

## Opportunity to help your club

### Becoming an official has never been easier!

Dear swimmer/parent/club member,

Your club is staffed by volunteers, including the officials without whom no meet can run.

Being a swimming official is a brilliant thing to do:

- It increases your knowledge of the sport;
- Makes a positive contribution;
- Is a worthwhile use of all the time spent at galas;
- Gives free admission and refreshments; and
- Is extremely rewarding and self-developing.

A new regime has recently been introduced which makes training and qualifying as a swimming official more flexible and straightforward.

New officials start by taking an online training module for Swimming Judge Level 1, which can be done in the candidate's own time. This includes all the information and help needed to understand the rules of swimming as well as practical video demonstrations.

This is then followed up by only a minimum of 15 hours practical experience at meets, where officials get signed off in the various elements, starting with timekeeping and continuing through the various strokes.

Why not make a positive of the current situation, particularly if you find yourself with time saved from commuting or making multiple daily trips to the pool and take the online theory modules necessary to become an official to be ready for practical experience on the resumption of swimming.

This would be much appreciated by the club and the swimmers.

You will find below links to the two online elements all officials need to take prior to commencing practical experience.

[We believe the 11 month time limit for completion of the practical element once the online module is passed will be extended given the situation, so there is no need to delay on that score.]

- 1 Online J1 training. <https://www.eastswimming.org/new-judge-level-1-online-course-for-swimming-technical-officials/>. There is a £20 fee for this training.
- 2 Contemporary issues. <https://www.swimming.org/ios/course/494>. This is through the Institute of Swimming and is free. This is the link to create an account and book the course.

Thank you for reading and we look forward to welcoming you as a swimming official.

Please let Dominic Mason know once you have done the two online elements. Thank you.

BSSC