

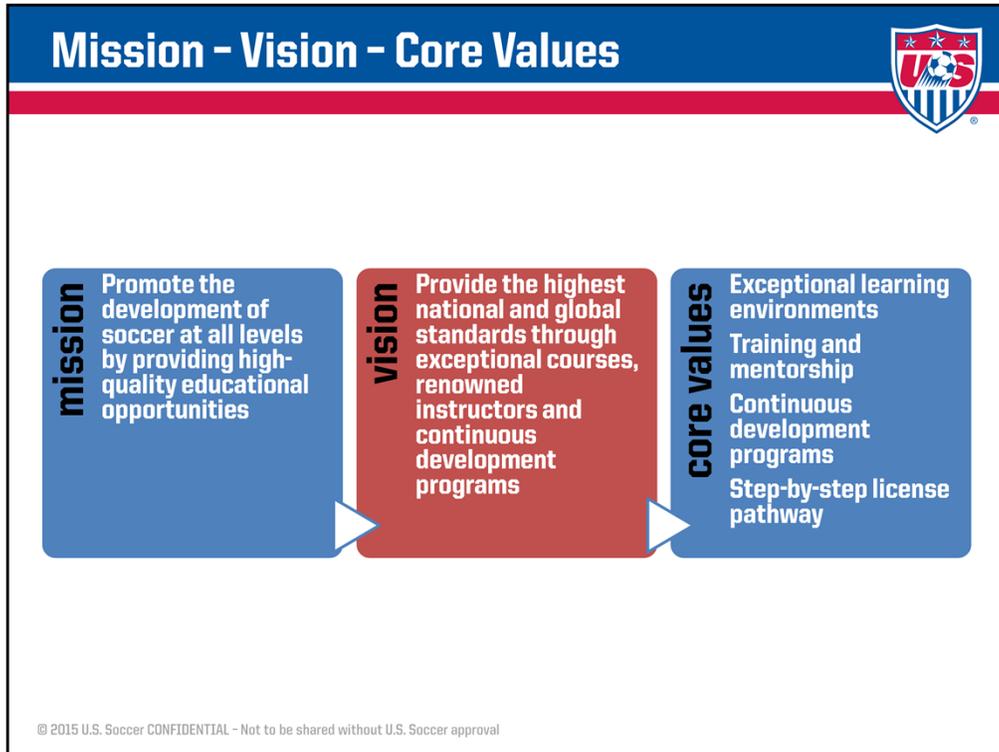
# Coaching Education: Course Structure and Licensing Pathway



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Welcome to the U.S Soccer Federation's presentation on Coaching Education.

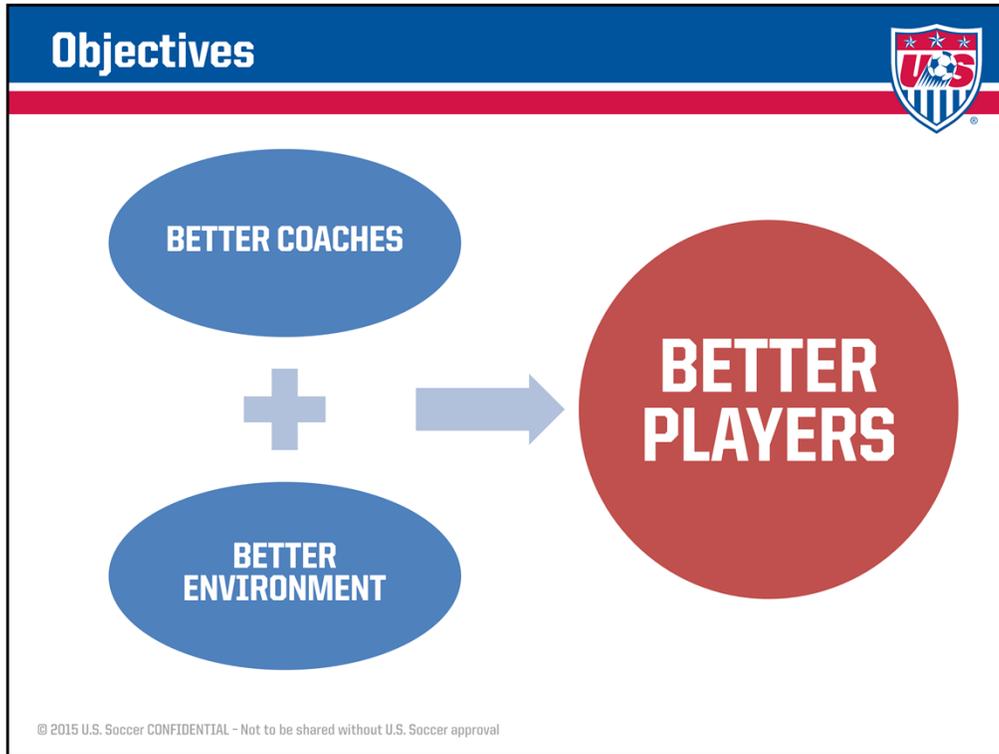
This presentation serves to update and inform coaches on the developments of the licensing pathway and changes in course structure.



