Sample Progression Through Swim Official Certifications

Whether for additional opportunities at Sectional and National meets, or just for continuing professional development, the N3 certifications for Chief Judge, Starter, Deck Referee and Admin Referee are typically the last and most challenging certifications earned.









When proficient in all LSC positions, consider looking for opportunities to serve as Meet Referee. Your Referee certification already qualifies you, but make sure you are comfortable as an official before taking on this responsibility.

On the National side, you can seek N2 Deck Referee certification to further develop your experience as a referee, and/or your N2 Admin certification for additional Admin skills focused on championship meets.

N2 AO/AR

N2 DR

After you become proficient at the CJ, Starter and Admin positions, consider pursuing your LSC Referee certification. Starter and AO are prerequisites and CJ is strongly recommended.

Add the N3 ST certification when you are comfortable working Stroke and Turn at championship meets. An N3 ST is the initial milestone that qualifies you to work meets like Futures and Junior Nationals. With additional experience as a CJ or Starter, consider seeking N2 certifications for those positions based on your interest.

N2 SR

Referee (DR)

Once comfortable at Stroke and Turn, consider pursuing LSC Chief Judge and then Starter certifications

To begin National certification, seek an N2 ST evaluation at an OQM meet like STAGS, TAGS or Sectionals.

N2 ST

N3 ST

Chief Judge (CJ) Starter (SR)

> Admin Official (AO)



N3 National certifications. Typically required for Futures and above. Recognized expertise in those positions.



N2 National certifications. May be required for Sectional meets. Great for building proficiency even if you plan to mostly officiate LSC meets.



LSC certification. Qualified to work those positions at LSC meets including LSC championships.

BEGIN with an initial LSC certification as a Stroke and Turn Judge or Administrative Official. Stick with that initial certification until you are comfortable in that position.

Stroke & Turn Judge (ST)