

Youth & U21 Coaching Pool Strategy

Development of young coaches for team selection

Purpose of the pool strategy

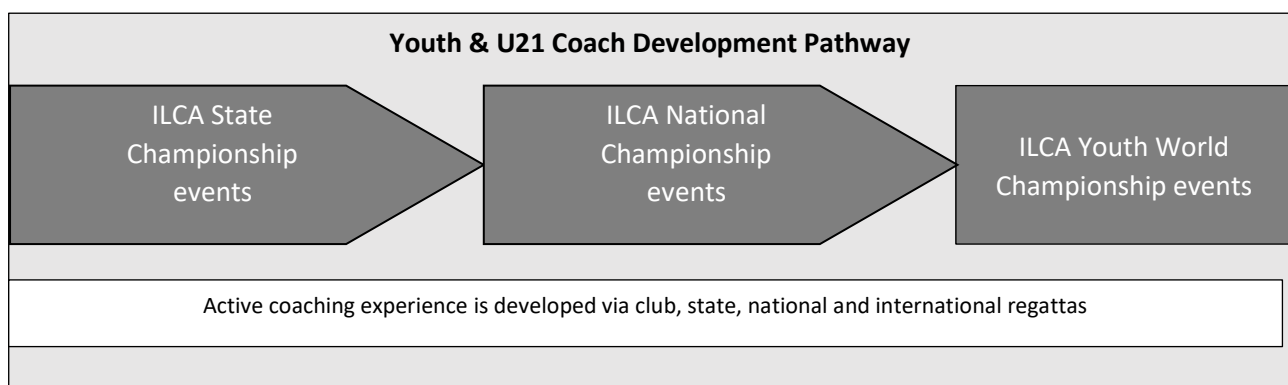
The main purpose of the ILCA Australia Youth & U21 coaching pool strategy is to:

- facilitate a consistent high standard of coaching in each District, with coaches supporting sailors to actively transition the high numbers in ILCA Youth fleets to U21. This is also a first step in a long term strategy to bridge the gap to the Open fleet and Apprentice Masters participation;
- encourage the Districts to create opportunities that incentivise young coaches to develop their experiences in a way that optimises their future coaching potential, while improving ILCA sailing standards and fleet growth; and
- to codify the coach pathway and selection process, so that all aspiring young coaches can understand the steps necessary for selection.

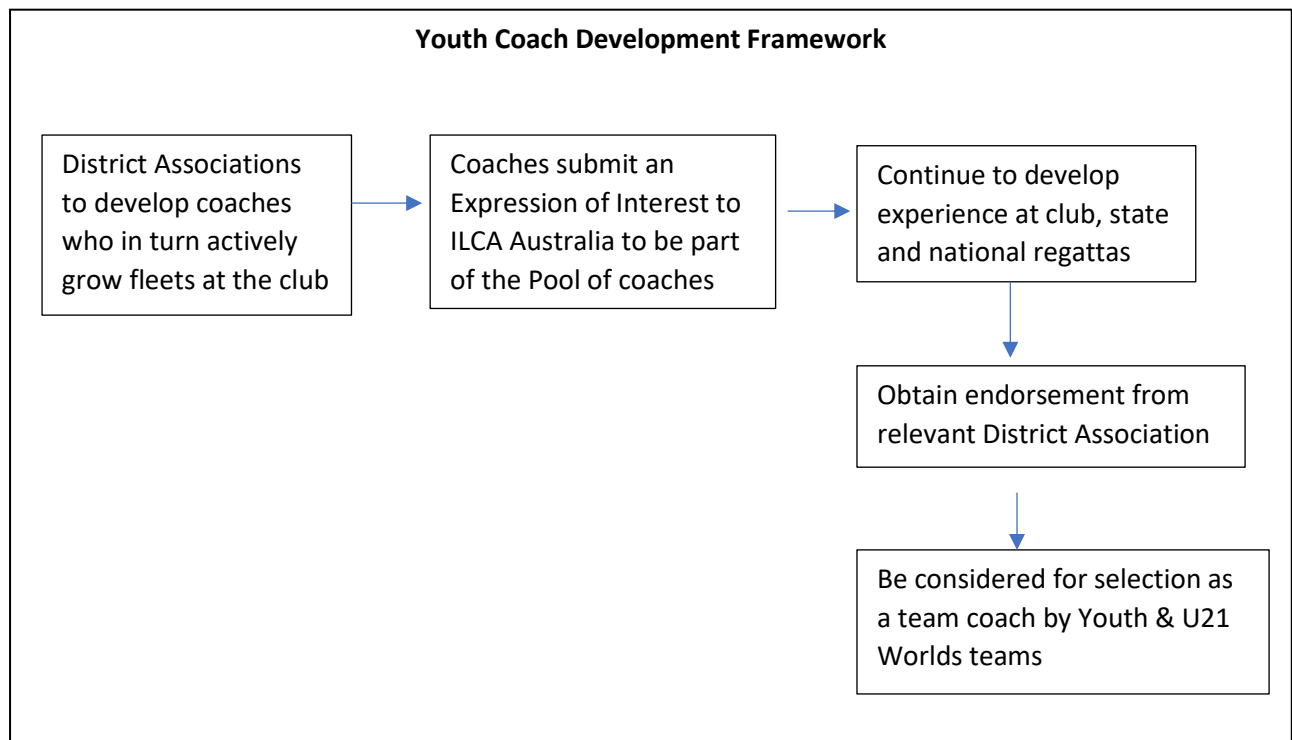
By committing this strategy to writing, the ILCA class strives to become more inclusive, as everyone can understand the processes involved in selections and every District has the potential to benefit.

