

Return to Competition - Training of Officials

Effective until 31st March 2022

(updated December 2021)

Whilst we continue to negotiate the return to competition within a landscape of changing Covid-19 restrictions, some adjustments to the requirements for training officials continue to be appropriate. **The overriding principle remains adherence to the Covid-19 restrictions in force in the relevant area at the time. Training, mentoring and assessments must only take place if they can be conducted in a safe and legal manner.**

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 and training opportunities. 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 March 2022, although it is still desirable that experience is gained at more than one level of meet. The requirements for Referee candidates remain as laid out on their Record of Poolside Duties form.

The deadlines for Judge 1 candidates to complete their training remain as previously published:

- Anyone who commenced their Judge 1 training under the old face to face/classroom system will have until 31 March 2022 to complete their practical training
- Anyone who completed their Judge 1 online theory training by the 31 August 2021 will have until 31 July 2022 to complete their practical training
- Anyone who completes their Judge 1 online theory training from 1 September 2021 onwards will have 11 months to complete their practical training

Judge 2 and Judge 2S theory training sessions can restart, provided that they can be carried out in a safe and legal manner. Consideration should be given to making use of remote delivery platforms.

The Referee examination programme has restarted with applications currently open for those candidates who wish to commence their training in 2022. Candidates who were registered prior to March 2020 have been contacted with the proposed options and this will be followed up in the new year.

Mentoring

Poolside mentoring for candidates **at all levels** of their training can take place, provided it can be carried out in a safe and legal manner. However, 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 by a J2, J2(S) or Referee, may have elements of their training and acknowledgment of competency signed off. 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.

Assessments

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 previous 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

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.

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 required 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 required 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 February 2022 and completed at least one mentored and “signed off” referee’s poolside training session.