

Pacific Swimming Starter Advancement Criteria

Advancement from Trainee to Level One

- Attend Starter Clinic.
- Minimum of 6 days working under direct supervision within the first year.
- Complete and pass USAS Starter Certification test.
- Minimum Level Two Stroke and Turn Official.
- Evaluated and recommended by two different Meet Referees (or their designee) within the first year and approved by the Zone Official's Chair.
 - Evaluation shall be performed by an Official's Committee approved Evaluator.
 - Each evaluation for advancement shall be performed over 2 days of the Meet.

Level One – Minimum Criteria

- Knows the functions and responsibilities of a Starter.
- Knows the proper position of Starter and Deck Referee for forward and backstroke starts.
- Sometimes has problems seeing the whole field.
- Not quite comfortable in calling a false start unless it's flagrant.
- Occasionally may rush the start (swimmers not set).
- Still trying to learn the proper timing for using the "stand" command.

Recertification requirement for Level One are as follows;

- Attend a Zone or LSC Clinic once every two years.
- Take and pass the USAS Starter Re-Certification test every two years.
- Shall work a minimum of eight days per year.

Advancement from Level One to Level Two

- Level One Starter for a minimum of one year.
- Worked a minimum of eight days the previous year as a Starter.
- Evaluated and recommended by two different Meet Referees (or their designee) and approved by the Zone Official's Chair.
 - Evaluation shall be performed by an Official's Committee approved Evaluator.
 - Each evaluation for advancement shall be performed over 2 days of the Meet.

Level Two – Minimum Criteria

- Experienced Starter who has seen many different situations.
- Calm and conversational voice when giving the command "take your mark".
- Understands the difference between a "start", "stationary", and a "non-disqualifiable" start.
- Relaxed on deck while keeping everything under control.
- Able to perform Head Starter functions at Zone & "AGO" meets.
- Is able to set-up and trouble shoot minor problems with the Colorado Starting System.
- Understands the basic words used by the Starter and when to use them.
- Familiar with Deck Referee's responsibilities and able to assist the Deck Referee as needed.
- Works well with others.

Pacific Swimming Starter Advancement Criteria

- Participates in LSC meets.
- Participates in the mentoring/training of Junior Officials in the Starter position.

Recertification requirement for Level Two are as follows;

- Attend a Zone Clinic and an LSC Official's Clinic once every two years.
- Take and pass the USAS Starter Re-Certification test every two years.
- Shall work a minimum of six days per year as a Starter and two days per year as a Stroke and Turn Official.

Advancement from Level Two to Level Three

- Level Two Starter for a minimum of two years.
- Worked a minimum of six days at Zone Level meets as a Starter and six days at LSC level meets. Two of the six days at LSC level need to be at the Starter position and all must be within one calendar year.
- Has satisfactorily performed the Starter's duties at an LSC JO, FW or Senior Circuit Meet.
- Attend a Zone Official's Clinic and an LSC Official's Clinic once every two years.
- Evaluated and recommended by at least three different Meet Referees (or their designee) and approved by the Zone and LSC Officials' Chair.
 - Evaluation shall be performed by an Official's Committee approved Evaluator.
 - Each Evaluation for advancement shall be performed over 2 days of the Meet.

Level Three – Minimum Criteria

- Experienced Starter at Senior Level meets.
- Able to anticipate problems and take appropriate actions.
- Allows time for Athletes to achieve a stationary position without delaying the start.
- Able to perform the Head Starter functions at Zone Level Championship meets.
- Has a thorough understanding of procedures at a Preliminaries and Finals meet.
- Understands most aspects of running a meet.
- Has the respect of Coaches and Officials within their Zone.
- Capable and involved in the training of Junior Officials on deck or at Clinics.
- Able to work under pressure and handle unexpected events properly.
- Participates in LSC "Officials Qualifying Meets" (National Evaluation).
- Shows leadership capabilities at the Zone Level and leads by example.
- Familiar with all Officials' positions and their responsibilities.
- Knows the intent of the rules and applies them uniformly.
- Always takes the initiative to seek opportunities to mentor Junior Officials.

Recertification requirement for Level Three are as follows;

- Attend a Zone Official's Clinic and an LSC Official's Clinic once every two years.
- Take and pass the USAS Starter Re-Certification test every two years.
- Shall work a minimum of four days at Zone Level meets as a Starter.
- Shall work a minimum of four days at LSC Level (or higher) meets as a Starter.