The U.S. Soccer Coaching Education department’s mission is to promote the development of soccer at all levels by providing high quality educational opportunities.

We are committed to developing coaches by exposing them to high quality learning environments and enabling them to perform at the highest national and global standards through exceptional courses, renowned instructors and continuous development programs.

Through U.S. Soccer’s commitment and investment in educational resources and opportunities, along with each coach’s commitment to excel, a standard of development will be set for future coaches.



Developing players is a combination of proper coaching and setting up a positive learning environment.

In the flow of the game, players have to think for themselves and make their own decisions. They cannot rely upon the coach to solve the problem.

The coach is the facilitator of the learning environment and he or she should guide the players during the process of individual development.

By improving the coach and creating a better training environment, our players will continue to develop.

## Starting Point



- **2016 Coaching Initiatives**
  - **Introduce new course opportunities through a comprehensive license pathway**
  - **Full-time professional educators and coach mentors**
  - **Invest in, enhance and improve all license levels**
  - **Digital Coaching Center - [dcc.ussoccer.com](http://dcc.ussoccer.com)**

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To help expedite the process of creating better coaches and training environments for our players, U.S. Soccer has made an unprecedented commitment to education.

This commitment includes, but is not limited to, the hiring of full time technical staff for coaching education and the development of an online educational platform known as the Digital Coaching Center.

2016 will also feature new course opportunities through the form of the Pro and Academy Director courses.

These 2 courses, and the addition of the F course, represent a complete coaching pathway.

# License Pathway



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Let's review U.S. Soccer's coaching license pathway, and recent changes.



This image represents the current U.S. Soccer coaching education license pathway.

U.S. Soccer coaching courses include F, which targets U6-U8 players, through Academy Director and Pro, which target coaching and management in the elite youth and professional environments.

As the candidate progresses from course to course, the pathway has been structured so the methodologies and principles build based on the player's developmental stage.

The F course, which is an online opportunity, can be taken through U.S. Soccer's state of the art platform, the Digital Coaching Center.

The E and D courses are executed by approved portions of U.S. Soccer membership such as your local state association.

