

HOW TO BECOME A USA SWIM OFFICIAL

Learn the sport. Support the team. Enjoy the view.

Step 1: Register with USA Swimming

Option 1: Apprentice Official (Free 60-Day Membership)

- Register as an Apprentice Official to start right away.
- During your 60 days, complete:
 - Foundations of Officiating and Stroke & Turn Certification courses
 - NC Swimming Google Registration Form (Item #4 in NC Swim's "How to Become an Official")
- At Day 61, you must upgrade to a Non-Athlete Official Membership and complete:
 - Level 2 Background Check, Athlete Protection Training, Concussion Protocol Training



Option 2: Non-Athlete Official

- Register directly as a Non-Athlete Official and complete BCG, APT, and CPT **before** your on-deck training.
- Please contact **Tara Maxley** (parsonhua@yahoo.com) for more details.



Step 2: Complete Online Training

- **Foundations of Officiating** and **Stroke & Turn Certification** courses
- Fill out NC SWIMMING Google Registration Form

Step 3: Complete On-Deck Training

Email the Meet Referee listed on the Meet Sanction to let them know you would like to apprentice. You will shadow another official for a minimum of four sessions over two meets.

Don't forget to bring your Apprentice form!



Congratulations! You made it.

Email your completed Apprentice Form to: NCSoofficialsCertifier@gmail.com



SCAN ABOVE FOR A DETAILED STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO BECOMING A CERTIFIED NC USA SWIMMING OFFICIAL.

Step Onto the Deck: Find Your Fit as a Swim Official

Stroke & Turn Judge: Entry-level position. Watches swimmers to ensure each stroke, turn, and finish follows the rules of the sport.

Starter: Advanced position. Must first be certified as a Stroke & Turn Judge. Responsible for starting each race and ensuring a fair, consistent start for all swimmers.

Referee: Highest level of certification. Must be certified as a Stroke & Turn Judge, Administrative Official, and Starter. Oversees the entire meet, ensuring fairness, safety, and rule compliance from start to finish.

Administrative Official: Entry-level position – but a little different! Works **off-deck** behind the scenes, managing meet software, entries, and results to make sure every swimmer gets accurate, fair times.