

FINA Technical Rules

A PowerPoint Presentation has been released to all ASA Regions, Scotland and Wales for delivery to all Swimming Officials in the next few weeks. It has been agreed to implement these changes from 1st January 2010. Use the link below to see where your nearest course is.
<http://www.sportcentric.com/vsite/vfile/page/fileurl/0,,5157-1-1-149758-0-file.00.pdf>

Courses and Training

All Swimming Official Course Training Workbooks are currently being updated to reflect the new rules.

Referee Examination- May 2009

The following candidates were successful in the May examination and subject to a successful final practical assessment will be qualified as a Referee.

Keith Northcott- ASA South West
Thomas Anstis- ASA London
Trevor Linkins- ASA South East
Douglas Thomson- SASA North
James Scott- SASA East
Alistair Shields- SASA East
Gary Butcher- ASA East Midlands

Chris Vinter- ASA East
Christopher Wilkinson- SASA Midland
Susanna Sabin- ASA West Midland
Jenny Demont- ASA London
Scott Walker- ASA South East
Daniel Rankin- SASA West

Congratulations to all of them and commiserations to those who did not quite achieve the required high standard. The Officials Group would like to see more candidates passing the final examination however it is committed to preserving the high standards required. The course does require candidates to undertake training both theoretical and practical and to have a thorough knowledge of all the course material provided including FINA Technical Rules.

Referee Examination 2010

Officials wishing to train as Referees during 2010 must register their intent before 31st January 2010. All candidates must be qualified as Judge level 2S.

Swimsuits

Please note the new wording in relation to swimsuits for all competitions, except Masters.

In swimming competitions, the competitor must wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces which shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor past the ankle. No additional items, like arm bands or leg bands shall be regarded as parts of a swimsuit.

It is expected that further changes to the rules in relation to swimsuits for competition may be introduced for implementation from 1st January 2010.

National Events

The opportunity to officiate at National Championships has proved to be very popular during 2009; so popular there were more volunteers than spaces for some competitions. There are still opportunities to officiate at the ASA Masters in Sheffield 23-25th October. This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience as well as a social occasion for all matters to do with officiating.

Licensed Officials:

Although the first group of Licensed Officials have until April 2011 before they need to renew their licence most are working towards this. The introduction of the FINA Technical rules update means that all mandatory elements are now in place.

A review has been undertaken of the elective elements required for renewal as it was considered there was insufficient recognition of the extremely experienced official who keeps him/herself up to date by attending CPD events, officiates regularly and is happy to assist less experienced officials but is unable or does not wish to gain further qualifications. The criteria have been revised and now include an elective element whereby officials can earn extra points by officiating on the poolside in addition to the mandatory element. See E7 below. Officials require at least 10 points gained from at least 2 different elective categories below.

Electives Maximum points that can contribute towards the licence		
E1	Attendance at British Swimming or IoS CPD event for officials. 3 points per event additional to the requirements of M5 & M6	6
E2	Additional Qualification. 3 points per additional qualification	6
E3	Undertaken mentoring by a more experienced licensed official. 1 point per hour	4
E4	Have mentored an unqualified or less qualified official. 1 point per hour	5
E5	Course Leader/Deliverer of Officials Seminar/Course. The maximum 6 points is available for the delivery of one course.	6
E6	Participation in a committee/ working party at County, Regional or National level. 1 point per hour	6
E7	Evidence of having officiated in the role for which the licence application applies at licensed meets on occasions in addition to those required in order to satisfy the requirements of M7 above. 1 point per session (Approximately 2-3 hours)	5

Have you applied for your licence? Over 1600 officials have already done so. The minimum qualification for application is Judge Level 1. Everyone who has qualified as Judge 1 should have been given an application form by his or her Course Leader. This form is available at:-

<http://www.britishswimming.org/vsite/vfile/page/fileurl/0,,5157-183031-200249-144644-0-file.00.pdf>

From September 2010 all officials working as Judges and above at Licensed Open Meets Level 1 and Level 2 in England will be required to be licensed. From September 2011 the minimum qualification at such meets will be Licensed Judge level 1.

Do you have a question or query?

A panel of experts will be delighted to provide the answer. Please send any questions or queries to jane.davies@swimming.org