Outcome 1		Make Ethical Decisions □ MED Online Evalua	ntion - Competition	Introduction (passed)
Outcome 2		Design a Basic Sport Program The evaluator will review these sections of the portfolio to evaluate this outcome: □ Coach Profile □ Yearly Training Plan		
	7	Standard Achieved Exceeds Expectations Meets Expectations Needs Improvement	3	Comments
		Plan a Practice The evaluator will review these	sections of the portfol:	io to evaluate this outcome:

Comments

Lesson Plan

Standard Achieved

Outcome 3

Emergency Action Plan

☐ Exceeds Expectations

Meets ExpectationsNeeds Improvement

	Analyze Performance The evaluator will review these sections of the portfolio to evaluate this outcome: • Understand/Teach Model				
Outcome 4	Standard Achieved □ Exceeds Expectations □ Meets Expectations □ Needs Improvement	Comments			
Outcome 5	Provide Support to Athletes in Training □ Coach Spotting Skills (MAG, WAG, TG, Acro ONLY) □ Nutrition Quiz	Comments			
	Portfolio Evaluation Results and Action Plan				
Nex	Next Steps in Certification Process:				
	☐ The coach is ready for observation. The evaluator will notify the Coach to set up an observation either via video or in-gym.				
,	The portfolio requires changes. The evaluator will provide feedback to enable the coach to complete the portfolio. Follow the instructions from the Evaluator and work to achieve greater readiness for the observation. Once the evaluator approves the changes and the coach's readiness, they will notify the coach to begin the observation process.				
Feed	Feedback:				
	unter Cignoture:	Data			
Eval	uator Signature:	Date:			

STEP 2: Competition 1 Lesson Observation

WE ARE PROVIDING YOU WITH THE DOCUMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES SO THAT YOU KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN THE EVALUATOR OBSERVES YOU TEACHING A LESSON.

Sample Pre Brief Checklist – Completed by Evaluator

Surname	First Name
Date of Observation	NCCP #

	Item	Complete
1	Portfolio evaluated and returned to the coach	
2	Coach is contacted and a date and time for the pre-brief is scheduled	
3	Coach completes and submits the lesson plan for the observation	
4	Pre-brief is completed	
5	Date and time of formal observation confirmed	

In the Pre-Brief the evaluator must:

Ensure the coach has a copy of the observation evaluation tools
Instruct the coach about the formal observation procedure
Give the coach an opportunity to ask questions and clarify concerns
Discuss the moments that the evaluator may discontinue the evaluation and what
the next steps will be
The coach will need to be re-evaluated if the following is seen:
☐ The lesson has issues concerning safety
☐ The lesson shows harmful or unethical coaching behaviours
 Harassment and/or abuse
o Disregard for Fair Play
o Demonstration of disrespect for athletes, peers, others or equipment

- o Inadequate technical knowledge
- o Too many tasks are poorly shown or are not shown (10 or more Insufficient ratings)

Questions the Evaluator may ask:

• Have you created your profile on the LMS and accessed the content?

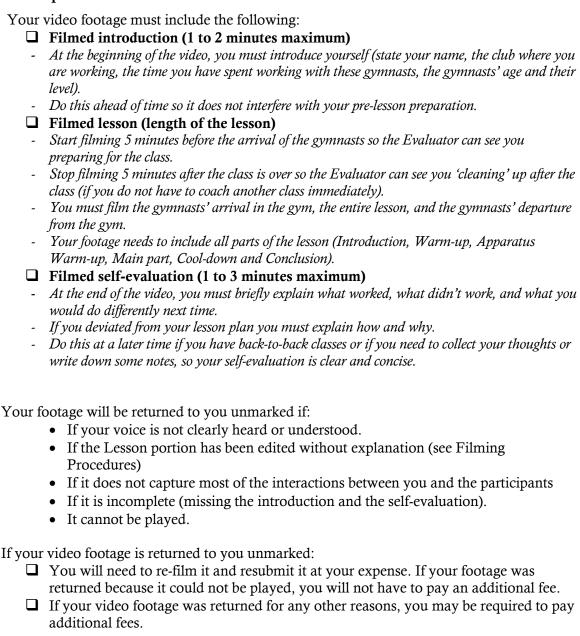
☐ The lesson shows that the coach is not ready to be certified

