



Officials' Development Program Description

This three step officials' program is designed not only to improve the quality of officiating, but also to maintain it. Only those working towards assistant ratings will use the application forms in the "Chief Judge II" packet of the tournament kits or available upon request from USA Water Ski. Skiers who hold an ABC Open rating in all three events may be issued an ABC Assistant Judge and/or Assistant Scorer rating by sending an Assistant Judge and/or Scorer Application, with the top portion completed, or a written request and a copy of the signed rating card to USA Water Ski's Competition Department. ABC Senior Judges may also be awarded a Regular Scorer rating upon written request to USA Water Ski's Competition Department.

STEP ONE – EDUCATION

Educational opportunities through on- and off-water clinics are increasingly available. Officials of all levels are encouraged to take advantage of those listed in our publications. Attendance is mandatory for upgrading ratings and every four years (except for Assistants) for maintenance purposes. Please review the Quantitative Requirements sheet against your Official's Personal Performance Record. More information is available in the "Chief Judge II" packet of the tournament kit.

STEP TWO – PARTICIPATION

There are certain quantitative requirements for each rating that must be fulfilled before the official proceeds to the next step. Remember to record your work as an official on your Official's Personal Performance Record and have it signed by the appropriate Chief Official. Extra performance records are included in the "Chief Judge II" packet of all ABC tournament kits and are available from USA Water Ski upon request. You no longer need to send copies of your work to USA Water Ski unless requested. It is also important to verify that your work is accurately listed on the Scorebook's Tournament Officials' Record, since this is how your work is credited at USA Water Ski. Biannual maintenance requirements are based on a calendar year (i.e., work performed January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2003 counts for renewal for 2004). Refer to the ABC Quantitative Requirements sheet for further information on rating maintenance.

STEP THREE, PART A - WRITTEN EVALUATION

Thirty days after completing your quantitative requirements for upgrade to the next rating, you may contact USA Water Ski's Competition Department to verify that you have indeed met your requirements and USA Water Ski has accurately recorded your work. As applicable, you will be given specific testing instructions and a list of test administrators via a notification letter from USA Water Ski Headquarters.

All aspiring officials will be given an open book test which will be administered at predetermined test sites, such as midwinder meetings, Class C tournaments or Regionals/Nationals. All tests consist of true/false, multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank type questions. Administration of the test will be done by the ABC Regional Officials' Committee representative or other designated test administrator. The test will be graded at the test site. Your ABC Regional Officials' Committee representative will assist you in setting up this test. Pre-registration must be completed prior to being eligible to take the test.

1. **Aspiring Regular Judges, Scorers and Drivers** must complete the open-book written evaluation within two hours. The passing percentage is 80%. For aspiring Regular Scorers, the written test will also constitute the practical portion of their evaluation.
2. **Aspiring Senior Judges, Scorers and Drivers** must complete the open-book written evaluation within two hours. The passing percentage is 90%. For aspiring Senior Scorers, the written test will also



STEP THREE, PART B - PRACTICAL EVALUATION

This final evaluation is designed to simulate tournament conditions as much as possible. This evaluation will be done in conjunction with the written evaluation whenever possible. The test will be graded at the test site and the aspiring official notified of passing or failing. Once this phase has been successfully completed, the official will be awarded the rating achieved. No further approvals are necessary.

1. **Aspiring Regular and Senior Scorers:** For aspiring Regular and Senior Scorers, the practical evaluation is included in the written test as described in Step Three, Parts A-1 and A-2 and therefore, no further testing is required.
2. **Aspiring Regular and Senior Judges:** Upon passing the written test, aspiring judges will be eligible to take the practical evaluation. The practical test will use video to assess the official's ability to record slalom and trick runs. A video of 10 slalom and 10 trick runs will be played once at regular speed for the aspiring judge to record on judges' sheets. The score sheets will then be compared to the master to determine a passing grade. Passing percentages are 80% for Regular Judge and 90% for Senior Judge. The point ranges for tricks will be from 1500 to 3000 for Regular Judge and from 2500 to 5500 for Senior Judge. Slalom point ranges will be from 5 to 12 for Regular Judge and from 11 to 18 for Senior Judge. Administration of the test will be done by the ABC Regional Officials' Committee representative or a designated test administrator.
3. **Aspiring Regular and Senior Drivers:** Aspiring drivers will drive in pre-selected tournaments or clinics under the supervision of two Senior officials, one of whom must be a Senior Driver. This panel of senior officials will evaluate the aspiring driver's ability in certain categories such as boat path, driving pattern, skier acceptance and speed maintenance. An aspiring driver must pull a minimum of six (6) skiers in all three events. Passing status will be determined by the two senior officials. Passing percentages are 80% for Regular and 90% for Senior. An aspiring driver may test three times during a calendar year for Regular and two times per calendar year for Senior. The waiting period between tests is no less than 90 days.