



## Section 2.05 Coaching Certification in Ontario

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Tennis Canada (TC) is responsible for the course content at all certification levels. Ari Novick (Director, Coaching Development at TC) has this responsibility.

Provincially, the Head and Course Facilitators work closely in conjunction with their Provincial Tennis Association and are responsible for delivering the coaching certification program and providing other professional development opportunities such as the progressive tennis seminars and recertification courses.

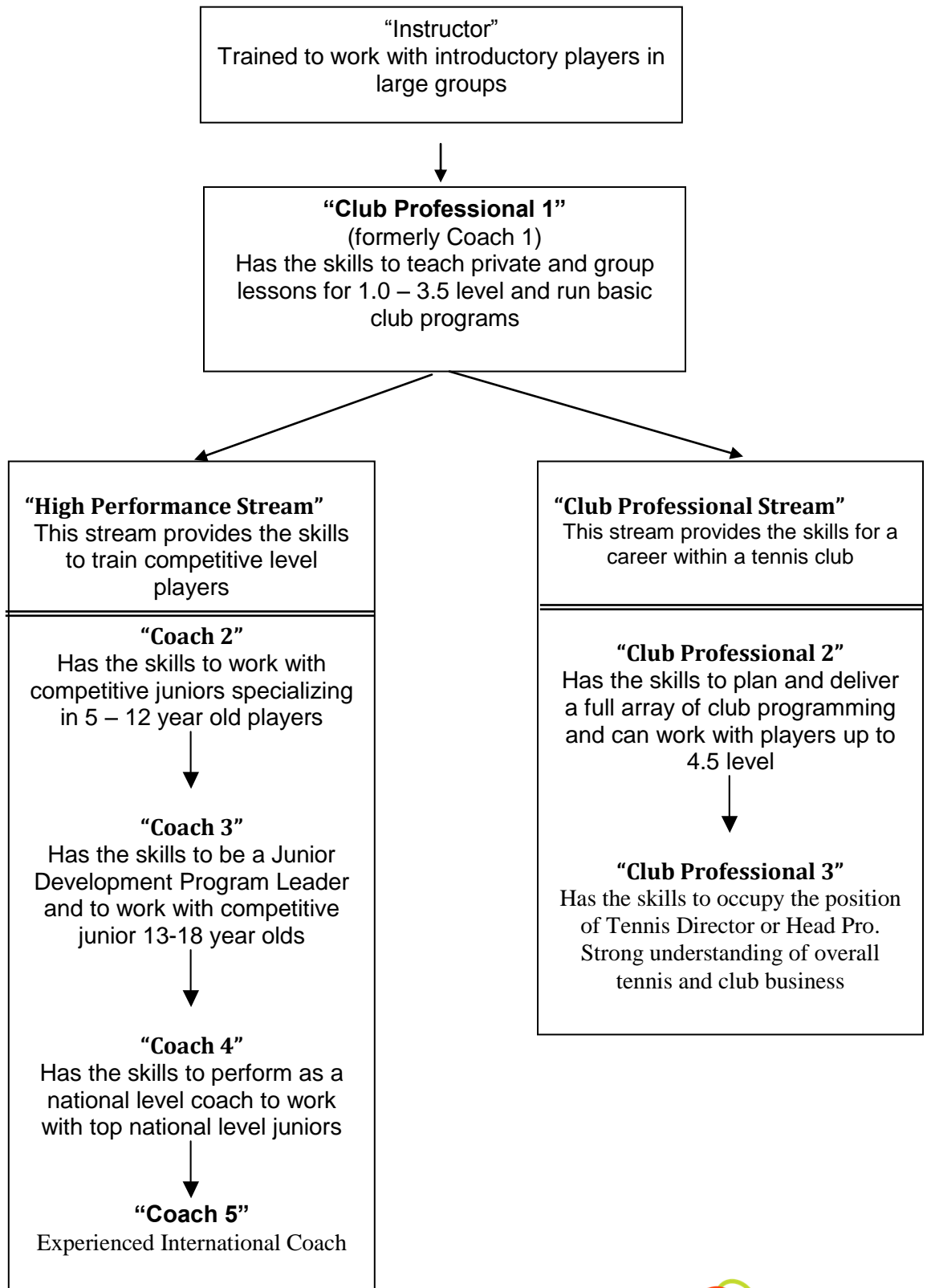
Detailed bios of the current course facilitators can be found at [www.tennisonario.com](http://www.tennisonario.com) under the [Coaching Development](#) menu.

### **HOW DOES THE CERTIFICATION SYSTEM WORK?**

Upon completion of the first two levels of certification, the Instructor level and Club Professional 1 level, an individual will have the choice of two streams of certification. They can choose the "high performance stream" or "club professional stream" of coaching education/certification. Both will be recognized as official certifications, however the certification will represent completely different skills.



The following is a chart explaining the 2 stream approach:





## **What is Progressive Tennis?**

Progressive tennis is a program for 5-9 year olds which allows young players to learn and play the game more quickly, efficiently and successfully. This concept is presented in our Tennis Instructor courses.

It uses a systematic progression of court sizes, balls and racquets to scale the game down to an appropriate level for these players.

It is imported from European countries such as France and Belgium where it was used to successfully develop players like Justine Henin and Olivier Rochus.

Simply put, progressive tennis is used as a developmental tool to allow young children to improve their overall tennis skills faster so they can transition to the regular court with more ease.

The OTA carries a number of products used in the teaching of progressive tennis such as racquets, mini tennis nets, foam balls, etc.

Visit the TPA website located inside Tennis Canada's website ([www.tenniscanada.com](http://www.tenniscanada.com)) for more information on this program.

## **Tennis Professionals Association (TPA)**

The TPA was developed by Tennis Canada for Canadian certified instructors, coaches and club professionals. As one of the requirements necessary in maintaining an active status of certification, the TPA's main objective is to provide a communication tool through a members' only website. The TPA seeks to deliver up to date information on coaching related material as well as a variety of benefits including:

- \$2 million liability insurance
- Preferred pricing on educational resources
- Jobfind
- On-line store
- Discounts on tennis equipment and products

The goal of the TPA is to educate and provide services/benefits for tennis coaches and tennis professionals across Canada. It was formed in 2004 and had 841 members that year. The TPA now has almost 2000 members!

Specific benefit/partners information can be found by visiting the TPA website.



## **Is Your Club Pro's Certification 'Active'?**

You can find the answer to this question by visiting the [TPA](#) website. From there, click on the 'List of Certified Coaches' link. All coaches who are currently 'active' will be listed there. In order to be 'active', the coach must have current certification as well as be a current member of the TPA.

Because a coach took a certification course several years ago does not mean his certification is now active. Every instructor or coach must do some form of professional development every 2, 3 or 4 years depending on the level of certification. If you look at the certified coaches list and find that your pro is not there, then this means he/she either does not have current certification and/or is not a current member of the TPA.

Keeping up to date on what is happening in the coaching side of our sport is very important for our professionals. Being 'active' ensures your teaching pro has made the ongoing commitment to be the best he/she can be!

## **Where to Find Information on Coaching Certification in Ontario?**

Please visit [www.tennisonario.com](http://www.tennisonario.com). From our home page, click on the Coaching Development page and based on what information you are looking for, click on the appropriate link. For example, the certification schedule appears on the Schedule page from this drop down box selection.