

So, You Want to Become

A Southern California Swim Official

Welcome to Sothern California Swimming

SCS is an LSC (Local Swimming Committee) serving Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties, plus the Southern Nevada counties of Clark, Esmeralda, Lincoln and Nye.

Age group competition is administered by six geographic committees (Coastal, Desert, Eastern, Metro, Orange and Pacific) while championship competition and senior meets are administered by the LSC.

Vision

Leading the nation that leads the world

Mission Statement

Proud of our tradition, SCS provides support for our members in their pursuit of excellence

Core Values

Athlete-centric, Collaborative, Cohesive

USA Swimming – Mission Statement

USA Swimming is the National Governing Body for the sport of swimming. We administer competitive swimming in accordance with the Amateur Sports Act. We provide programs and services for our members, supporters, affiliates and the interested public. We value these members of the swimming community, and the staff and volunteers who serve them. We are committed to excellence and the improvement of our sport. \*\*

Vision Statement

To inspire and enable our members to achieve excellence in the sport of swimming and in life. This mission statement has been passed on to Southern California Swimming (SCS) to ensure that each athlete within SCS has as fair a competition as possible. This is through the training of volunteer swim officials who over see the running of our club’s swim meets. The path for certification in becoming a deck official, an administrative official or both, are as follows:

Deck Officials

Stroke and Turn

Chief Judge

Starter

Deck Referee

Meet Referee\* (Time Finals)

Meet Referee\* (Heats & Finals)

Senior Referee\*\

Administrative Officials

Clerk of Course

Meet Processor

Administrative Official

Administrative Referee (Time Finals)

Administrative Referee (Heats & Finals)

Senior Administrative Referee

Your goal as an official will be to acquire a clear and consistent knowledge of the USA Swimming and SCS rules and provide the required time to insure consistency in applying all the rules when on the swim pool deck.

Most often asked questions

Why become a swim official?

Usually a parent of one or more swimmers wants to get more involved with the sport. USA Swimming needs trained officials to provide a fair swim event for all competing swimmers.

How much time does it take to be an official?

“On Deck” training as well as a written test is required. Entry level meets require less training, while the advanced meets need a higher level of expertise from the officials. A yearly clinic and a shortened written test help keep you abreast of the latest changes in swimming. Requirements for the various certification levels can be viewed from the SCS web site ([www.socalswim.org](http://www.socalswim.org)) go to “OFFICIALS” section and select [SCS Officials Certification Criteria](http://www.socalswim.org/news/officials/2011/4/29/scs-officials-certification-criteria)

What will it cost/need?

Non-Athlete USA Membership (check the officials BOX) – yearly fee

Background Check – every two years

Athlete Protection Training – free every two years

Concussion Training - free

White shirt [typically a polo shirt]

Khaki pants/shorts/skirts (appropriate length)

Predominately white athletic shoes

FRS radio/transceiver

Whistle (Acme Thunder) (Deck Referee)

USA Non-Athlete Membership ensures compliance with USA insurance requirements. With the membership, you will get the USA Swimming rule book. The rules and test are on the USA Swimming web site [www.usa-swimming.org](http://www.usa-swimming.org). You’ll need to create your own account.

New Official

To become a Volunteer Official for Southern California Swimming you must obtain, complete and return a USA Membership application from the:

1. SCS SWIM OFFICE,

 28000 S. Western Ave Unit 226

 San Pedro, CA 90732

 (310) 684-1151 [officemanager@socalswim.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5COmarSR%5CLibrary%5CContainers%5Ccom.apple.mail%5CData%5CLibrary%5CMail%20Downloads%5C2FFC05FA-AC20-40BA-9181-99B71EABF7C2%5C%20officemanager%40socalswim.org)

1. Or from an Administrative Referee at a Local Swim Meet. Make sure you check the Official’s box on the application.

You must complete:

1. APT Athlete Protection Training, maybe found on the USA Swimming web site at [www.usaswimming.org/apt](http://www.usaswimming.org/apt) or

Sign-In, go to “For You”, page down to quick links select “Athlete Protection Training” and follow directions / path from there.

1. BGC Background Check maybe found on the USA Swimming web site at [www.usaswimming.org/backgroundcheck](http://www.usaswimming.org/backgroundcheck) or

Sign-In, go to “For You”, page down to quick links select “Background Check” and follow directions / path from there.

1. ALL SCS officials must complete concussion training. Please go to the SCS web site (<http://www.socalswim.org>) go to “OFFICIALS” section and select [Concussion requirements---protocol and training](https://www.socalswim.org/news/officials/2018/6/18/concussion-requirements-protocol-and-training?rtn=%2Fnews%2Fofficials%3Fpage%3D1%26orderBy%3DArticle.ArticleDate%26sortDirection%3D1&rtn=%2Fnews%2Fofficials%3Fpage%3D1%26orderBy%3DArticle.ArticleDate%26sortDirection%3D1). When complete please send a copy of your certificate to: SCS office at officemanager@socalswim.org.
2. To use the OTS Officials Tracking System you must create an account in USA Swimming. From the Sign In tab select “register” and create your account. After sign-in select “For You”, “Officials”, “Officials Tracking System”. Select your topic from the list of activities.
3. Please go to the SCS web site (<http://www.socalswim.org>), “OFFICIALS” section and select [SCS Officials' Certification Criteria](http://www.socalswim.org/news/officials/2011/4/29/scs-officials-certification-criteria) for information on Officials Certification requirements and policies.

You have taken the first step in becoming a swim official by reading this pamphlet. The next step is to contact your local officials chair within your swim clubs geographic committee of SCS. The Official’s Chairman, Section Committee Chairs and at large Officials Committee members are listed below. The current LSC officials’ committee members are as follows:

SCS Official’s Chairman

Ted Olivieri (909) 939-0272

Past SCS Officials’ Chair

Wes Jackert (626) 794-3900

Coastal Officials’ Chair

Omar deArmas (805) 443-7825

Eastern Officials’ Chair

Paul Szuszkiewicz (951) 924-9760

Desert Officials’ Chair

Kyle Yacoben (207) 522-8525

Metro Officials’ Chair

Mike McMinn (562) 665-5948

Orange Officials’ Chair

Richard Davis (714) 968-9315

Pacific Officials’ Chair

Bettie Williams (310) 338-8776

At Large Deck Officials:

Clem West (909) 792-2806

Janet Knoeppel (951) 603-3661

Cheryl Pearson (702) 326-4216

Scot Ranslem (661) 510-5133

Jack Argue (909) 382-1623

Mary Jo Swalley (805) 895-6002

At Large Admin:

Linda Julson (714) 380-7017

Judi Divan (949) 496-3914

\*Requires administrative training

\*\* We – USA Swimming

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