



Southeastern Swimming LSC Officials Standards

MISSION

To develop and conduct mentoring programs to recruit, educate, train and certify USA Swimming officials to provide high quality and consistent officiating for our athletes.

GOAL

Adopting these minimum standards for certification of officials is to set standards, that when applied, will accomplish the following:

- Ensure a clear and consistent knowledge of the rules
- Provide sufficient time in training to assure familiarity with all levels of competition
- Provide opportunity to work on the deck and advance through the certification process
- Ensure professionalism in all aspects of the word “team” while in attendance at a swim event both on and off the deck
- Ensure compliance with USAS minimum standards for certification for officials

DEFINITIONS
Certifier: An official designated by the LSC OC to certify training is complete (Area Representative)
Certification: The act of certifying. An official must meet certain requirements to be certified in a particular position at all LSC meets.
Clinic: Formal in person or online training clinic, recorded in OTS. Current LSC training curriculum will stay in place until USA Swimming Online Certification Training is available. When USA Swimming training curriculum is available, then that will be the required training.
Satisfactory Performance: Demonstrates the requisite knowledge of the applicable rules and satisfactorily performs the on-deck protocols and duties for the position. 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, approved or observed meets, recorded in OTS.
Trainer: Designated by the Referee at a meet or LSC OC, and 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/Qualified Recertification Sessions: Meet sessions that include stroke and/or relays. Sessions shall be recorded in OTS. (No Observed Meets, Time Trials, or and Freestyle only sessions)
USA Swimming Member: Completed all USAS member associated requirements before on deck apprenticeship. (Non-athlete official membership)
CERTIFICATION EXPIRATION/RECERTIFICATION TIMELINES
Officials must meet the recertification requirements prior to their expiration date to remain continuously certified.
Starter Certification/Recertification will extend Starter and Stroke & Turn Judge LSC certification expiration date.
Administrative Official Certification/Recertification will set/extend Administrative Official LSC certification date.
Referee Certification/Recertification will extend Referee, Administrative Official, Starter, and Stroke & Turn Judge LSC certifications dates.
The certification expiration date for officials shall be: • December 31st two years after the year of certification (occurring between January 1st and June 30th) • December 31st three years after the year of certification (occurring between July 1st and December 31st)
Expired certifications of less than 3 years: Officials must complete the re-certification requirement for that position.
Expired certifications exceeding 3 years: complete the certification requirements for the expired position.
OFFICIALS ATTIRE
White polo shirt with sleeves, black shorts, pants or skirt and black shoes for timed finals and prelim portions of a meet; long black pants or skirt for Finals. Shirts designed to be worn tucked are to be tucked into pants/skirts. Blue shorts and white shoes may be worn until 2026 SES Summer Long Course Championships.
Stroke and Turn Apprentice will wear color other than white shirt during on deck training sessions

POSITION MINIMUM STANDARD REQUIREMENTS		
Education & Training	Evaluation & Certification	Renewal
TIMER (Minimum Age 11)		
Attend pre-meet briefing. Performance monitored by Referee during meet.	No evaluation or certification required.	Based on Satisfactory Performance.
STROKE & TURN JUDGE (Minimum Age 18)		
- Non-Athlete Member of USA Swimming - Pass Foundations of Officiating Course - Pass Stroke and Turn Certification and Assessment Course - Apprentice as a Stroke and Turn Judge for at least 4 training sessions at a minimum of 2 meets with a trainer. - EXPERIENCED OPTION: Coach or Athlete members with 5+ years USA Swimming experience - Apprentice as a Stroke and Turn Judge for at least 2 training session with a trainer. - Satisfactory Performance.	- Apprenticeship signed off by a Certifier. - Must complete Certification within one (1) year from the month completing Stroke and Turn Certification and Assessment Course. - May officiate in any LSC meet.	- Work a minimum of 8 qualified recertification sessions, within a 3-year period, at a minimum of 2 different meets in Stroke and Turn or higher capacity. - Pass Certification and Assessment Course for the highest certification held every 3 years. - Satisfactory performance.
STARTER (Minimum Age 18)		
- Non-Athlete Member of USA Swimming - After Stroke & Turn Judge Certification, serve for 3 months and work at least 4 sessions at a minimum of 2 meets Prior to Starter apprenticeship. - Pass Starter Certification Course and Assessment - Apprentice as Starter for at least 4 training sessions total, over 2 meets with 2 trainers. Trainer can be the Deck Referee. - Satisfactory Performance.	- Apprenticeship signed off by a Certifier. - Must complete Certification within one (1) year from the month completing Starter Certification Course. - May officiate in any LSC meet.	- Work eight (8) qualified recertification sessions, within a 3 - year period, as Starter - Pass Starter Certification Course and Assessment every 3 years if not Referee. - Satisfactory performance.
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIAL (Minimum Age 18)		
- Non-Athlete Member of USA Swimming - Pass Foundations of Officiating Course - Pass Administrative Official Certification and Assessment Course - Apprentice as an Administrative Official for at least 4 training sessions at a minimum of 2 meets with a trainer - Satisfactory Performance.	- Apprenticeship signed off by a Certifier. - Must complete Certification within one (1) year from the month completing Administrative Official Certification Course. - May officiate in any AO Role at any meet.	- Work at least eight (8) qualified recertification Sessions, within a 3-year period, as an AO, or role identified under 102.14.1A-D. - Pass Administrative Official Certification and Assessment Course every 3 years. - Satisfactory performance as AO.
REFEREE (Minimum Age 19)		
- Non-Athlete Member of USA Swimming - Certified Stroke and Turn Judge - Certified Starter - Certified Administrative Official - Pass Referee Certification Course - Apprentice as Referee for at least 4 training sessions total, over 2 meets with 2 trainers. - Satisfactory Performance.	- Apprenticeship signed off by a Certifier. - Must complete Certification within one year from the month of completing Referee Certification Course. - May officiate in any Referee role at any meet, except that in meets classified as USA Swimming Championships (as defined by 102.10.5).	- Work a minimum of 16 sessions, within a 3-year period, at a least 8 sessions in any Referee position. - Pass Referee Certification Course every 3 years. - Satisfactory performance.
CHIEF JUDGE		
	The SES LSC does not use this certification	
STROKE AND TURN JUNIOR OFFICIAL		
	The SES LSC does not use this certification	