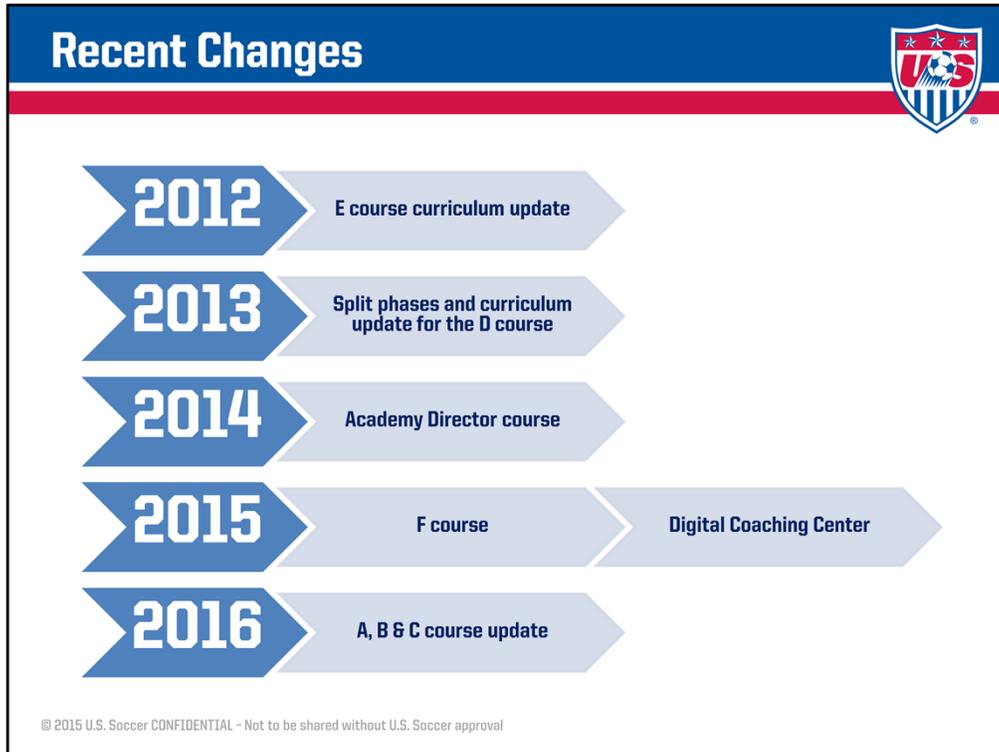
Through the end of 2015, C, B and A courses are held over a single 9-day period.

The 9 day course can be broken down into 7 days of field and theory sessions, with the final 2 days consisting of practical testing.

Sitting above the A course, the Academy Director and Pro courses will be the most elite licensing and educational opportunities held in the United States.

The Academy Director course operates over the span of 18 months and is designed for those who are Directors of Coaching or Technical Directors for elite youth clubs.

The Pro course will be focused on those directly involved in the professional game.



The past four years we have progressively evolved the structure of our learning environment by integrating a series of instructional and practice cycles.

Our singular goal with these modifications is to improve the quality and increase the frequency of practical learning experiences.

These stepping stones have led us to a point where we can fully implement a course structure that incorporates a series of small group meetings and individual interactions with instructors and coach mentors.

# Digital Coaching Center



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Let's take a closer look at how U.S. Soccer's Digital Coaching Center will facilitate coach development.

