



# OFFICIALS' DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

(Revised January 2020)

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This three step officials' program is designed not only to improve the quality of officiating but also to maintain it. Only those working toward assistant ratings will use the application forms available online under the "**Officials Resources**" section of USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' (USA-WSWS) Web site.

**Step One - Participation:** There are certain quantitative requirements for each rating that must be fulfilled before the official proceeds to the next step. These requirements as well as rating maintenance requirements are outlined on the **AWSA Officials' Program Quantitative Requirements for Advancement and Renewal** sheet posted on USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' Web site under the "**Officials Resources**" section.

It is important to record your work as an official in your **Official's Personal Performance Record** and have it signed by the appropriate Chief Official. Performance Record forms are available online from the USA Water Ski & Wake Sports Web site. It is also important to verify with the Chief Scorer that your work is accurately recorded on the tournament Officials' Record since this is how your work is credited at USA Water Ski & Wake Sports. Most of these records are submitted electronically to USA Water Ski & Wake Sports and imported directly into the officials' program. You can track your officials' ratings and tournament/clinic credits for rating maintenance and upgrade online through the "**Members Only**" section of USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' Web site under the "**My Officials Ratings**" link.

**Step Two - Education:** Educational opportunities through on- and off-water clinics are available, and officials of all levels are encouraged to take advantage of those listed on the **Officials' Clinic Schedule** posted on USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' Web site. Be sure to check the schedule often as it is updated when new clinic sanctions are received. Clinic attendance is mandatory for upgrading ratings.

**Step Three - Written and Practical Evaluations:** The evaluation process has been set up to allow for one, two or three event Assistant, Regular or Senior officials as Judges, Scorers or Drivers.

## 1. General

- After having completed the quantitative requirements for your next rating, you will contact USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' Officials' Coordinator to verify that you have indeed done so and that Headquarters has accurately recorded your work.
- Once verified, Headquarters will contact you with specific instructions for taking the open book written and practical evaluations and notify your regional Drivers' Committee or Judges' and Scorers' Committee representative that you are ready for testing. Qualified test administrators can be located using the "**Officials' Directory**" function located under the "**Officials' Resources**" link on USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' Web site.
- Once you have successfully completed both the written and practical evaluations and the appropriate documentation is received by USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' Officials' Coordinator, you will be awarded the rating achieved and an updated electronic official's card will be available online through the "**Members-Only**" section of USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' Web site.

## 2. Aspiring Regular Judges and Scorers

- Upon verification of quantitative requirements, USA Water Ski & Wake Sports will send you an open book written test, which must be completed within 30 days and returned to USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' Officials' Coordinator for grading.
- Since a scorer reconciles, computes and records, the take-home test will constitute both the written and practical portions of the evaluation and, upon passing, you will be awarded a Regular Scorer rating.
- For aspiring Regular Judges who pass the written test, USA Water Ski & Wake Sports will notify you and your regional Judges and Scorers Committee representative that you are ready to take the practical evaluation. Practical testing uses video to assess the official's ability to determine slalom buoy counts and call trick runs in the 3,000 to 5,000 point range.

### 3. **Aspiring Senior Judges and Scorers**

- Upon verification of quantitative requirements, USA Water Ski & Wake Sports will notify you and your regional Judges' and Scorers' Committee representative that you are ready to take the written and practical evaluations.
- For judges, the practical evaluation is accomplished using a video to assess the official's ability to determine slalom buoy counts and call trick runs in the 6,000 to 9,000 point range.

### 4. **Aspiring Assistant Drivers**

- Complete both the front and back of the AWSA Assistant Driver application and return it to USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' Officials' Coordinator. Be sure to retain a copy of the application for your records.
- USA Water Ski & Wake Sports will review the application and, upon approval, forward you instructions on how to purchase and submit a Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) Review authorization online. Both you and USA Water Ski & Wake Sports will be notified of Pass/Fail status.
- Once USA Water Ski & Wake Sports is informed that you have successfully passed the MVR Review, they will notify you and your regional Drivers Committee representative that you are eligible to take the written and on-water practical evaluations which are conducted by a panel of three drivers in conjunction with a USA Water Ski & Wake Sports-sanctioned AWSA Drivers Clinic. Your Regional Drivers Committee representative will assist you in locating a clinic.
- Upon successful completion of the clinic, the Clinic Instructor(s) will forward your clinic payment and written/on-water practical evaluations to USA Water Ski & Wake Sports to award your Assistant Driver rating.

### 5. **Aspiring Regular and Senior Drivers**

- Upon verification of quantitative requirements, USA Water Ski & Wake Sports will inform you and your regional Drivers Committee representative that you are ready to take the written and on-water practical evaluations.
- The regional Drivers Committee representative will be notified by the test administrator prior to an open book written and on-water practical evaluation to be conducted by a panel of three drivers in conjunction with a USA Water Ski & Wake Sports-sanctioned AWSA Class C or higher tournament. The practical evaluation will evaluate the driver's ability in categories such as boat path, speed control, in sync with skier and other driver responsibilities.

**Testing Frequency:** Please note that in each calendar year, an aspiring regular is permitted to take the test on two different test dates, an aspiring senior only once.

**Fast Track Options:** As an alternative to meeting the quantitative requirements, skiers may be eligible to take advantage of "Fast Track" options after meeting certain criteria. Please refer to the ***Drivers Policy Manual*** and ***Judges and Scorers Policy Manual*** for available "Fast Track" options and requirements.