

NORTH CAROLINA SWIMMING OFFICIALS CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
NORTH CAROLINA SWIMMING MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE MINIMUM GUIDELINES FOR CERTIFICATION OF SWIM OFFICIALS
MANDATED BY USA SWIMMING

MINIMUM AGE OF NC CERTIFIED OFFICIALS SHALL BE 21 YRS

North Carolina Swimming certifies officials in three categories: Stroke & Turn Judge, Starter and Referee. Certifications are gained in ascending progression beginning with Stroke & Turn Judge, then Starter and culminating in Referee. Referees are expected to be assigned and perform the duties of Starters and Stroke & Turn Judges when the need arises. Likewise, Starters are expected to accept the assignment and duties of Stroke & Turn Judges on occasion.

Certification of officials is granted for a two year, biennial period which begins in odd numbered years (2005,2007, etc.) and ends in even numbered years(2006,2008, etc.). Following initial certification an official must recertify at the end of each biennial period to maintain current certification.

STROKE & TURN

1. Attend basic Stroke & Turn clinic
2. Register with USA Swimming as a non-athlete member **before apprenticing on deck**
3. Successfully complete the USA Swimming test for 'Stroke and Turn' and 'Timing' **before apprenticing on deck**
4. Apprentice 6 meet sessions at 4 different meets, and under 2 different Referees. The sessions should represent a diversity of age groups and abilities, e.g. 'B' and under meets, 'A'-'BB' meets, Prelim/Final meets.
5. Certification must be completed within one year from date of clinic

STARTER

1. Must show proof of working 6 sessions as a certified Stroke/Turn judge
2. USA Swimming registration as a non-athlete member. Successfully complete a Starter clinic and the USA Swimming test for 'Starter' **before beginning apprenticeship**
3. Apprentice **6 meet sessions, under at least two different starters at 3 different meets**. Sessions should represent diversity of age groups and abilities

REFEREE

1. Notify Officials Chairperson of your desire to apprentice as Referee, and forward the recommendation of two currently certified Referees
2. Must be currently registered non-athlete member of USA Swimming
3. Must show proof of 1 year experience as certified Stroke/Turn judge and Starter, to include a **minimum of 6 meet sessions as Stroke/Turn, and 6 sessions as Starter**
4. Successfully complete the USA Swimming tests for Timer, Timing Judge, Clerk of Course, Stroke/Turn, Starter, Referee, and Administrative **before beginning the apprenticeship**
5. Must have working knowledge/experience in "Key Position" areas of Automatic Timing Equipment, Clerk of Course, Meet Director, Place Judge, Relay Takeoff Judge, Announcer, Chief Judge
6. Must attend a 'Referee Workshop' either before or during apprenticeship
7. Apprenticeship consists of a **minimum of 6 meets** (not meet 'sessions'), with the **final apprenticeship being the NC Age Group Championship (13 and older sessions)** Also, the meets must be fee sanctioned, multi team invitational meets. League meets consisting of a limited format of one session or one day do not offer the level of experience required

RE-CERTIFICATION

1. All officials must show proof of attendance at a clinic in their position once each year (Briefing sessions at NC Swimming Championship, National Certification and National Championship Meets fulfill this requirement)
2. Must work a minimum of **6 meet sessions each year**
(No more than 3 High School, Collegiate or "Y" meets may count toward each annual total of 6)
3. The USAS 'Recertification Test' for one's current position must be successfully completed
4. The current NC Swimming Officials Certification Card with "Record of Officiating Service" on reverse side of the card, or a copy, must be sent to the Officials Chair as proof of meets worked

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

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