## DCC Objectives

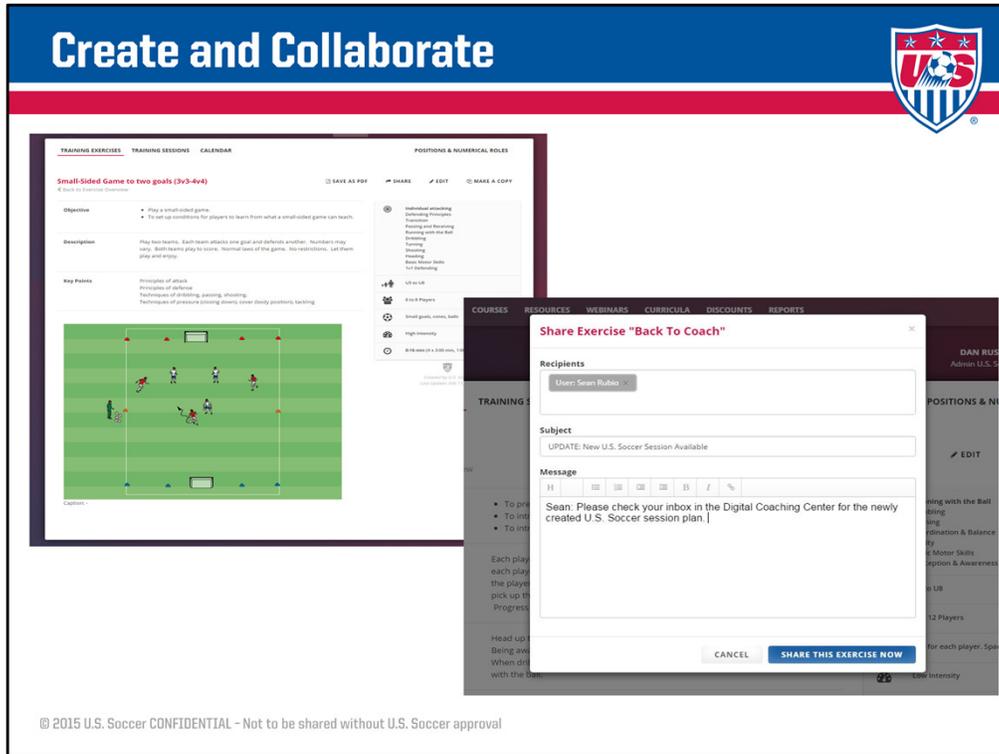


- **Utilize an online educational platform to better educate coaches at all levels of the game**
- **Connect with U.S. Soccer**
  - **Create**
  - **Collaborate**
  - **Access**
  - **Educate and develop**

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Through the Digital Coaching Center, U.S. Soccer will be able to connect with coaches from all over the country on a consistent basis.

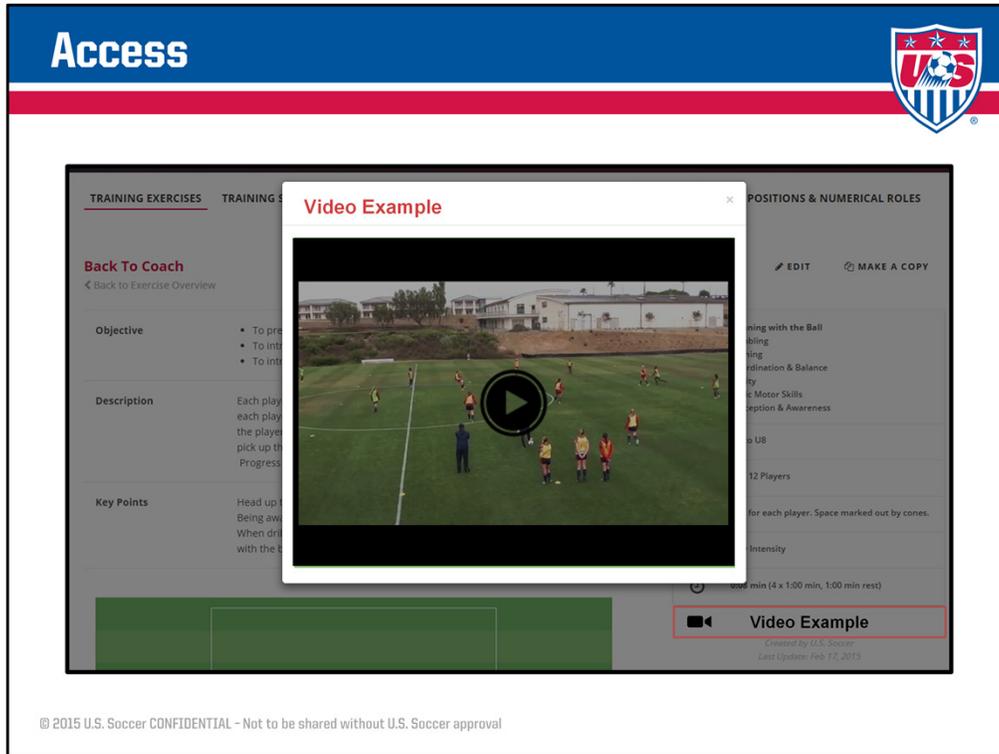
The DCC will allow coaches to grow in the following ways.



