



Safety Directors' Development Program Description

Revised 3/2018

USA Water Ski & Wake Sports (USA-WSWS) Safety Directors' Development Program is designed to improve and maintain the quality of Safety Directors at all USA-WSWS-sanctioned events (tournaments, practices, exhibitions and clinics). USA-WSWS members can advance through the four Safety Director rating levels – coordinator, state, regional and national – by following the three-step process – education, participation and evaluation – for completing all quantitative and maintenance requirements at each level. However, the major difference between the four rating levels within the program is the amount of experience, both administrative (procedures/paperwork) and practical (serving at sanctioned events with various numbers of contestants), that's required to advance through the program. A detailed description of the quantitative requirements for advancing and maintaining each rating is included on the other side of this form.

Step One - Education: Educational opportunities through on- and off-water clinics are increasingly available. Safety Directors of all levels and for all sport disciplines are encouraged to take advantage of those opportunities as listed in each Regional Guide, *The Water Skier* and other USA-WSWS publications. Attendance at a USA-WSWS-sanctioned safety clinic once every four years is mandatory for both upgrading and maintenance purposes. Please review the quantitative requirements on the other side of this form.

Step Two – Participation: For each rating, there are certain quantitative requirements, which must be fulfilled before the Safety Director proceeds to the next step. Remember to record your work as such in your Personal Performance Record (available from the USA-WSWS Web site) and have it signed by the Chief Safety Director. It is important to verify that your work is accurately listed on the Tournament Officials' Record included in the Tournament Scorebook, since this is how your work is recorded and credited at USA-WSWS Headquarters. For work performed at sanctioned practices and exhibitions, the appropriate form from headquarters should be filled out. Red Cross First Aid and CPR certification (or equivalents) are required for state, regional and national ratings. A certificate of completion is accepted as proof. Annual maintenance requirements are averaged over a two-year period (i.e., work performed January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019 counts for renewal for 2020).

Step Three – Evaluation: Thirty days after having completed the quantitative requirements for your next rating, you may contact USA-WSWS to verify that you have indeed done so and that your work has been correctly recorded at USA-WSWS Headquarters. A Safety Coordinator who aspires to become a State Safety Director should contact headquarters staff at USA Water Ski for final rating approval and verification that work requirements have been satisfied.

1. Aspiring Safety Coordinators will take a comprehensive open-book test at a clinic.
2. State Safety Directors aspiring to become Regional Safety Directors will be sent an open-book test which they have up to 30 days to complete and return to USA-WSWS Headquarters to be graded.
2. Regional Safety Directors who aspire to become National Safety Directors will take a closed-book test under the supervision of an instructor/trainer at a clinic or other meeting place that has been agreed upon.

Aspiring Regional and National Safety Directors can only take the test once. Once you have successfully completed Step 3, you have achieved the final rating and will receive an e-mail confirmation from USA-WSWS Headquarters.

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Quantitative Requirements for Advancement and Renewal



Junior Safety Coordinator – A junior safety coordinator may assist the Safety Director at any USA-WSWS-sanctioned event. A junior safety coordinator may not serve as the only USA-WSWS official on site for a sanctioned practice, exhibition, clinic or Grass Roots event. A junior coordinator will automatically transfer to a safety coordinator when they turn 18, and work performed as a junior coordinator will be applied towards an upgrade to State Safety Director. A junior safety rating will be issued for three years. Since a junior coordinator will be an adult at the expiration of their junior rating, there will be no renewal option for a junior coordinator.

- Age 15-17
- Attend one USA-WSWS-sanctioned clinic

Safety Coordinator – A Safety Coordinator may serve as the safety personnel required to be present at any USA-WSWS-sanctioned practice, exhibition, clinic or GrassRoots event. A Safety Coordinator may not serve as Chief Safety Director at any USA-WSWS-sanctioned tournament with a higher sanction classification than GrassRoots. However, a Safety Coordinator may assist at any USA-WSWS-sanctioned tournament to gain credit towards achieving his/her State Safety Director rating.