- What are your goals for the practice?
- Where does this practice fit into your session or season plan?
- Tell me about what you have done in previous lessons to prepare the athletes for the lesson today?
- What is your comfort level with this particular group?
- What is your plan for reaching your goals?
- Is there anything new in this lesson you are trying for the first time?
- What do you see as the biggest challenge in reaching your goals?
- How will you be able to tell if your goals are being achieved?
- What adjustments have you prepared to ensure you meet your goals?
- How will you know if the athletes successfully learn what you plan for them to learn?
- What would you like me to look for during this practice?

Filming Your Lesson

If a Coach Evaluator cannot observe you coaching a gymnastics lesson in person, you will need to submit video footage of you coaching a gymnastics lesson.

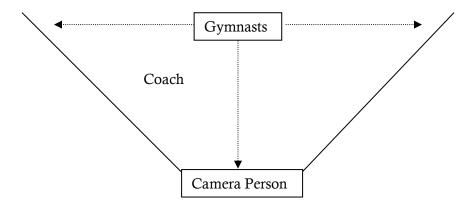
Videotaped Lesson Evaluation



Part 2: Filming Procedures

To assist you in producing quality video footage, we suggest that you consider the following when you film:

- ☐ The film of the Lesson itself must be unedited if you have a planned break (snack or drink) you must indicate the start of the break on the film (before turning the camera off) and you must indicate the end of the break on the film (after turning the camera on). This can be done by the coach or the camera person.
- Your voice must be clear and audible at all times. This means that the camera cannot be too far from you. You should ask a parent or another coach to film if your gym is big or if you move around a lot. You can also use a portable microphone.
- **Background noise, including music, should be minimal.** You may need to prep the other coaches in the gym so they can help keep the noise level down as much as possible.
- ☐ The camera must be held steady. This is best done using a tripod, which can be moved, or by placing the camera on a steady surface.
- ☐ The camera must focus on the coach and participants throughout. You will need to make sure that the camera angle is wide enough to capture you and the participants as they complete the different activities you have planned. The camera person should stand behind and to the side about 8 to 10 feet away from you. The camera angle must be able to capture the demonstrations, discussions and performances of the gymnasts. If you move, the camera person also needs to move.



Sample Lesson Observation Evaluation Tool – Completed by Evaluator

The following tasks are observed and categorized from *Insufficient to Excellent*. Coaches are encouraged to use the Coach Evaluator's ratings and the comments provided as feedback on the strengths and weaknesses of their coaching.

Excellent - The coach performs the task in an outstanding way; exceptional coaching that reflects mastery of the task.

Good - The coach performs the task successfully. The actions taken are appropriate, though a few opportunities were missed that can be improved upon to reach mastery.

Fair - The coach attempts the task but is missing some elements of a successful performance.

Insufficient - The coach attempts the task but requires significant improvement to be successful. Or the coach did not provide evidence of the task (not shown).

The results of the ratings will help the Coach Evaluator make an overall competency assessment.

Required Evidence

A. Evidence Prior to the Practice:

Coaching Task: Implement an appropriately structured and organized practice						
Evidence Prior to Practice	Excellent	Good	Fair	Insufficient	Comments	
Present a practice plan with well-						
defined goals/objectives						
Ensure main practice segments are						
evident and include an introduction,						
warm-up, main part, cool-down, and						
conclusion						
Ensure activities and their duration are		Ш				
appropriate for each segment						
Planned activities contribute to						
development of age and level						
appropriate skills						
Planned activities are consistent with		Ш				
the training priorities for the period in						
the yearly training plan						
Coaching Task: Ensure that the practic	e environn	ent is safe	•			
Evidence Prior to Practice	Excellent	Good	Fair	Insufficient	Comments	
Survey the practice site						
Minimize risk to participants before						
the practice (includes safe equipment,						
safe environment)						
Dress appropriately for active coaching						