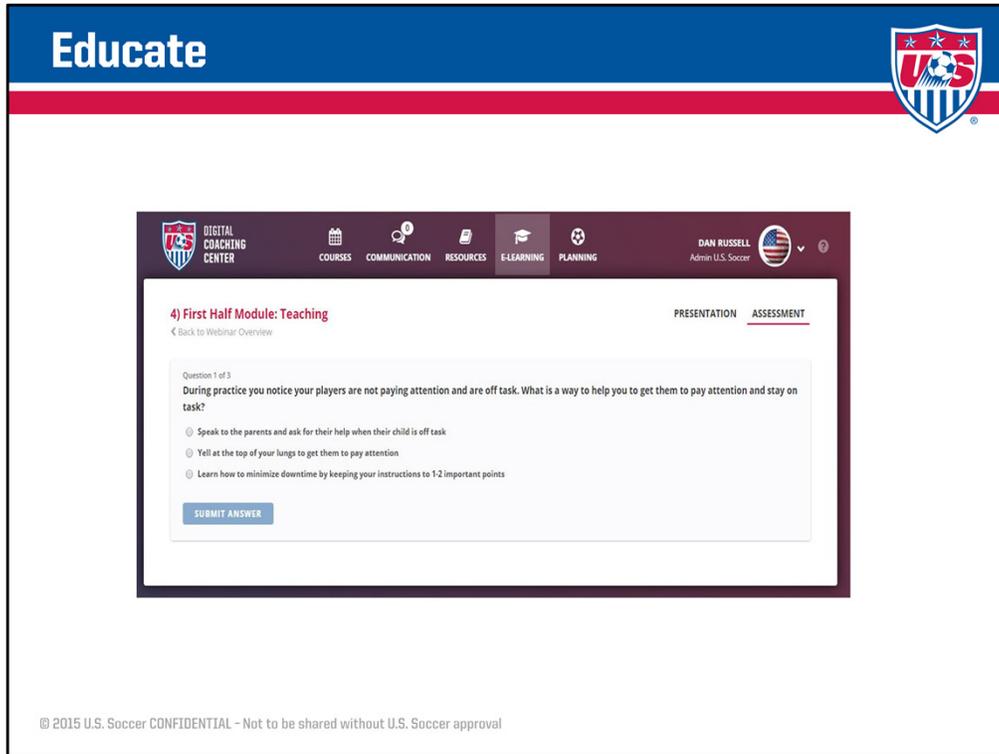
The system allows users to create their own content and develop new ideas.

Here's an example of a training session created in the DCC using the Planning tool.

The DCC will also support collaboration between users, technical leaders, and staff through a dynamic communication tool, used to interact during coaching courses.



Users will have the opportunity to access U.S. Soccer content and learn through practical examples, such as video clips of training sessions.



Most importantly, users will have the opportunity to develop through online education.

One example being, the National F course, which was launched in early 2015.

# 2016 Course Changes



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We will now address the course changes that will take place in 2016.

# Coaching Recommendations



	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12
Player Development Zone	Zone 1	Zone 1	Zone 1	Zone 1	Zone 1	Zone 1	Zone 1
Development Stage	Initial	Initial	Initial	Basic	Basic	Basic	Basic
License Level	F	F	F	E	E	E	E

	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19+
Player Development Zone	Zone 2	Zone 2	Zone 2	Zone 2	Zone 2	Zone 2	Zone 3
Development Stage	Intermediate	Intermediate	Advanced	Advanced	Advanced	Advanced	Specific
License Level	D	D	C + B	C + B	C + B	C + B	A

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This chart shows the Player Development Zone, as well as the Developmental Stage, for each age group of player.

The chart also shows the corresponding license in the U.S. Soccer pathway for each age group.

Note that while the C and B courses both focus on the U15-U18 player in Zone 2, the B course is focused on elite youth player development.

Coaches should utilize this chart to make sure they are working with age appropriate players prior to and while attending a course.

## 2016 Structure



- **A, B and C courses consist of multiple meetings**
  - **Number of meetings and total time required based on license level**
  - **Candidates will have tasks in between course meetings while in their home environments**
- **Regional evaluation site for C courses**
- **Evaluation in candidate's environment for A and B courses**

