

## OFFICIALS - STARTER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

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### **Purpose:**

This policy lays out the requirements and procedure for maintaining the North Carolina Swimming Starter certification/recertification program. This policy and the requirements are maintained by the North Carolina Swimming Official's Committee.

### **Prerequisite to entering the Starter Apprentice Program:**

- Must be a minimum age of 19.
- Must be a current member of USA Swimming as a certified Official
- Must be a USA certified S&T judge for 6 Months.
- Must have worked a minimum of 18 sessions as a USA certified S&T at a USA sanctioned or approved meet.
- Must have one recommendation from an N2 or N3 level Starter or Referee for advancement.
- Must make application to the NCS Starter Training Coordinator (Coordinator), ([StarterTrainingCoordinator@ncswim.org](mailto:StarterTrainingCoordinator@ncswim.org)), on the current application form.

### **Requirements to become a Starter:**

- Attend NCS approved Clinic.
- Pass Starter's Test
- Complete a minimum of 6 mentored sessions over 3 different meets.
- Register for evaluation for Starter with the Meet Referee of the evaluation meet.
- Pass LSC Evaluation at a designated meet within 24 months after taking the clinic.

### **Procedure:**

- Applicant meeting the minimum requirements should apply to the Coordinator ([StartersTrainingCoordinator@ncswim.org](mailto:StartersTrainingCoordinator@ncswim.org)) to receive approval as a Starter Apprentice
- Upon approval, the Coordinator will arrange a Starter clinic for the new apprentice
- The Clinic will follow the Instructors Guide found on the NC Swimming web page
- Upon completion of the clinic, the apprentice will take and pass the on-line USA Swimming Starter's test. This must be done before the first session of the apprenticeship.
- Upon successful completion of the test, the apprentice will complete the on deck training prescribed below (**note: you must complete all the above requirements before beginning the on deck apprenticeship**):
  - Start a minimum of 6 sessions mentored by an experienced starter over at least 3 different meets. The mentor can be working as a deck referee, a starter or as an observer with no other duties
  - The mentor will be assigned by the meet referee for each session

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- The starter apprentice should have experience starting age group and senior level swimmers during their training to be successful in passing their final evaluation.
- Upon completion of training meets, contact Coordinator to schedule evaluation meet
- The Evaluator will e-mail the Coordinator the results of the evaluation.
- If the apprentice passes the Coordinator shall enter apprentice into OTS as a certified starter and notify apprentice of completion.

### **Recertification Requirements:**

To recertify as a North Carolina Swimming starter, the official must do the following:

- Maintain Starter or referee certification with North Carolina Swimming
- Maintain non-athlete membership with USA Swimming/North Carolina Swimming
- Keep the background screening current
- Keep the athlete protection education requirements current
- Take and pass the USA Swimming starter recertification test tri-annually
- Officiate at least six (6) sessions annually at USA swim meets.

### **Appendices:**

NCS Starter Apprentice Application:

Starter Clinic Materials

<http://ncswim.org/newspdf/NCS%20STARTER%20Instructors%20Guide%20december%202009.pdf>

<http://www.ncswim.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/False-Start.pdf>



NORTH CAROLINA SWIMMING

# NORTH CAROLINA SWIMMING STARTER CERTIFICATION APPRENTICE

## APPLICATION

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Submit to: **NCS Starter Training Coordinator at**  
StarterTrainingCoordinator@NCswim.org

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM: \_\_\_\_\_ CONTACT TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

USA SWIMMING REGISTRATION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Date you were certified as a Stroke/Turn Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommendation of NC "N2 or N3" Certified Starter or Referee that has worked with you:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name Signature

### NC Starter Training Coordinator

Date - Received \_\_\_\_\_ Approved for Apprentice Program \_\_\_\_\_

### Evaluator (as assigned by NC Starter Training Coordinator)

Evaluation Meet: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluation Passed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name Signature