

It is now *READY, SET* and almost . . . *GO*

[25 May 10 – Bryan Neighbour]

The first phase of the new Athletics Australia 'Level 1 Beginning Coach' has been launched. A pilot course has also been run to test the approach (22 May 10, in NSW). Although I do not have any official feedback from the pilot program I will post it as soon as I receive it.

To avoid confusion between the ATFCA Level 1 and the new Athletics Australia Level 1, the abbreviations of ATFCA L1 and AA L1 will appear in our news items.

Background

The *Australian Sports Commission* (ASC) has directed all sporting associations to be in-charge of their own coach education. Even though ATFCA has been the nominated partner of Athletics Australia and worked as its national provider for coaching accreditations for about 35 years, rather than continue to assign this responsibility to the ATFCA, the AA Board of Directors decided some time ago to develop its own system.

The first phase is now ready and was developed by Michael Poulton (AA) in conjunction with and in keeping with the national strategy of ASC and also guided by John Armstrong (ASC).

Significant differences between the current ATFCA L1 and the new AA L1 are that:

- it will be only one day, instead of two days;
- before attending, all applicants must have successfully completed a pre-requisite course managed by the ASC;
- it does not have formally directed training in the events;
- it does not have a written exam;
- candidates are progressively assessed over the day; and,
- successful applicants will be recognised as 'assistant coaches', not 'coaches'.

The base-course will be known as the **Level 1 Beginning Coach Course**. Provided candidates successfully complete this one-day course, and have also successfully completed the **ASC's online 'The Beginning Coaching General Principles Course'**, they will be eligible for national accreditation as an **'assistant coach'**.

Detail and Action

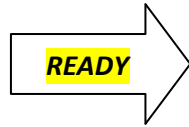
For a more comprehensive explanation, *search the AA site*.

Note: All applicants for the **AA L1** must first complete the Australian Sports Commission's online course **'The Beginning Coaching General Principles Course'**.

To find details and also *to enroll in the ASC course*, go to the ASC site: <http://www.ausport.gov.au/>

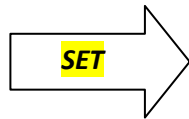
From the ASC 'Home page' select: [Education and Accreditation](#) on the right, to read a little background, then go to the [On-line Learning Portal](#).

As the first step:



All AA L1 candidates should start their preparation with the **ASC on-line course**.

For the second step:



Enroll in an **AA L1** when it is advertised.

*Both AV and the ATFCA, in Victoria, are approved providers of AA coach courses.
This branch will provide more details as soon as they are released.*