

## **USA SWIMMING OFFICIALS' COMMITTEE AND YMCA OFFICIALS' COMMITTEE AGREEMENT FOR RECIPROCITY IN REGARD TO CERTIFICATION**

### **YMCA Certified Official seeking USA Swimming Official's Certification:**

1. Contact local USA Swimming Officials Chair and communicate desire to be certified in the LSC (Local Swim Committee) in your current certified position. (Stroke/Turn Judge, Starter, etc.)
2. Request a list of requirements necessary to validate your experience and abilities, proof of current certification and recommendations from other officials who are familiar with your abilities and experience.
3. Must serve on deck with a trainer in the capacity in which you are experienced for half of the number of sessions/meets necessary to satisfy USAS LSC certification requirements.
4. Register with USA Swimming as a non-athlete (Official). Registration is on an annual basis.

(The LSC Officials' Chair shall satisfy himself that the Official requesting USAS certification by credentials and experience is currently certified by the YMCA officials' program and meets the requirements for certification that would be met by any other USA Swimming Official transferring from any other LSC.)

### **USA-S Certified Official Seeking YMCA Certification**

1. Attend the appropriate level YMCA Clinic. For an existing USA-S certified official who meets the Level II requirements (a fully certified USA-S official for at least one year and having worked at least eight meet sessions), he/she may go directly to Level II; there is no need to start with Level I.
2. Pass the appropriate test. USA-S Certified Officials who have recently (within the last year) taken the USA-S test will only have to answer a small number of specified questions on the YMCA test pertaining to the YMCA Core Values, YMCA eligibility rules and core values.
3. For USA-S Certified Stroke and Turn Officials and Starters taking the YMCA Level II Clinic, they will have to take the full Level II Certification Test, as they are seeking certification as a Referee and Starter. USA-S Certified Referees will only have to take the Level II Re-certification Test, or answer a small number of selected questions, as noted above, if they have recently taken the applicable USA-S tests.
4. Meet any apprenticeship requirements of the local YMCA Swim League. However, for experienced USA-S Certified Officials, it is recommended that such requirements be waived.

**YMCA Certified Trainer seeking permission to teach USA Swimming “Basic Stroke/Turn Clinic” combined with a YMCA Level 1 Clinic:**

1. Contact local LSC Officials’ Chair and inform him/her of your desire to teach a combined USA Swimming Basic Stroke/Turn clinic along with the YMCA Level I clinic. This may be on a single, one-time basis, or on an ongoing basis.
2. Provide proof required to validate your current credentials and experience in conducting clinics.
3. Comply with LSC Chair’s request for recommendations from your peers, and any requirements to “team teach” with a currently certified USA Swimming Clinic Instructor until the LSC chair confirms your ability to handle a combined clinic on your own.
4. Ultimately, a trainer may desire to become a certified clinician by both YMCA and USA Swimming.

(Since the YMCA follows USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, a YMCA Certified Trainer should be able to teach a Basic Stroke/Turn Certification clinic. Therefore, consideration should be given to well qualified and experienced YMCA Trainers. An LSC chair should encourage a “Y” trainer to seek USA Swimming certification, or in the alternative, at least grant the trainer the ability to give a Basic Stroke/Turn level clinic and distribute the LSC printed materials for gaining certification. The clinic attendee must still complete the LSC requirements for apprenticeship as well as USA Swimming registration. If a clinic attendee completes the clinic, and proves to the LSC Chair that he/she has passed the YMCA test (which is the same as the USA Swimming test with the addition of YMCA ‘Core Values’ questions), this should be sufficient to allow the attendee to progress to the LSC deck apprenticeship level.)

**YMCA REQUIREMENTS FOR USA SWIMMING CLINIC TRAINER TO TEACH ‘Y’ CLINIC/ AND-OR GAIN YMCA TRAINER CERTIFICATION**

1. All YMCA clinics have to be sanctioned by YMCA of the USA and taught by a YMCA Certified Trainer.
2. Many USA-S Trainers are also YMCA Certified Trainers and vice versa. In these cases, the Trainer must merely obtain a sanction from Y-USA for the clinic and the training will be accepted.
3. A USA-S Trainer, who is not also a YMCA Certified Trainer, wishing to teach a clinic to certify officials for both groups will need to obtain the assistance of a YMCA Certified Trainer to obtain the sanction and co-train the clinic. This is actually an excellent solution in many cases as it exposes the participants to varying experiences and helps to build the relationship between the two groups.

4. USA-S Trainers wishing to obtain YMCA Trainer Certification will have to meet the YMCA Trainer Criteria and attend a YMCA Trainer Clinic, including Facilitations and the YMCA Program entitled "Training Others" (which is offered through the LCDC system.)

**Re-Certification requirements for USA Swimming Officials:**

1. USA Swimming requires testing and meet experience, as well as other requirements to fulfill its' requirements for re-certification.
2. The USA Swimming Officials Committee recommends LSC re-certification on a triennial basis. (Every three years)
3. The Committee also recommends that the 'meet/sessions served' requirements may be fulfilled by serving one half of the requirements at meets other than sanctioned USA Swimming meets. Since YMCA uses USA Swimming rules, 'Y' meets may meet the sessions requirement for half of the recertification sessions for each certified position.

**YMCA requirements for re-certification**

1. The YMCA Certification is valid for three years from the date of the clinic.
2. Re-certification requires attendance at a Clinic and passing the appropriate Re-certification Test.
3. Re-certification also requires a minimum of twelve (12) sessions worked over the three-year certification period.
4. For USA-S certified officials, up to one half of the required sessions may be satisfied at USA-S meets.

Approved by:

Officials Committee  
USA Swimming  
Dana Covington, Chair

Officials Committee  
YMCA of the USA  
Judy Sharkey, Chair