B. Evidence During the Practice/Lesson

Coaching Task: Implement an appropri	riately stru	ctured and	organize	d practice	
Evidence During the Practice	Excellent	Good	Fair	Insufficient	Comments
Greet athletes as they arrive at practice					
Ensure equipment and space is			П		
available and used appropriately.		_	_		
Maximize practice time to ensure					
participants have appropriate activity,					
transition, waiting times, appropriate					
breaks for recovery and hydration					
Practice is highly structured, organized					
and efficient					
Address individual athlete needs in a					
way that preserves the practice					
structure and organization for the					
group					
Minimize risk to participants					
throughout the practice.					
Coaching Task: Make interventions the	nat promot	e learning			
Evidence During the Practice	Excelle	ent Good	Fair	Insufficient	Comments
Provide 1–3 key learning points. Ensure					
explanations and demonstrations are					
clear and concise					
Explanations are appropriate to the skill					
development (physical, motor)					
Provide feedback & instruction that					
clearly identifies what & how to improv	e				
Provide positive, specific feedback that i	s \square				
directed towards the group & individual	S				
Constructively reinforce athletes' efforts					
Athletes are given the opportunity to asl	α				
questions					
Identify appropriate expectations for					
athlete behaviour and reinforce these					
expectations when appropriate. May					
include rules to maintain a safe practice					
environment					
Promote a positive image of the sport					
Treat athletes with respect					
Maintain a positive outlook and					
acknowledge athletes' needs and though	its				

Coaching Task: Implement protocols and methods that contribute to the development of athletic abilities							
relevant to the sport							
Evidence During the Practice	Excellent	Good	Fair	Insufficien	t Comments		
Coach uses general and sport-specific							
training methods to appropriately develop							
and/or maintain physical attributes such as:							
 coordination 							
flexibility							
• balance							
agility							
maximum strength							
strength-endurance							
_							
• speed							
• power	1				_		
Select and implement specific training							
protocols to address individual athlete							
weaknesses	 			<u> </u>			
Activities are consistent with the plan's							
goals and objectives							
Selected training protocols and methods are							
adapted to the age and training experience							
of the athletes							
Coaching Task: Detect Performance							
Evidence During the Practice	Excellent	Good	Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Evidence <i>During the Practice</i> Observe skills from adequate vantage	Excellent		Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage	Excellent	Good	Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport	Excellent		Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical	Excellent		Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF)	Excellent		Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor	Excellent		Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor abilities	Excellent		Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor abilities Identify causes of errors from	Excellent		Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor abilities	Excellent		Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor abilities Identify causes of errors from psychological or attention abilities	Excellent		Fair	Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor abilities Identify causes of errors from psychological or attention abilities Coaching Task: Correct Performance							
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor abilities Identify causes of errors from psychological or attention abilities Coaching Task: Correct Performance Evidence During the Practice	Excellent Excellent	Good		Insufficient Insufficient Insufficient	Comments		
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor abilities Identify causes of errors from psychological or attention abilities Coaching Task: Correct Performance Evidence During the Practice Correctly and consistently apply							
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor abilities Identify causes of errors from psychological or attention abilities Coaching Task: Correct Performance Evidence During the Practice Correctly and consistently apply biomechanical principles while							
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor abilities Identify causes of errors from psychological or attention abilities Coaching Task: Correct Performance Evidence During the Practice Correctly and consistently apply biomechanical principles while performing analyses							
Observe skills from adequate vantage point(s) as appropriate to the sport Identify causes of errors from physical abilities (ESPF) Identify causes of errors from motor abilities Identify causes of errors from psychological or attention abilities Coaching Task: Correct Performance Evidence During the Practice Correctly and consistently apply biomechanical principles while							
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C. Post Practice Debrief between Evaluator and Coach:

Evidence In Debrief Post Practice	Excellent	Good	Fair	Insufficient	Comments
Provide rationale for choosing					
interventions that are used during					
practice					
Provide appropriate rationale to					
justify how adjustments to the plan					
helped achieve or enhance the					
objectives					
Analyze a variety of factors that					
could contribute to increased					
performance (e.g., athletic abilities,					
environmental factors, recovery and					
regenerative strategies, mental					
strategies, etc.)					
Explain how an error relates to					
overall skill performance.					

