

ASA Criteria for the Training of Officials at Licensed Meets

With effect from 1st January 2015



It is both desirable and necessary that trainee officials across the board gain their poolside experience at the broadest possible range of events. With this in mind trainee officials who are members of ASA affiliated clubs will now be encouraged to gain poolside experiences across all levels of meets.

As such trainee officials will be required to evidence attendance at two sessions (where a “session” is a morning, afternoon or evening) at meet(s) licensed at either Level 1 or 2, two sessions at meet(s) licensed at Level 3 and experience signed off by a qualified referee at Level 4 meets. Any variances in this process will need to be sanctioned by the candidate’s Regional Officials’ Coordinator, during the candidate’s training period prior to final assessment.

Level 1 and Level 2 Licensed Meets

Given that Officials are required to be both qualified and licensed in the role which they are performing, trainee officials shall be permitted to attend and observe all aspects of officiating at meets licensed at levels 1 and 2, in order that they can gain valuable experience of meets at these levels and how they are run.

Mentoring must be to a level of one to one and should an infringement be observed it will be the qualified official who completes and submits both the verbal and written disqualification report to the referee. (Though clearly, the trainee will be afforded the opportunity to practice/experience both the delivery of the verbal report and the compilation of the written disqualification report).

J2(S) trainees will not be permitted to “start” at meets Licensed at levels 1 and 2. However they shall be permitted to shadow the qualified starter, practice/be mentored in voice projection/clarity and use the starting equipment and start (with no swimmers).

The candidate’s workbook will be able to be signed off by one of the meet’s Licensed Referee(s) as normal.

Final Assessments of candidates will not be permitted at either Level 1 or Level 2 meets unless they are specifically County Championships, or such an assessment has been sanctioned by the candidate’s Regional Officials’ Coordinator prior to the assessment itself.



Level 3 Meets

There are no restrictions placed upon the training of officials at meets licensed at level 3; however suitable ratios of qualified mentors to trainees are required and this should be one mentor to a maximum of two trainees and that those mentors are qualified to at least the level of qualification they are mentoring at.

Level 4 Meets

There are no restrictions placed upon the training of officials at meets licensed at level 4; however suitable ratios of qualified mentors to trainees are required and this should be one mentor to a maximum of two trainees and that those mentors are qualified to at least the level of qualification they are mentoring at. It should be borne in mind that though meets licensed at level 4 will no doubt provide the trainee with a large range of observational experience, they will not be able to have poolside competencies signed off in their workbooks unless the referee is a qualified referee and not a J2(S) acting in the role of Referee.