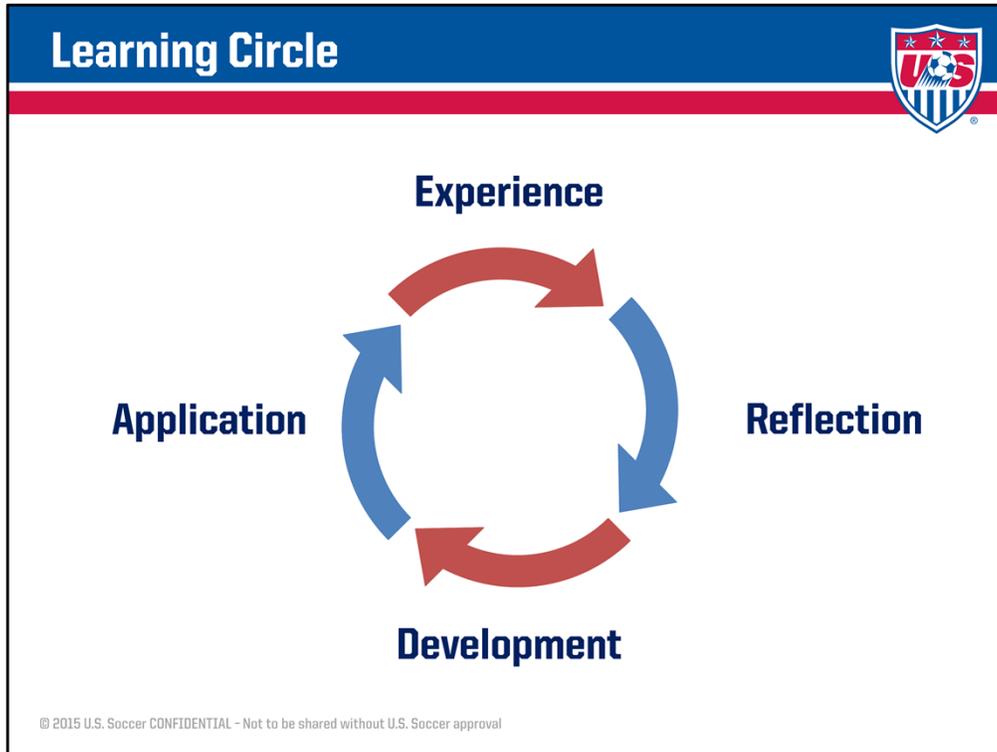
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In an effort to improve our training environments and better our players, U.S. Soccer is taking a more holistic, candidate-centered approach to coach development.

Each license in the pathway builds as you progress, which will be reflected in the length of each course.

Beginning in 2016, A, B and C courses will consist of multiple meetings.

All three courses will culminate with an evaluation during the final meeting.



The ultimate goal of coach education is to prepare a coach for the reality, and the tasks he or she has to fulfill to be successful in developing players and the overall team.

The cycle image represents the learning process that a coach undergoes during his or her development.

Application is the actual execution and experience one has while coaching

Reflection is taking those experiences and re-analyzing them as a coach or a player.

This will help create awareness of the performance and understand how to improve and further our development.

This is the ongoing learning process a coach must go through in order to develop.

The new course structure reflects and reinforces this process through the alternation of an in person meeting, deliberate practice, instruction and peer learning and mentoring.

# C License



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Let's review how the new course structure is implemented for U.S. Soccer's National C License, which focuses on coaches that work with players U15-U18.



## 2 meetings over 3 months



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Beginning in 2016, the C course will adopt a similar structure to the D course.

The C course will consist of two face-to-face meetings, over the span of roughly three months.

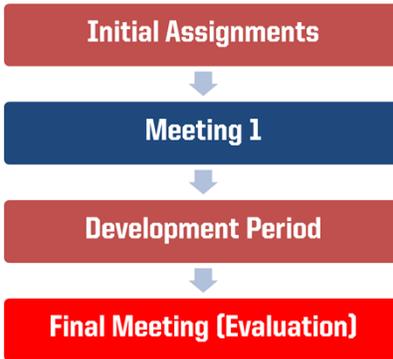
Meeting 1, which will take place over multiple days, is similar to the educational phase from the previous course structure.

Following Meeting 1, coaches will return home to their environments.

Evaluation will take place in a separate meeting.



### 2 meetings over 3 months



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The C course will also have initial assignments, that will be due before the first face-to-face meeting takes place.

Meeting 1 will then occur at an approved location, over the span of multiple days.

After the completion of Meeting 1, candidates will also have assignments or tasks to complete during the Development Period, which takes place in a candidates' home environment.

The second, final meeting will take place roughly three months after Meeting 1, and will take place at an approved location determined by U.S. Soccer.

The final meeting will include a candidates' evaluation.

