

Return to Competition - Training of Officials

Effective until 31st December 2021

Whilst we negotiate the return to competition following the Covid-19 pandemic, adjustments have been made to the number of Technical Officials required for Licensed Meets and the level of qualification required for each role. **This will necessitate some adjustments for the training of officials, with the overriding principle being adherence to the Covid-19 restrictions in force in the relevant area at the time.**

It remains the desire that trainee officials gain their poolside experience at the broadest possible range of events, however it is appreciated that this will have to be influenced by the availability of meets during the period of a restricted programme. As such, the requirement for trainee J1, J2 and J2S officials to evidence attendance at certain levels of meet before they can be considered qualified has been waived until the end of 2021. The deadlines for Judge 1 candidates to complete their training are also currently suspended – new dates will be confirmed once the return to competition is considered to be sufficiently well established.

The requirements for Referee candidates remain as laid out on their Record of Poolside Duties form, although the examination programme and deadlines for completion for these candidates remain suspended, subject to review later in the year.

Level X Meets

No mentoring or assessment should take place at Level X meets, **with the exception of timekeepers**, due to the limited requirements of the number and qualifications of the officials needed to run such a meet. However, all officials should take the opportunity to use this level of meet to remind themselves of the protocols and re-establish their comfort of working in a poolside environment.

The requirements for assessing timekeeper competence at a Level X event are as per the requirements for Licensed Meets Level 1-4.

Licensed Meets Level 1-4

Mentoring

In the current climate there should be no expectation by the candidate that mentoring will be possible at an event, it will be subject to the availability of a sufficient number of suitably qualified individuals.

Officials in training, who have been mentored by a qualified official in an adjoining lane, or in a socially distanced manner as a J2, J2(S) or Referee, may have elements of their training and acknowledgment of competency signed off. (cont.)

It is however important that some form of mentoring and observation takes place to enable the qualified official to make a judgement on competency and areas for development - it is not sufficient to simply present the training record at the end of a meet for sign off.

Assessment

Timekeeper

The requirement for timekeeper candidates to undergo a formal practical assessment has been removed. However, it will be necessary for them to provide confirmation from the individual acting in the role of referee at the event in question, that the candidate has been observed acting competently in the role of timekeeper. This confirmation (which may take the form of an email) should be uploaded at https://www.swimmingresults.org/member_options/ under the option Swimming_Timekeeper_Practical. This change applies to both those undertaking the online theory training and anyone who may have previously undertaken face to face training but not completed their assessment.

Online Judge 1 candidates may upload the relevant section of their Competency Sign-Off form or their Timekeeper Assessment Form at

https://www.swimmingresults.org/member_options/ under the option Swimming_Timekeeper_Practical in order to be credited with the Timekeeper qualification, should this be required for Meet Licensing purposes.

Judge 1 (Old style work book)

No final assessment is required. Once all competencies have been achieved, the course leader should process the result in accordance with existing procedures.

Judge 1 Online

No final assessment is required. Once all competencies have been achieved, the candidate should upload a copy of their completed Competency Sign-Off Form at https://www.swimmingresults.org/member_options/ using the option Swimming_J1_Practical.

Judge 2

No final assessment is required. Once all competencies have been achieved, the course leader should process the result in accordance with existing procedures.

Judge 2(S)

A final assessment is required and may take place in a socially distanced manner as required and in compliance with the risk assessment in operation for the meet in question. Once successfully completed, the course leader should process the result in accordance with existing procedures.

Referee

Because of the limitations on the number of officials at events and the limited opportunities for recent experience, it is not considered appropriate for final poolside assessments for Referee candidates to take place at this time. This will be subject to review later in the year.

Definitions of “in training” for Meet Licensing Purposes

Judge 1 in training

In order to act as a “Judge 1 in training” for meet licensing purposes the individual must:

Face to face training

- Have enrolled on a Judge 1 course and attended both the timekeeper theory session (unless already qualified as a timekeeper) and the first judging theory session
- Have provided evidence of competence in the role of timekeeper (unless already qualified as a timekeeper)

Online training

- Have enrolled on the Judge 1 course and completed all of the online theory modules
- Have provided evidence of competence in the role of timekeeper (unless already qualified as a timekeeper)

Judge 2 in training

In order to act as a “Judge 2 in training” for meet licensing purposes the individual must:

- Have completed the necessary post qualification J1 poolside hours, enrolled on a Judge 2 course and completed at least the initial theory session.

Judge 2(S) in training

In order to act as a “Judge 2(S) in training” for meet licensing purposes the individual must:

- Have completed the necessary post qualification J2 poolside hours, enrolled on a Judge 2(S) course and completed at least the initial theory session.

Referee in training

In order to act as a “Referee in training” for meet licensing purposes the individual must:

- Have enrolled on a Referee course commencing between 1 January 2018 and 1 January 2020 and completed at least one mentored and “signed off” referee’s poolside training session.

OR

- Be a licensed and qualified J2(s) who has completed the Beginners Guide to refereeing and can evidence acting as the referee at least one previous Licensed Level 4 meet.