Questions the Evaluator May Ask:

- How do you feel the practice went?
 What do you think went particularly well (or not)?
 What was supposed to happen? What did happen? Why was there a difference between what you expected and what did happen?
- Did you meet your objectives in your plan?
- Why do you think it's important for your gymnasts to train ____?
- What is your rationale for using ____ technique?
- Did you learn something new today?
- How will today's practice affect your next plan/practice?
- How will you use this experience going forward?
- What can I do to help you?

OPTIONAL EVIDENCE – These evidences are not required to meet the minimum standard. They may be observed during the lesson and allow evaluators to provide more feedback. Coaches should be aware of these evidences as opportunities to advance their coaching.

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Coaching Task	Comments
Communicate the practice goals/objectives to the athletes	
Make adjustments to practice based on an analysis of athlete performance	
Give athletes opportunities to apply creative solutions and to offer suggestions that enhance the learning environment	
Modify practice activities to deal with specific circumstances (e.g. timing, resources, equipment, etc.)	
Adapt practice activities or practice conditions where necessary to provide appropriate challenges from a technical, tactical, physical, or decision-making point of view	
Reduce or increase work intensity, work periods, or length of rest (pauses) as necessary to account for athletes' fitness and/or fatigue, consistent with practice goals	
Use technology to gather information about athletes' performance or to enhance learning	
Identify individual learning styles (auditory, visual, kinesthetic) and provide individual interventions to optimize learning	
Use a variety of observational strategies (positioning, video, other coaches, etc.) to identify the most critical aspects of performance	
Reinforce competitive rules, or performance related to achievement of sport and level technical requirements	

Lesson Observation Evaluation Results

For Certification in Competition 1 (Introduction), the coach is evaluated on their ability to coach athletes in a safe, age and level-appropriate gymnastics lesson.

Coach Name:	NCCP #:	Gym Discipline:			
LEVEL	DESCRIPTORS	СНЕСК	COMPLETE or INCOMPLETE LESSON OBSERVATION		
Expert	Coach demonstrates an extensive base of knowledge and expertise through perfectly meaningful activities and a naturally superior performance for the age and level of the athletes. (Generally, all 40 evidences rated <i>Excellent</i> or <i>Good</i>)				
Proficient	Coach displays intuitive control of a safe, age and level appropriate lesson and uses sophisticated instructional techniques that focus on the most critical components for individual athlete success. (Generally, 0 <i>Insufficient</i> , 20+ <i>Good</i>)		COMPLETE The observation portion of the evaluation is successfully completed.		
Competent	Coach implements the expected procedures of a safe, age and level appropriate lesson, while displaying a desire to see athletes learn, develop and grow. (Generally, 30+ Fair, Good or Excellent)				
Beginner	Coach requires more knowledge and experience to successfully implement a safe, age and level appropriate lesson.	☐ The less coaching ☐ The less ready to ratings) The evaluat	INCOMPLETE on has issues concerning safety on shows harmful or unethical g behaviours on shows that the coach is not be certified (10 or more <i>Insufficient</i> or will provide feedback and will discuss items to lead to your future success.		
Comments and	d Action Items:	action plant			
Evaluator Nar	me:	NCCP #	t:		
Evaluator Sigr	nature:Coach	Signature: _			

Lesson Observation Guidelines for Success

We are providing you with these Lesson Observation Guidelines for Success to use as a reference before you are evaluated coaching a lesson.

You don't have to complete this document, but to make sure that you are prepared to be evaluated while coaching a lesson, read over these Guidelines for Success. They list what the Coach Evaluator will be looking for when they evaluate your coaching.

Provide Support to Athletes in Training

Criterion 1: Implement an appropriately structured and organized practice						
Achievement	Evidence:					
Expert	 "Proficient" and: □ Adapts practice activities to increase challenge or to ensure optimal learning opportunities □ Adjusts practice parameters (time, space) or training environment to elicit a specific technical or tactical training response 					
Proficient	 "Competent" and: □ Modifies practice activities when unforeseen circumstances arise □ The sequence of activities (timing of the activity in the practice) leads to enhanced learning or training effects □ Makes appropriate adjustments to practice after analysis of athlete performance □ Implements a variety of options for adapting the practice to ensure adequate learning 					
Competent	 □ Presents a practice plan for the practice that is being implemented □ Ensures delivery of practice matches practice plan's goal(s) □ Ensures main practice segments are evident and include: intro, warm-up, main part with specific apparatus warm ups, cool-down, conclusion □ Ensures equipment is available and ready to use □ Uses space and equipment adequately □ Provides breaks for appropriate recovery and hydration □ Greets athletes as they arrive at practice □ Dresses appropriately for active coaching □ Activities contribute to the development of skills and/or athletic abilities, i.e., the specific drills, exercises, methods and training load match the training objective pursued □ Maximize practice time: practice demonstrates a clear timeline for activities so that activity time is maximized, participants are engaged the majority of the time 					

