

Hi all,

As part of our continued effort to strengthen and standardize Coaching Education across U.S. Soccer, we've implemented updates to our Course Standards.

Key Updates

- The course standards also formalize the process to file appeals, i.e. to contest the outcome of an assessment or reassessment.

Course Expectations & Standards:

- Reinforced 100% attendance expectation, with limited approved exceptions
- Clear expectations for assignment timelines and extension requests
- Standardized assessment structure aligned to course competencies
- Updated guidance on reassessment and Provisional Status, including timelines
- Continued commitment to a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment
- Reinforced mandatory reporting responsibilities in alignment with SafeSport
- Clarified student rights, including access to feedback and formal processes

Appeal Process:

- Appeals are limited to specific grounds: procedural issues, administrative errors, or conflicts of interest)
- Appeals are not designed to re-evaluate student competence and substitute or override the professional judgment of the Educator.
- Students who wish to file an appeal first must engage in an informal review with the Lead Educator within 7 days of final grades.
- If the issue is still unresolved, they may submit a formal appeal within 10 days of the informal review outcome
- Submissions must include supporting documentation and a \$150 fee
- All appeals are first reviewed for eligibility. Eligible appeals will then be reviewed by an independent panel
- Submitting an appeal does not disadvantage the student, and decisions are final within U.S. Soccer

These updates are intended to improve consistency, transparency, and fairness across all programs while maintaining the integrity of our standards.

The updates outlined above are effective April 1 for GR, D, C, and CTL 1. All other programs including B, A-Youth, A-Senior, Pro, GK C, GK B, CTL 2, and Talent Scout Course 3 will be effective with the start of the next cohort.

We will arrange two webinars open to all Educators to provide further detail to these updates, and answer any questions you may have in April 2026.

Best,

George