



US Soccer “D” License Guidelines – As of July 1, 2013

The US Soccer Federation has made significant changes to the “D” license coaching course. The focus, time investment, and expectations of candidates are all changed as of July 1, 2013. All “D” license candidates will now be expected to:

- Develop coaching competencies to coach U13 - U14 players.
- Develop an understanding of the needs of athletes in the intermediate stage of development.
- Build on this foundation to proceed through the sequence of coaching development.

The new “D” License is broken down into 4 stages. Please note the biggest change in this licensing process now is the total time it takes to obtain the “D” license. The minimum time it will take to receive a “D” License is now 2 to 3 months. Before registering for an upcoming “D” course, please review the following information carefully.

STAGE ONE:

Preparation Phase

- Coaches will need to register early as each course will be limited to 20 candidates
- Complete all pre-course assignments

Coaches attending the “D” that received their USSF “E” license prior to January 1st, 2012 must complete the following assignments:

- Laws of The Game assignment 1: complete modules 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17
Print off completion certificates after each module and turn in. The link is located here:
<http://www.ussoccer.com/Coaches/Licenses/National-E/Laws-of-the-Game.aspx>
- Laws of the Game assignment 2: Research and write a brief report on the rationale of modified small-sided games rules. You may use the modified rules of play for the team that you coach. Read and review the modifications for the following FIFA Rules: 1 Field, 2 Ball, 3 Players, 5 Referee, 6 Assistant Referee, and 7 Duration of Game. The link is located here:
<http://www.ussoccer.com/Coaches/Licenses/National-E/Laws-of-the-Game.aspx>

- Concussion Awareness Test: All coaches are required to print off a completion certificate and submit during the opening lecture after completing this short, 20 minute course. The link is here: <http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/Training/index.html>
- Session Training Journals - 3 written sessions due at registration (1 preferably to be conducted in front or reviewed by a WV Soccer Association mentor. Information on WV Soccer Association Mentoring Program is included below. Coaches must complete a self-analysis for each session using the Performance Review Evaluation.
- Coaches that received their USSF "E" License after Jan 1st, 2012 are required to bring a copy of their license with them to the opening lecture.

STAGE TWO:

Instructional Phase (First weekend of class)

- Be present for the entire 3 day class portion
- Turn in pre-course assignments.
- Participate in instructor led training sessions.
- Create and present sample training sessions.
- Estimated time between stage two and three is 2 months.

STAGE THREE:

Deliberate Practice Phase

- Keep a journal with self-reflection of at least 5 sessions.
- Candidates must complete a "Performance Review Evaluation" with each session/lesson plan
- At least one session has to be reviewed by a WV Soccer Association Mentor
- It is recommend that each coach meet with a mentor during the deliberate practice phase.
- All coaches must complete the Concussion II online course and print out the certificate.

STAGE FOUR:

Performance Review Phase (Testing)

- Ability to attend this phase will be based upon your completion of the prior three stages.
- All performance reviews will be hosted at one location.
- Candidates who pass can receive a D Certificate or National D License.

MENTORING PROGRAM

During the "Deliberate Practice Phase" of the USSF "D" License, coaches are required to complete and self-evaluate five practice sessions from the "D License Candidates Topics and Themes". One of these sessions is to be conducted and evaluated by a WV Soccer Coaching Education Mentor.

Coaches are to contact a mentor requesting that he or she come and observe a training session that the coach will conduct with a group of players between 12-15 years old.

If a coach is unable to find a team in the appropriate age group, WV Soccer Association or a mentor may be able to assist with finding that coach a team.

It is also suggested that coaches try to schedule a face to face session with other coaches in the process of taking their USSF "D" License as well.

Here is the list of available mentors for all "D" license deliberate phase training sessions:

Morgantown/Weirton/Wheeling: Barry Christmas – bjchristmas28@gmail.com

Bridgeport/Buckhannon/Elkins: Pat Holguin - patrickholguin@gmail.com

Charleston/Huntington/Parkersburg: Thomas Olivier – olivier@marshall.edu

Southern WV/Beckley/Lewisburg: John Birkelbach – johnbirkelbach@hotmail.com

If you have any questions on this new "D" licensing process, please contact Thomas Olivier directly at olivier@marshall.edu. Thank you!