Background summary

ILCA Australia presented [ALCA-Youth-Development-Pathway-Report-Guide.pdf](#) at its 2023 AGM, including the use of Youth and U21 World Championship events for coach and fleet development. As mentioned in the report, coach development and active fleets are fundamentally important to youth sailing. Australia lacks experienced young coaches in the ILCA class, and it's important that we focus on their development. One of the avenues for coach development is the pathway to selection as an Australian ILCA Youth World Championship team coach. To this end, for 2023, coaches have expressed interest in coaching ILCA Youth World & U21 Championship events under this [policy](#) link.



Youth coach development framework



ILCA Australia Youth and U21 Coaching Pool - a pool of coaches who have expressed an interest in coaching at an ILCA Youth or U21 World Championship team under the policy published on the ILCA Australia website [policy](#) within the context of the coach development framework.

Coach development framework – focuses on the Youth and U21 state, national and international regattas for coaches in the Pool to acquire experience necessary to be selected by ILCA Youth or U21 world championship teams.

Team coach criteria - is a coach status table (example set out below) that summarises where coaches are in their development based on information provided by coaches and District associations in terms of:

- ILCA Australia Coaching experience;
- Active class development; and
- State support/endorsement – confirmation of activity in the development of ILCA fleets.

ILCA Australia Youth World Championship Coaching Pool - current coach status				
Name of coach	Coaching experience State ILCA4,6,7/Nats ILCA4,6,7/Worlds ILCA4,6,7	Active status - State based ILCA Class development (club/association/state HP)	District Assoc endorsement of current active status (confirmed/unconfirmed)	notes
Coach 1	State 4/nationals 4	Club/association	Confirmed	ILCA 4 second coach
Coach 2	State 4,6,7/nationals 4,6,7/worlds 4	Club/association	Confirmed	ILCA 4 coach
Coach 3	State 4,6,7/nationals 4,6,7	Club/association/state HP	unconfirmed	
Coach 4	State 4,6	Club/association	Confirmed	
Coach 5	State 4,6,7/nationals 4,6,7/worlds 6	association	Confirmed	ILCA 6 coach
Coach 6	State 4,6,7/nationals 4,6,7/worlds 4,6,7	Club/association/state HP	unconfirmed	ILCA u21 coach
Coach CV normally available				

Coaching experience - relates to the ILCA coach development framework only, teams have access to other information separately ie: resumes provided by the coach.

Active status - relates to whether relevant coaching employment relationship is active in relation to club, association and/or state high performance program.

Endorsement - District Associations who have coaches in the Pool will be contacted to confirm coaching experience and active status. Guidance can be provided to develop notes.

Notes - Coaches who are endorsed and have relevant experience will have a note that reflects their current world championship experience. Where coaches do not have world championship experience a note would reflect next step potential because state support and active status. There will be no note without nationals experience or state association endorsement.

Budgetary process - ILCA Australia consults with Youth & U21 World Championship teams to develop a budget proposal to raise funds to support the coach(es) to travel with the teams. Teams access information about the Pool coaches as part of the budgetary process. Funding for travelling team coaches may be sourced through various parties including Australian Sailing, State High Performance programs, class associations, corporate or private funding or in kind. Young and developing coaches are normally partnered with more experienced coaches under an arrangement where a large team requires two coaches.

Team decision for selection - Teams will have access to the list of coaches in the Pool, who have expressed interest in supporting the team, who have the relevant experience, and who are endorsed by their District Association. The selection of coach(es) is formalised when fees are received in the Team's ILCA Australia trust account.

ILCA District Association young coach development strategies

The intent of the Pool is to establish a framework for the development of young coaches. District Associations are encouraged to utilise its potential by identifying and nominating young coaches for development so that in time they can become an endorsed pool coach available for selection to Youth & U21 Worlds teams. At the same time, the Pool is for coaches to understand how they can best apply themselves to develop their coaching credentials.

Young coaches need guidance and support to acquire experience to attract interest and to justify their role as a coach to support travelling teams. Young coach development strategies that State Associations may wish to consider include:

- Junior class experience: fleet development begins with young novice coaches in club based junior programs who better prepare sailors' transition to the ILCA4, including instilling strong foundations skills, correct technique, socialising the group to enjoy their experience for the long term. These young coaches have sailing experience and are, ideally, sailing themselves in the ILCA 7 or ILCA 7 class.
- Youth & U21 experience: creating coaching roles for developing coaches can begin with ILCA youth competition and Youth Development Pathway. Successful club-based coaches are encouraged to build their experiences in District Association training clinics and pathway events. Again, these young coaches are, ideally, sailing themselves in the ILCA 6 or ILCA 7 class.
- Youth & U21 Team support: young coaches who are active in the development of the class at state level and who are able to travel with teams to ILCA nationals will be acquiring the experience that travelling teams are interested in for selection of a team coach. These coaches are now reaching the level of being capable of mentoring young novice coaches.