	Unclear structure to the practice as demonstrated by the following elements: no or poorly designed practice plan; goal/focus of practice is not clearly identified; no warm-up is provided or inappropriate warm-up activities are used; delivery of practice does not match practice plan
Beginner	 □ Does not ensure equipment is ready, or does not address if original setup has changed since □ Insufficient breaks provided relative to the activities □ Inappropriate dress for active coaching □ Inappropriate duration of practice activities (e.g., activities are so short that there is not enough time to learn or practice; activities are so long that participants become fatigued and de-motivated; there is more waiting time than engagement time for participants)

Criterion 2: Mak	te Interventions that promote learning
Achievement	Evidence:
Expert	 "Proficient" and: □ Selects from a variety of intervention strategies to achieve specific learning objectives that are impactful to the both training and competition □ Reinforces correct performance by facilitating interventions that promote reflection (e.g., feedback, questioning the participant, or using a demonstration) to identify the key factors that were properly executed □ Ensures intervention is specific to individuals, enabling participants to take greater ownership over specific performance factors & learning objectives. (intervention strategies may include: delayed or summative feedback, questioning, focusing external attention, modeling, learning aids)
Proficient	 "Competent" and: □ Provides feedback to promote critical thinking □ Provides interventions that are evaluative, prescriptive, and descriptive □ Integrates and teaches basic decision making (emphasize independent thinking and problem solving; use quality questions that promote critical thinking; implement interventions that identify when to make appropriate decisions to enhance participants' performance of a skill) □ Integrates mental preparation strategies into practice □ Identifies individual learning styles (auditory, visual, kinesthetic) and provide appropriate interventions to optimize learning. Appropriate interventions for learning style may include the following: Auditory learning – verbal feedback, Visual learning – demonstration or modeling, Kinesthetic learning – doing or feeling
Competent	 □ Clarifies key learning objectives and/or performance factors (feedback/instruction) with participants prior to engaging in the activity □ Creates opportunities to interact with all athletes □ Provides demonstrations so that all athletes can see and hear □ Provides 1–3 key learning points in explanation or demonstration □ Ensures key learning points match sport's skill development model □ Constructively reinforces athletes' efforts and corrects performance □ Provides feedback & instruction clearly identifying what & how to improve □ Provides feedback that is positive, specific, and directed towards both the group and individuals □ Identifies and reinforces appropriate expectations for athlete behaviour □ Promotes a positive image of the sport and model the image to athletes and other stakeholders □ Uses respectful language towards athletes when providing verbal interventions. Respectful language is non-discriminatory and void of profanity and insults □ Maintain a positive outlook and acknowledge athletes' needs and thoughts □ Ensures explanations are clear and concise and provide opportunities

	☐ Uses models of desired performance
Beginner	 Does not identify key learning points in explanation Participants are not positioned to see or hear demonstrations (or attention not gained) Limited interventions made to clarify key learning points Provides feedback that only identifies what to improve, and not how to improve Provides feedback that tends to emphasize motivational prompts rather than specific corrections (e.g., frequent use of reinforcement comments)
	Does not use respectful language

