



IBA COACH RATING - KEY FACTS

What is the purpose of the new coach rating system?

We are learning lessons from other adventurous sports and our aim is to recognize quality tunnel coaching and to support the tunnel industry to maintain the safest possible environment. In the near term, it is about giving the existing coaches support and recognition and in the long term it is about providing a structured training curriculum to create new coaches.

How many coach ratings are there?

We currently have 3 IBA Coach Ratings, which are classified within the main disciplines of the sport; Formation Skydiving Coach (belly flying only), Static Progression Coach and Dynamic Progression Coach.

Who will train me and sign-off the coach ratings and what qualifications do they have?

As with other sports, we have recognized that a good coach educator is not just a great flyer. We have also acknowledged that this is, and should be a highly valued rating, so we have only entrusted approvals to our most qualified Trainer Level 4's (T4s) or higher. Each of these T4s have attended a specific Train the Trainer package designed to deliver the Coach Ratings and in some cases, they have attended a specific Tutoring and Assessing course.

How do I qualify?

The IBA Coach Pathway - how to become a coach - is outlined below. Once you have met the pre-requisite input standards, the first thing you need to do is have a "Program Orientation" which is effectively a discussion with the assessing trainer on the process of qualification. They will take you through the required pre-reading before you take the "Tunnel Coach Ready" on-line assessment. This is an education package providing you with the key principles of coaching. This completes "Module 1". "Module 2" is the practical element and this is where you start the coach training program detailed within the training curriculum, before taking the "Final Assessment" within your chosen discipline. Upon successful completion of "Module 2" you will be signed off to coach.

What if I have been successfully coaching for many years - can I carry on and do I need to do the training program?

Yes, you can continue to coach. The assessment strategy contained within the rating system is output based. This means that the T4 approving your rating will be required to assess your coaching ability, and if you are already coaching at the declared standard, you will not need additional training. Based upon your skills and the T4's knowledge of you and your skills, they can award you with your rating. The curriculum is specifically designed with "legacy" coaches in mind and in some cases, it will be a simple process of "grandfather rights". We are confident that you will see the merits in this exciting new system and the value that it will add long term. We will ask you to complete the "Program Orientation" and "Tunnel Coach Ready" on-line assessment as this supports our training management system and allows us to track your

ratings. We will also need your support to develop it even further and we welcome your feedback.

I am a new flyer, can I become a coach?

Absolutely! In the first instance, you need to meet the pre-requisite input standards. The coach rating can be awarded to anyone that completes the IBA Coach Pathway and demonstrates the appropriate skill. It is likely that you will need much longer to develop the skills within “Module 2” and the training system is designed to allow T4’s to deliver specific lessons based upon your requirements. The output standard is fixed. The variable is the amount time you will need to meet the training objectives and achieve the standard.

I already have an IBA coach rating - do I need to complete this?

Yes, you do. This will replace the old system outright. If you have an existing coach account you will need to talk to your T4, complete the “Program Orientation” and check how you transfer your skills.

How long do I have to complete this training program?

The way in which this IBA rating is implemented within individual tunnels may vary, so you should check the timelines with your local T4 or tunnel management. In all cases, the old IBA rating will cease to exist with effect from 1 April 2018 and if you have not transferred by this date you will no longer hold a coach account with the IBA.

What is the “Tunnel Coach Ready” online assessment?

We have learned lessons from other sports and introduced an education package to support successful coaching. We have created an IBA [Fundamentals of Coaching document](#) which highlights the skills required to be an effective coach along with some supporting tools that are specific to indoor skydiving. As part of this education package, we have also created the “Tunnel Coach Ready” [online assessment](#) which is designed to check your understanding of the basic principles of coaching and your role within the environment. However, you should not worry too much about it. It does not qualify you to be a coach, but it does prepare you for the hard work to follow and your continuous development as a coach. The assessment takes approximately 15 minutes to complete.

What is the difference between an Instructor and a Coach?

This could be an endless debate and we all have an opinion on the differences - or indeed the similarities. In many sports, they are the same thing and they do not use the separate terms. Some sports, however, do make the distinction, and learning from areas such as Snow sports, Climbing and Parachuting, we are using the following working definition:

- The Instructor is focused upon the environment (including spotting), the key flying skills and is employed by the tunnel.
- The Coach is focused upon the athlete (team) and the refinement, advancement and combination of those skills and may or may not be employed by the tunnel.

It is important to note that both the Coach and the Instructor have a responsibility to act as part of a safety team and to know and respect each other’s role. This is covered in detail within the Fundamentals of Coaching document.

I am a Static/Dynamic Progression Coach, can I coach Formation Skydiving skills?

No, not without the specific rating. The Static or Dynamic Progression Coach rating is designed to focus upon the specific skills within that discipline. Even though each individual coach rating incorporates the fundamental skills of belly flying (IBA Level 1) as a minimum requirement, a coach is required to demonstrate the necessary skills and be rated as a Formation Skydiving Coach, before they can coach the more advanced FS skills at Level 2 and beyond. A coach can of course hold more than one rating and the specific permissions of each coach rating are detailed within the Coach Rating Descriptions on the IBA website.

THE IBA Coach Pathway - your step by-step guide

1. Create a personal flyer account on the IBA [website](#).
2. Achieve and demonstrate the pre-requisite skills needed to be a coach; in each case, an IBA Pro-rated flyer for the selected discipline.
3. Book a Program Orientation with the T4 to discuss the program and your individual requirements.
4. Download and read the [Fundamentals of Coaching document](#).
5. Complete the Tunnel Coach Ready [online assessment](#).
6. Complete the necessary parts of the Training Program as agreed in the Program Orientation - this may not apply to legacy coaches, as the time required will be dependent upon previous skills, knowledge and ability.
7. Complete the coaching assessment, noting that the scale of the assessment will dependent upon previous skill and ability as agreed in the Program Orientation.
8. T4 sign-off and IBA personal flyer dashboard updated.

