

BECOME A SURF SPORTS OFFICIAL

Every surf sports competition needs a dedicated and well-trained team of officials. Much like in any sport, the role of a surf sports official is to act as an impartial and balanced judge across all competition and fulfil obligations with accuracy, consistency, objectivity and high sense of integrity.

The official's framework has been set up to allow members to get involved easily as well as providing a pathway for members who are interested in being an official at a senior level. This framework is known as the National Officials Accreditation Scheme (NOAS) and is designed to deliver best practice education and development opportunities to all SLSA officials.

The framework includes:

Core Official – Core Officials work with entry level participants in a club surf sport environment. This role is not generally used in the NQ Branch.

Technical Official – Provides members with a higher level of understanding in the Surf Sports environment and allows them to focus on key areas that may be of interest to them.

Senior Official – This is an opportunity for members that have completed their Technical Officials and start to focus on fulfilling senior positions at events that have a higher responsibility and requires members to have gained more experience in officiating.

Performance Official – A group of officials who have been identified as leaders within their chosen field.

The program guides participants through the entire official course process from completing the online modules to completing the practical sessions and mentoring into fulfilling roles on the beach.

The first step is to complete the online “Technical Official” course.

The second step is a face-to-face workshop with an experienced senior official. This will last about 3 hours and will give you the opportunity to ask questions about the roles and responsibilities of an official.

In the last step you will complete two surf competitions, and you will be mentored in the position by one of our SLSA mentors. This is a practical session involving being an official at an SLS event.

After the practical session is complete you will be able to choose from various officiating pathways and begin your journey as a Surf Life Saving Official.

If you are interested in attending a workshop, please get in contact with the Branch's Officials' Representative nqbofficials@lifesaving.com.au

TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

Officials ensure competitions are run in a safe and secure environment, while maintaining rules and regulations. Technical Officials are permitted to officiate all age categories (Juniors, Opens and Masters) at any surf competition. Officiating roles may include:

Marshall/Check-Marshall

Starter/Check-Starter

Recorder

Judge

Course Statistician

Course Supervisor

Officials choose to fulfil specific officiating role/s and work with competitors who are competing in a club / branch / state surf sport competition environment.

Requirements:

To become a Technical Official, you must:

- Be a minimum of 16 years of age
- A current SLSA member
- Hold a current WWC (Blue Card) if over 18 years of age

It's only 3 easy steps to complete the official's education process from start to accreditation:

1. [Complete the SLS – Technical Official online course](#)
3. Attend a practical workshop
4. Officiate at 2 competitions within 12 months of completing the online course

The online Technical Official's course consists of 5 modules:

1. Australian Sports Commission Community Officiating Essential Skills course
2. Being a Technical Official module 2
3. Module 3a - Technical Official in Action (Marshall/Check Marshall)
4. Module 3b - Technical Official in Action (Starter/Check Starter)
5. Module 3c - Technical Official in Action (Timekeeper, Finish Judge, Recorder)

Let's get started:

- [Click on this link to take you to the SLSA Members portal page](#)

Once you've completed the online theory modules you will automatically be allocated SLS "SS-Technical Official (Online Theory Modules)" award. Please contact the NQ Branch's officials' representative (nqbofficials@lifesaving.com.au) to arrange attendance at a face-to-face workshop/officiating session. Upon completion of this session and the assessment, you'll be allocated the SS-Technical Official award.

You'll then receive your officials name tag, shirt and items to assist in your role.

The technical official assessment papers, user guide and FAQ sheet is available in the document library under the SLSA Members Portal. https://members.sls.com.au/members/document_library.

SENIOR OFFICIALS

The Senior Officials course is the final step in the National Officials pathway and is designed for experienced officials who have completed their Technical Official's accreditation and have gained experience in numerous roles at various levels of competition.

The Senior Official will fulfil the specific senior roles at a carnival including Referee, Deputy Referee, Area Referee, Sectional Referee, Course Supervisor and Chief Judge, all of which have major roles and responsibilities in relation to the conduct of the overall carnival but also the running of the numerous events ensuring all rules and regulations are abided by.

The Senior Official is also a mentor to other technical officials and can facilitate NOAS training workshops in their nominated roles.

Requirements:

To become a Senior Official, you must be:

- Minimum of 18 years of age
- SLSA Member
- The holder of a valid blue card
- Technical Official Accreditation