

NATIONAL OFFICIALS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM - DEFINITIONS:

Officials Qualifying Meets (OQMs)... May include Regional, Zone, Sectional, Grand Prix, and other meets approved by the National Officials Committee. OQM's are approved for the training and evaluation of officials as part of the requirements to advance to and re-certify at National Levels N2 and N3 within positions. The type of OQM approval given to a meet will depend on the type and quality of the meet and the qualifications of the approved National Evaluators at the meet.

See the description and recommendations in "Qualifying Meets for National Officials Certification" on the reverse of the "OFFICIALS QUALIFYING MEET APPLICATION".

FINAL N3 evaluations will only be possible at those OQM's meeting all of the requirements and with National evaluators authorized to make FINAL evaluations. National Championship Meets are also Officials Qualifying Meets for the purposes of re-certification evaluation, however only one (1) National Championship Meet may be used to satisfy part of the participation requirements for re-certification or advancement. Time trials at National Championship meets may be available for evaluation of candidate N3 Starters. See "Guidelines for Evaluation of N3 Starters at Time Trials of National Championship Level Meets."

Evaluations for N2 and N3 re-certification and advancement can only be given at approved OQMs. OQM attendance requirements can only be earned at approved OQMs.

Mentoring ... working one-on-one with officials to help train them, appointment as a "mentor" at a meet (LSC through Officials Qualifying Meets and, possibly, Time Trials at National Championship Meets), etc.

Seminars and High Level Briefings ... could include "swimposiums," pre-session briefings at National Championship meets, presenting training clinics for new or advancing LSC officials, etc.

National Evaluators ... Very Experienced Officials qualified by the National Officials Committee to evaluate officials for part of the requirements for National advancement and re-certification.

National levels ... start at N2. The previously described N1 level – to define an official certified in a position in their LSC and with sufficient experience to be considered proficient – has been removed from these documents.

Where **LSC certification** in a position is noted as a *prerequisite*, it means "An official certified in the position in their LSC and with sufficient experience to be considered proficient."