

| OFFICIAL'S NAME/LSC/MEET(S)/DATE(S) | |
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| | |
| CERTIFIER'S NAME/LSC | |
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| STARTER CERTIFICATION | |
| DEFINITIONS | |
| Certifier: An official designated by the LSC OC to certify training is complete. | |
| Clinic: Formal in person or online training clinic, recorded in Officials Tracking System (OTS). | |
| Certification: Starter able to officiate at all LSC meets. | |
| Satisfactory Performance: Able to demonstrate Performance Requirements. Deficiencies must be provided by LSC OC or designee in writing to the affected official with an Action Plan to success. | |
| Sessions: At USA Swimming sanctioned or approved meets, recorded in OTS. | |
| Trainer: Designated by the Referee at a meet or LSC OC, an official who has been USA Swimming certified in the position for 1+ year. If a 1+ year experienced official is not on deck, the Referee may select the most experienced certified official(s) to be a trainer(s). | |
| Training Sessions: Meet sessions that include strokes and/or relays. Time Trials and Freestyle Only sessions may not count toward training session requirements. Sessions shall be recorded in OTS. | |
| USA Swimming Member: Completed all USAS member associated requirements before on deck apprenticeship. | |
| Apprenticeship Requirements | |
| | USA Swimming Member |
| | Certified Stroke & Turn Judge for a minimum of 3 months. Worked at least 4 sessions at a minimum of 2 meets since ST certification. |
| | Attend Starter training clinic |
| | Apprentice as Starter for at least 4 training sessions total, over 2 meets with 2 trainers. Trainer can be the Deck Referee. OR Coach and Athlete Members with 5+ years of USA Swimming experience shall apprentice as a starter for at least 2 training sessions with a trainer. |
| | Pass the USA Swimming Starter online certification test with a score of 80% or more. |
| Certification Performance Requirements for Certification | |
| May be evaluated during last apprentice session and use MR sign-off for each session. Y-Yes, N-No, ND - Not Demonstrated | |
| | Arrives on-time, prepared with necessary personal equipment and properly & professionally attired |
| | Knows the rules for starting |
| | Demonstrate ability to start swimmers across a wide range of age and proficiency |
| | Understands basic starting protocols and procedures (distance counting, OOF, etc.) |
| | Understands how to start swimmers with disabilities |
| | Demonstrates the start for a hearing impaired swimmer |
| | Demonstrates both forward and backstroke starts |
| | Understands how the starting system operates |
| | Establishes a comfortable starting position on deck for both forward and back starts |
| | Demonstrates ability to communicate and interact with the DR (positioning, inserting swimmers, etc...) |
| | Prepared and in position prior to each heat; comfortable holding microphone and securing cord |
| | Delivers TYM calmly and with necessary volume |
| | Shows PATIENCE before delivering TYM and starting signal |
| | Understands the use of Other Commands |
| | Understands and practices the False Start Protocol |
| | Always gives the benefit of the doubt to the swimmer. |
| | Understands performance criteria as outlined in Starter Professional Document |
| | Understands USA Swimming Safe Sport and MAAPP rules. |
| Comments (if needed) | |
| | |
| Signature of MR (session 1) | |
| Signature of MR (session 2) | |
| Signature of MR (session 3) | |
| Signature of MR (session 4) | |
| Recommend Certification as Starter | |
| <i>Certification must be complete within one year of the SR clinic.</i> | |
| <i>Understands need to return completed evaluation form to the official's LSC Officials Chair or designee.</i> | |
| STARTER RECERTIFICATION EVERY 3 YEARS | |
| | Be a current non-athlete member of USA Swimming in good standing. |
| | Work at least 8 sessions, within a 3 year period, as a Starter |
| | Attend clinic (recommend Starter Clinic) every 3 years |
| | USA Swimming recertification test every 3 years for the highest certification held |
| | Satisfactory performance |