# B License

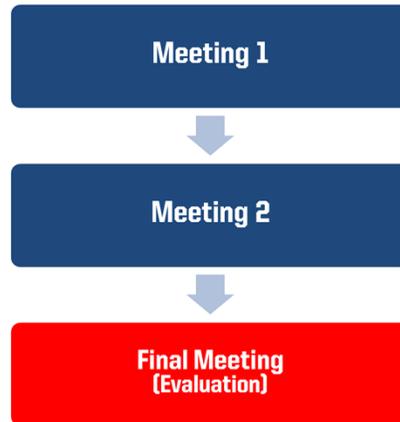


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Now, let's examine the new course structure for U.S. Soccer's National B License, for coaches that work with elite players U15-U18 in age.



### 3 meetings over 4 months



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The B course will consist of 3 total face-to-face meetings over roughly 4 months.

The first 2 of these meetings will take place at a location approved by U.S. Soccer.

The final meeting will be an evaluation where U.S. Soccer staff will oversee the candidate in their environment.



## 3 meetings over 4 months



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The B course will have a set of initial assignments prior to the first face-to-face meeting.

Candidates will also have developmental tasks during and in between the scheduled meetings

The tasks in between meetings will take place during the Development Periods, which will occur in a candidate's home environment.

After Meeting 2, and the final Development Period, the candidate will transition to the final meeting.

The final meeting will also take place in a candidate's environment.

In the final meeting, the candidate's instructor will evaluate them on an individual basis.

Registration for the B course will be an application-based process.

# A License

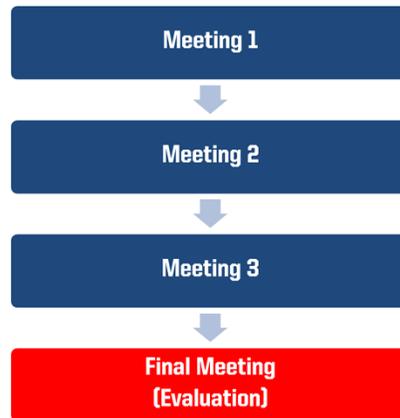


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Next, we will walk through the structure of U.S. Soccer's National A License, for those coaching competitive players 18 and above.



## 4 meetings over 6 months



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The updated A course follows a similar format to that of the B course, with one additional face-to-face meeting.

A courses will consist of 4 total face-to-face meetings over the span of roughly 6 months.

The first 3 of these meetings will take place at an approved location.

The final meeting will be an evaluation of the candidate in their environment.



## 4 meetings over 6 months



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Much like the B and C courses, the A course will also have a set of initial assignments before the first face-to-face meeting.

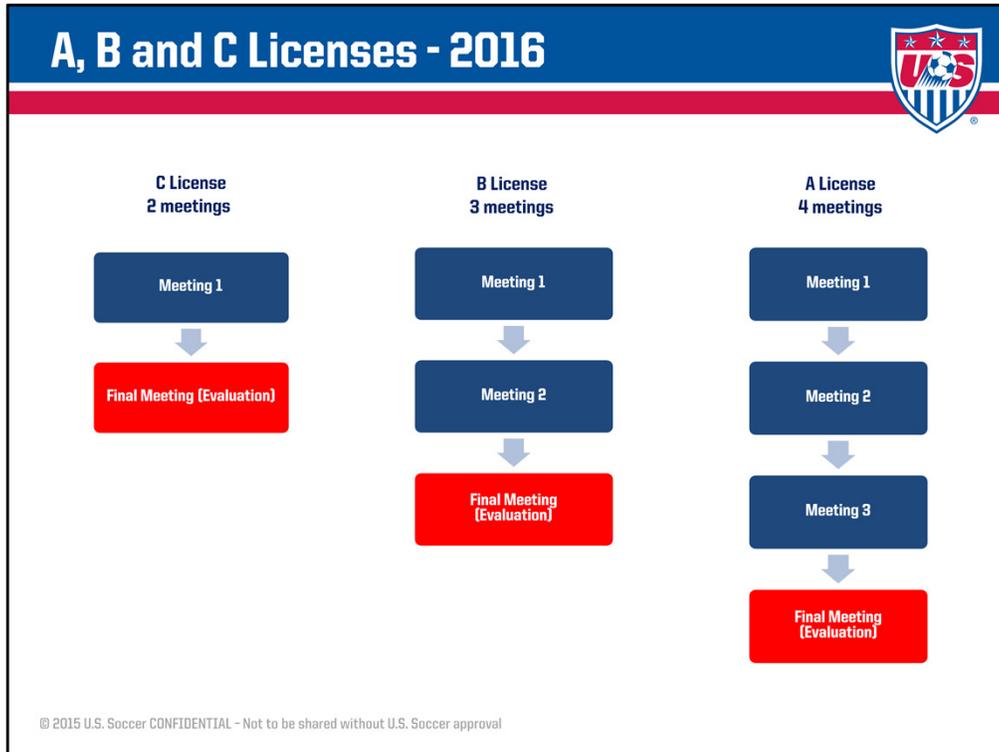
Candidates will have tasks or assignments to complete during these meetings, as well as in between them.

