



Swimming Canada Updated Certification Pathway

Question & Answer

Q: What are the changes to Level I certification for Ontario officials?

A: The safety marshal clinic has been added as a requirement for Level I certification. This clinic will be available online during the 2017/2018 season.

Q: What are the changes to Level II certification for Ontario officials?

A: None. The updated certification pathway does however provide clarity for the Recorder/Scorer position and Chief Finish Judge/Chief Judge Electronics positions and requirements for certification.

Q: Why is the Recorder/Scorer clinic no longer listed with Level II Clinics?

A: The Recorder-Scorer remains a Level II clinic. It requires no deck evaluations and as such was removed from the list of possible clinics for advancement to Level II. It is a requirement for Level III, however, the clinic may be taught at any time, once an official is working on their Level II, in combination with the Meet Manager or CFJ/CJE clinics as deemed appropriate. It is recommended the Recorder-Scorer clinic be taken prior to or in conjunction with the Meet Manager clinic.

Q: What happens if I have received my Level I and/or Level II pin but have not taken the Safety Marshal clinic?

A: Officials who have already received their Level I or II pins will retain that certification status. The official will need to complete the Safety Marshal clinic to progress further along the pathway. Also note that anyone who received their Level I before September 1, 2015 was instructed on the duties of the safety marshal as part of the timekeeper clinic, however, it is recommended that they review the new material available online as the Safety Procedure were updated September 26, 2016.

Q: What are the changes for Level III certification for Ontario officials?

A: The referee clinic is no longer a requirement for level III certification.

Q: What happens if I received my Level III before September 23, 2017? Can I begin/continue mentoring as a referee?

A: Yes. Officials who have been awarded their orange pin and Level III certification can continue to work and gain experience as a referee.

Moving forward all new Level IIIs will follow the updated pathway where they will be required to be certified in all positions (which means completing all clinics and receiving two successful on-deck evaluations for all applicable roles) before beginning to work as a referee.

Q: As a competition coordinator, how will I be able to tell if a Level III official can act as a referee?

A: Swim Ontario will maintain a list of Level III officials who may act as session referee. Competition Coordinators may contact Swim Ontario (officials@swimontario.com) to request information on officials.

Q: What are the changes for Level IV certification for Ontario officials?

A: The referee clinic is a requirement for Level IV certification. It can be taken at any time, however, the Level III official is not to act in the capacity of session referee until they are certified in all positions (except those that achieved their Level III before September 23, 2017).

- Two different clinics must be instructed.
- A minimum of two deck experiences as either stroke judge or turn judge are required to be shown in your deck log.
- Deck logs will also be important to maintain to record the different pools and/or pool configurations as this is highlighted in the pathway.

The mentoring process and evaluation for Level IV certification remains the same in Ontario. We will continue with referee assessments and the three successful referee assessments from Level V officials.

Q: What are the changes for Level V certification for Ontario officials?

A:

- Two different clinics must be instructed.
- The SNC national meet experience must be done while a Level III or IV.
- Deck logs will also be important to maintain to record the different pools and/or pool configurations as this is highlighted in the pathway.

The mentoring process and evaluation for Level V certification remains the same in Ontario. We will continue with referee assessments and the three successful referee assessments from Level V officials with minimum one submitted successful referee assessment from out of region.

Q: In the past, I have been told that I need to redo the Referee clinic every two years. I do not see this mentioned anywhere in the Swimming Canada Certification Pathway. Is this a requirement?

A: Since September 2015, Swim Ontario has recommended that officials re-take the referee clinic every two years to ensure non-active referees stay up-to-date with rules and regulations regarding competitions. It is not mandatory. Swim Ontario will continue to recommend that the referee clinic be revisited every 2 years, especially for someone that has stepped away from working the deck as referee but wishes to revisit officiating in the referee role.

Overall the certification pathway is simply an update that will provide consistency in the levels across the country and clarifies FAQs received from officials.

Anyone who is currently certified at their current level will maintain that level but will need to meet criteria moving forward to next level.