

CWC Report to the CSPA AGM

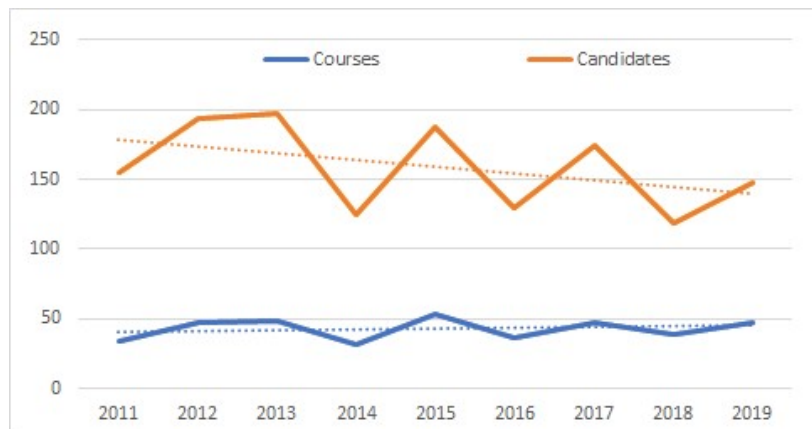
The CWC consists of Monique Andrie (Chair), Jeff Dean (Director of Courses), Daniel Grant (Ratings Processor), Burk Reiman, Dan Whitman and Pierre-Andre Gauthier. Phil Perry (Past Chair) was also a member until his planned resignation after our November meeting. Isabel Perry is our Board Liaison, and an active member of the CWC.

The CWC was glad to add Pierre-Andre Gauthier during the year, and made no other changes. We thank Phil Perry very much for his many years of service as a member, Chair and ratings processor for the CWC. There were no other changes, and all current members wish to remain so for the coming year.

In 2019 the following CSPA Coaching and Instructional Courses were run:

- Coach 1 – 23 Courses – 85 Candidates (2018: 71)
- Coach 2 – 5 Courses – 20 Candidates (2018: 24)
- Coach 2 Conversion – 4 Candidates (2018: 0)
- Jumpmaster – 4 Course – 10 Candidates (2018: 3)
- Skydiving School Instructor – 2 Courses – 10 Candidates (2018: 8)
- Progressive Freefall Instructor – 6 Courses – 17 Candidates (2018: 8)
- Progressive Freefall Instructor Conversion– 4 Candidates (2018: 2)
- Total – 47 Courses for 150 Candidates
- In addition, 21 new GCIs (2018: 23) and 4 new SSEs (2018: 10) completed their ratings.

The long term trend is fairly steady, with course volume on a 2-year cycle for reasons we don't understand. 2019, as expected, was a "high" year. A troubling long-term trend is the decrease in the number of candidates per course, despite running nearly the same number of courses. The average number of candidates per course has decreased from 4.24 to 3.25 over 9 years. This, to some



extent, indicates that the decrease in new coaches and instructors is not due to a problem with system capacity, and speaks well of the dedication of our Learning Facilitators.

Learning Facilitator development continues to be a high priority, as this is key to CSPA's ongoing system capacity to deliver training coaches and instructors. During the year, a number of course assists took place, with LFs ready to challenge during the 2020 season. Pierre-Andre Gauthier and Aidan Walters are ready to challenge for PFFI. Dan Whitman is ready to challenge for C2, which is scheduled for July. Daniel Grant, Pascal Kazerski and Heather Porteus are working toward C2 challenges. An NCCP Coach Developer and Learning Facilitator training was provided to LFs during the CWC's November meeting.

We also worked with a number of promising and interested assistants in Coach 1 courses. We believe that increasing the supply of LFs will increase demand for courses, and are diligently working to fill the gaps we see as in the sport. The next Learning Facilitator training will be held 2020, with the location TBD based on location of candidates. The prerequisites for LF can be found in PIM 1. Southwestern Ontario and Atlantic Canada continue to be under-served.

With the “alternate pathway” to PFFI in place, an increasing number of PFFI candidates attend courses via this pathway rather than taking SSI or JM first. The lack of teaching ability (different from coaching) is definitely noticed and we are spending more time in the courses teaching candidates how to teach. Attending an SSI course prior to PFFI is very strongly recommended, even if a PFFI does not intend to teach the whole first jump course.

The FAI Ratings Conversion Process put into place in 2017 continues to have limited but ongoing uptake. The process continues to be challenging to manage fairly and successfully; the conversion is quite time-consuming and many candidates are ill prepared in terms of their knowledge of the process and the CSPA system. Conversion candidates must be able to meet the standard. If they are weak, and are granted a conversion anyway, we risk de-valuing the rating in the eyes of their peers.

In 2019 we added a Freely Ground Briefing requirement to the B CoP, and removed the backfly 360 requirement from the B CoP. We have not heard any negative feedback on this change.

Our roll-out of the Coach 3 program continues. We have identified a list of candidates who will be invited to be “grandfathered” into the system as a kick-start. Those invitations will be sent out shortly.

The revised and shortened CoP exams (completed with much help from office staff) were well received. A few minor updates have been made for the 2020 season. We have also modernized the D CoP freely requirement.

During our November meeting, we made a complete review of the certification, validation and revalidation of each rating. We have a few questions still to resolve, but in general are confident in our recommendations. We are aware that the various driving forces are continually pushing the CSPA coach and instructor system in one direction: making things easier. The CWC sees this trend as potentially problematic, and works hard to make sure we move incrementally and push back against requests to “water down” the system too far.

On behalf of the CWC, I would like to thank the BoD for their hard work on behalf of our sport. We look forward to working together in the coming year.

Monique Andrie,
Chair – Coach Working Committee