- Minimum age – 18
- Attend one USA-WSWS-sanctioned Safety Clinic

State Safety Director (use application) – A State Safety Director may serve as Safety Director or Assistant Chief Safety Director at any USA-WSWS-sanctioned tournament. A State Safety Director may serve as the Chief Safety Director at all sanctioned events except the AWSA National Championships, AWSA Regional Championships and NSSA Division 1 National Championships. To advance from Safety Coordinator to State Safety Director, you must complete the following requirements. Tournament work credit shall be recorded in the electronic tournament scorebook.

- Attend one USA-WSWS-sanctioned Safety Clinic since becoming a Safety Coordinator
- Provide proof of current Red Cross First Aid and CPR certification (or equivalent)
- Assist the appointed Chief Safety Director at three USA-WSWS-sanctioned tournaments (except Regional and National tournaments). **At least one of these three tournaments must be a Class C or above tournament.** Two of these may be USA-WSWS-sanctioned ski show exhibitions under the supervision of a current State Safety Director, NSSA Regular Judge or President/Show Director of the sponsoring team.
- Medical Professionals with relevant health care experience should refer to section 9.04 of the Official Safety Manual and Policy Handbook for fast track eligibility and requirements.

Regional Safety Director – A Regional Safety Director may serve as Safety Director or Assistant Chief Safety Director at any USA-WSWS-sanctioned tournament. A Regional Safety Director may serve as the Chief Safety Director at all sanctioned events except the AWSA National Championships and the NSSA Division 1 National Championships. To advance from State Safety Director to Regional Safety Director, you must:

- Attend one USA-WSWS-sanctioned Safety Clinic since becoming a State Safety Director
- Provide proof of current Red Cross First Aid and CPR certification (or equivalent)
- Serve as Chief or Assistant Safety Director at eight USA-WSWS-sanctioned tournaments or show ski exhibitions
- Serve as Chief Safety Director at two additional USA-WSWS-sanctioned tournaments
- Successfully pass a written take-home test (once the above requirements are met and verified by USA-WSWS)

National Safety Director – A National Safety Director may serve as Safety Director, Assistant Chief Safety Director or Chief Safety Director at all USA-WSWS-sanctioned tournaments. To advance from Regional to National Safety Director, you must complete the following requirements. Tournament work credit shall be recorded in the electronic tournament scorebook.

- Attend one USA-WSWS-sanctioned Safety Clinic since becoming a Regional Safety Director
- Provide proof of current Red Cross First Aid and CPR certification (or equivalent)
- Serve as Chief or Assistant Safety Director at nine USA Water Ski-sanctioned tournaments or show ski exhibitions

- Serve as Chief Safety Director at three additional USA Water Ski-sanctioned tournaments
- Serve as Safety Director at three USA Water Ski-sanctioned Regional (Conference) or National tournaments in three **SEPARATE** years (in addition to the previous two requirements)
- Successfully pass a closed book written test taken under the supervision of an instructor/trainer (once the above requirements are met and verified by USA-WSWS)

Rating Renewal Requirements – All USA-WSWS-rated safety officials must attend a USA Water Ski-sanctioned Safety Clinic once every four years. In addition, State, Regional and National Safety Directors must work four USA-WSWS-sanctioned events or show ski exhibitions every two years (i.e., work performed January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2019 counts for renewal for 2020). An event may be of any type from any sport discipline. Regional and National Safety Directors must work two of the four events as Chief. Serving as an instructor at a sanctioned Safety Clinic may be used to replace the Chief requirements.

It is *required* that First Aid and CPR certification be kept current. Upon renewal, send proof of certification to USA-WSWS Headquarters, Attention Officials' Programs. All safety director ratings will be deactivated until a current First Aid and CPR certification are on file at USA-WSWS Headquarters. A valid current professional certification which includes emergency medical care will satisfy the first aid requirement. Examples include but are not limited to medical doctor, nurse, EMT, paramedic, wilderness first responder, etc.