



FAQ – Coach Education – First Level Course

1. When and where does the First Level Course take place?

The First Level Course contains a total of three weeks of in-person education that will be conducted between May 2025 and March/April 2026.

Week 1: 04-10 May 2025 in Hochfilzen (AUT)

Week 2: Planned for October 2025 in Pokljuka (SLO)

Week 3: Planned for the end of March/beginning of April 2026

Additional tasks will be assigned via our IBU E-Learning platform (LearningSuite) throughout the course period (lectures upfront).

2. Who can apply for the First Level Course?

Motivated candidates with the IBU Basic Level Coach Certificate, athletes with national and international experience at the senior level (min. of 3 years in the senior national team), or coaches who have worked as a biathlon coach for at least 2 years (clubs, regional or national level) nominated by the National Federation. The NF needs to apply.

3. How can I apply for the First Level Course?

Each candidate needs to be recommended by their NF. Applications must be submitted using the online form available only in IBU Scope to your NF. In addition, the candidate needs to provide a motivational letter and his/her CV.

4. When can I apply for the First Level Course?

The application process will be open from 20 November 2024, and the deadline for application will be 31 January 2025. NFs/Applicants are encouraged to commence and submit their application as early as possible during the application period, ensuring you will not have any last-minute technical problems.

5. How can I be sure my application has been submitted?

Once your NF has completed your application and clicks on the Submit Application button - a notification will appear advising that your application has successfully been submitted. Furthermore, during the review process, you will be notified by the IBU project leader in case of any additional information requirements. You will have access to your application at any time, and you may monitor the review process of your application.

6. How long will it take to have my application assessed?

The processing time for applications takes between 1-2 weeks and is proceeded by the IBU Development Department. All successful and unsuccessful applicants are notified of the outcome of their application.



7. If my application has been unsuccessful, can I be provided with information as to why?

The department does not provide individual feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

8. Should I submit additional documents not listed in the supporting documents of the applicant guidelines?

No. Applicants should not include additional documents not listed in the supporting documents table as they will not be considered.

9. Is there any funding for this First Level Course?

The NF can apply for IBU Development funding to cover the course fee (€ 5,500 per learner), accommodation, and travel costs. In addition, the IBU will apply for the Olympic Solidarity Coach Education Support.

10. Does IBU arrange the accommodation during the camp?

Yes, IBU will arrange accommodation near the biathlon venue where the courses are held.

11. What is the difference between Basic and First Level Courses?

The Basic Course is an introduction to biathlon coaching with fundamental knowledge. This Coach mainly works as a Club Coach.

The First Level Course is the second stage in the IBU Coach Education program (1. Basic Level, 2. First Level, 3. Second Level, and 4. Third Level) and is designed for youth and junior coaches. This Coach mainly works at the regional and national levels and delivers sessions over a season, often as a part of a broader national program.

12. How many coaches can take part in this First Level Course?

The maximum number of coaches will be 20. It needs a minimum of 15 coaches to run the course. In the case of many applications, IBU will consider the next cycle of the First Level course in 2026/2027.

13. Which lectures are offered?

Theoretical and practical lessons in the fields of skiing, shooting, exercise physiology, integrity, sustainability, biathlon performance, nutrition, psychology, recovery & prevention, coaches' soft skills, equipment, applied training science, and the business of sport will be provided by well-known experts and coaches in the fields of winter sports and sports science.