The task or assignment between meetings will take place during the Development Period, which will occur in a candidate's home environment.

After Meeting 3, and the candidate's final Development Period, the candidate will move to the final meeting.

The final meeting will consist of the instructor overseeing the candidate in their environment.

Registration for the A course will be an application-based process.



In summary, the A, B and C courses will follow a similar structure, with each opportunity building upon the previous.

As a coach progresses from course to course, you will notice an increased level of commitment.

This can be identified through the longer course structure and the additional meetings involved at the A and B level.

# Academy Director and Pro Licenses



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Completing the pathway at the highest level are U.S. Soccer's Academy Director and Pro licenses.

## Academy Director and Pro Licenses



- **Course structure**
  - **Multiple meetings over 12+ months**
  - **Similar process to A, B and C courses**
- **Invitation only as of 2016**

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Similar to the A, B, and C courses, these opportunities will consist of a series of meetings over a period of at least 12 months, with various tasks or assignments taking place before, during and in between the meetings.

As of 2016, the Academy Director and Pro courses are invitation only, before moving to an application-based process in the future.

# Transition and Review



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Let's review the course changes and how we plan to transition into the new course structure.

## Transition



- **Application submission and review for A and B courses will begin in early 2016**
- **Initial assignments for A, B and C courses will take place prior to the first meeting**
- **The first in-person meetings for A, B and C courses under the new structure will occur in Summer 2016**

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The transition into this new course structure will begin in early 2016.

Initial assignments for candidates that are approved to undergo the courses will begin prior to the first meeting.

The first in person meetings for A, B and C courses under the new structure will be held in the summer of 2016.

More information is available online at [ussoccer.com](http://ussoccer.com).

## Review



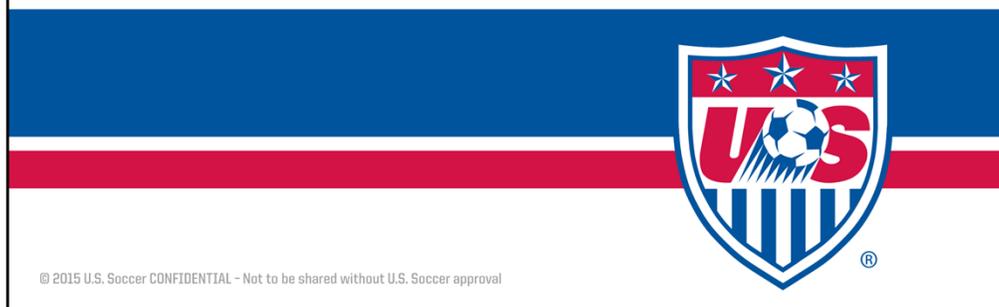
- **Updates to courses are meant to improve the quality of educational opportunities for coaches across the United States**
- **Courses will be administered through the Digital Coaching Center - [dcc.ussoccer.com](http://dcc.ussoccer.com)**

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The updates to A, B and C courses are meant to improve the quality of the educational opportunities for coaches across the United States.

Beginning in 2016, all courses will be administered through the Digital Coaching Center so create your account now at [dcc.ussoccer.com](http://dcc.ussoccer.com).

# Thank You



This concludes the presentation on the U.S. Soccer Coaching Education license pathway.

Thank you for your attention and support. We look forward to hosting you in the future.