Criterion 3: Implement protocols and methods that contribute to the development of athletic abilities relevant to the sport		
Achievement	Evidence:	
Expert	 "Proficient" and: □ Develops new and innovative general and/or sport-specific training protocols that are consistent with scientific principles □ Mentors other coaches to effectively implement training methods □ The methods and protocols used by the coach to develop and/or maintain athletic abilities could be used as a model for other coaches □ Uses new and innovative training protocols and methods consistent with current scientific research data and sport-specific observations at the elite level □ Consults with specialist(s) (physiotherapists, doctors, trainers) to identify advanced strategies to address individual fitness training needs of athletes to enhance training of physical abilities in practice 	
Proficient	 "Competent" and: □ Selects and implements training protocols to address individual athlete weaknesses □ Adapts loading parameters to reflect individual variables such as training background, previous injuries, etc. □ Correctly implements training methods and protocols to develop and/or maintain all athletic abilities relevant to the gym sport 	
Competent	 Implements general and sport-specific training protocols and methods to appropriately develop and/or maintain Coach uses general and sport-specific training methods to appropriately develop and/or maintain physical attributes: coordination, flexibility, balance, agility, maximum strength, strength-endurance, speed-strength, speed Training protocols and methods are adapted to the age and training experience of the athletes Training protocols and methods are appropriate to the time of the yearly program 	
Beginner	 □ Uses a limited number of methods to effectively contribute to the development of sport specific physical and motor abilities □ Training protocols and methods are inadequate for either the age of the athletes or their experience □ Training protocols and methods that are not adequate or sufficiently sport-specific given the time of the yearly program □ Does not create conditions to train athletic abilities relevant to the sport during practice □ Does not implement methods that effectively contribute to the development of physical and motor abilities (or methods are inconsistent with Competition-Introduction theory) 	

Analyze Performance

Criterion 1: Detect Performance		
Achievement	Evidence:	
Expert	 "Proficient" and: □ Displays variety in teaching methods to target different learning types (auditory, visual, kinesthetic) □ Provides specific evidence to reinforce learning points (e.g. notation, biomechanical analysis) □ Analyzes a variety of factors that could contribute to increased performance □ Encourages athletes to self-detect key performance factors and to understand how and why errors affect overall performance □ Uses competitive rules and strategies to reinforce learning points 	
Proficient	 "Competent" and: □ Displays knowledge beyond the skill selected to achieve more advanced skills in the future □ Communicates how and why the critical error contributes to the performance □ Provides rationale for identifying individual skills that need improvement □ Uses a variety of observational strategies (e.g., positioning, video, other coaches, etc.) to identify the most critical aspects of performance □ Facilitates athletes to increase awareness of skill errors by asking appropriate questions 	
Competent	 □ Displays knowledge of sport terminology □ The difficulty of the tasks chosen is relevant to the individual athlete □ Uses appropriate physical, motor, and technical progressions that will lead to successful skill development □ Identifies factors that have a direct impact on performance and/or skill refinement 	
Beginner	 □ Has vague understanding of physical and motor preparation required for skill development □ Selects activities that will not have greatest impact on performance. Better options should be utilized □ Requires more knowledge of sport terminology, training protocols 	

Criterion 2: Correct Performance		
Achievement	Evidence:	
Expert	 "Proficient" and: □ Involves athletes in a critical thinking process, such as asking open ended questions: "What did you do?" "What should you do?" "What are you going to do to get better results?" "How can you generate greater force upon release?" □ Identifies why the correction will have a beneficial effect on the performance and consistently identify how to improve performance 	
Proficient	 "Competent" and: □ Ensures adequate motor engagement in the task or activity for each athlete □ Selects corrective tasks that are sufficiently challenging of the athletes' capabilities □ Identifies corrections that focus athletes' attention towards the most appropriate cues (internal or external cues) □ Helps athletes to increase awareness of basic corrections by asking closed questions (e.g. "If you move into that position will you have more/less?" "Will that arm position allow greatest force/push?") 	
Competent	 Identifies specific corrections based on observation of movement phases and in accordance with the sport development model (physical, motor, technical) Uses prescriptive performance corrections (i.e., they emphasize how to improve, not just what to improve Explains how the correction relates to improved performance Explains why the correction contributes to improved performance Facilitates athletes to increase awareness of corrections by asking appropriate questions Prescribes an appropriate activity or drill that assists athlete to make correction in performance 	
Beginner	 Provides vague corrections rather than specific factors that contribute to improved performance: "Concentrate more" "Work harder" Corrects the athletes by indicating what they did rather than identifying specific strategies for how to improve the performance. 	

Competition 1 Coach Certification Pathway



NCCP Competition 1 (Introduction)

