Officials Registration and Training





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Overview

Thank you for your interest in becoming a certified swim official with USA Swimming and Indiana Swimming. We hope that you find this a very exciting and rewarding volunteer position with lots of opportunities to learn about competitive swimming, develop new skills and friendships, and become part of your child's swimming journey. No previous swimming experience is necessary.

This document is intended to guide you through the process of creating a USA Swimming online account, registering as a non-athlete member with USA Swimming, and completing the required training.

Please review the <u>Officials Certification Standards</u> and <u>FAQ's - Officials Certification Standards</u> documents on the <u>Indiana Swimming Officials Website</u>.

If at any time you have questions please contact your local club officials representative or your Indiana Swimming <u>Area Officials Representative</u>.

Available Certifications

Stroke and Turn

Ensures that swimmers comply with the technical rules of their strokes and turns during the race. They watch for infractions and report any violations to the chief judge or referee. Stroke and Turn is an entry level "on deck" (or "wet side") position with no prior experience needed.

Administrative Official

Oversees the accuracy of race results, including entry times, timing adjustments, and scoring. They ensure all documentation and procedures meet USA Swimming standards. Administrative Official is an entry level "dry side" position with no prior experience needed..

Starter

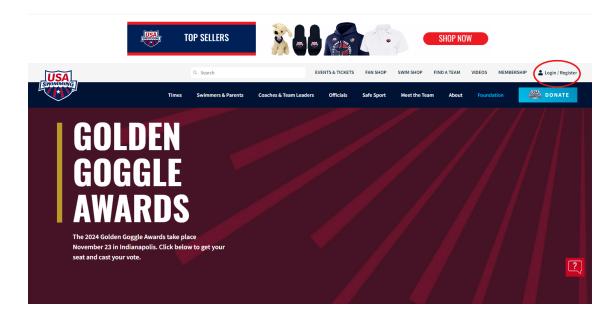
Responsible for beginning each race fairly. They ensure all swimmers are stationary and properly positioned before giving the start signal. Prerequisites include being a certified Stroke & Turn official for a minimum of 3 months and have worked at least 4 sessions at a minimum of 2 meets in that role.

Referee

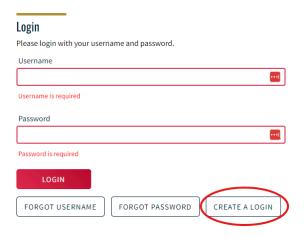
In the role of Meet Referee, they are the head official for a swim meet, responsible for the overall conduct of the competition. They ensure the meet runs according to USA Swimming rules and resolve disputes or rule interpretations. In the role of Deck Referee, they are responsible for the flow of competition on deck during the meet. In short, the Meet Referee oversees the meet as a whole, while the Deck Referee focuses on race-by-race operations during the competition. Prerequisites include certifications in Stroke and Turn, Administrative Official, and Starter.

Create USA Swimming Online Account

- 1. Visit the USA Swimming website at www.usaswimming.org
- 2. From the Upper Menu, select **Login/Register** as shown below::



3. Click on CREATE A LOGIN as shown below:



4. Confirm that you do not have an existing USA Swimming login by clicking on the selector shown in the circled area twice.

Existing Account

Before you continue, please confirm whether or not you have an existing account.



5. Ensure that **No** is displayed as shown below, and click on **CONTINUE**.

Existing Account

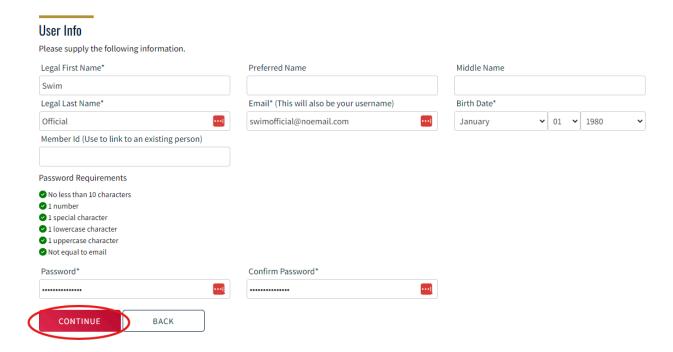
Before you continue, please confirm whether or not you have an existing account.



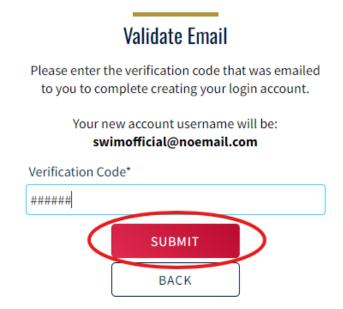
6. Confirm that you are over 16 years old by clicking on the selector and then click **CONTINUE**.



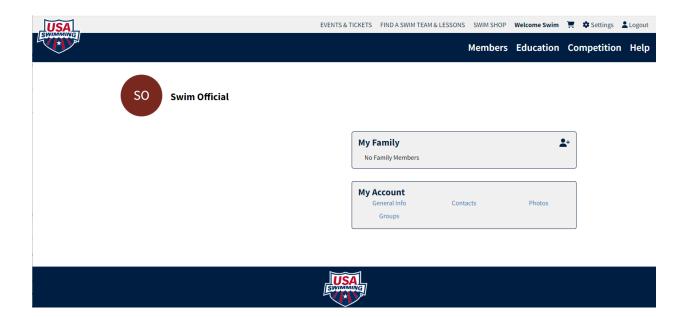
7. Enter your personal information on the User Info page, and click **CONTINUE**.



8. Check your email for a verification code and enter that 6-digit numerical code in the Verification Code field, and click **SUBMIT**.



9. CONGRATULATIONS! You have successfully created a USA Swimming online account.



Become a USA Swimming Member

Registration

 If you have a swimmer who is part of an Indiana Swimming member club, please reach out to the club registrar to receive a registration link. If you are not attached to a member club, contact Michele Deluna with Indiana Swimming at michele@inswimming.org. The registration link will look similar to this:

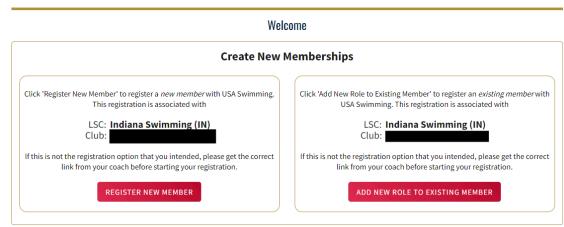
Once you receive the registration link, you will click on that link and follow the prompts to **LOGIN**:

USA Swimming Online Member Registration



2. If you are not already a USA Swimming Member, click on the red box on the left that reads REGISTER NEW MEMBER (Most Common). If you are already a member, but you are adding a new role as an Official, click on the red box on the right that reads ADD NEW ROLE TO EXISTING MEMBER. This would typically be if you are a member because you are serving on the board of a member club.

USA Swimming Online Member Registration



3. Click on the option I AM REGISTERING MYSELF.

USA Swimming Online Member Registration

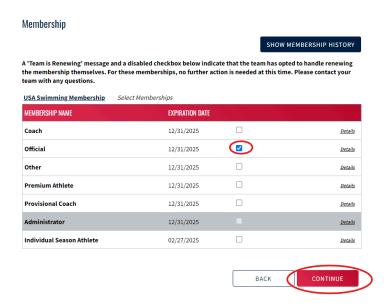


4. Complete the required entries and step through the form. You will need to enter information on the following pages:

About Member Member Contact Emergency Contact

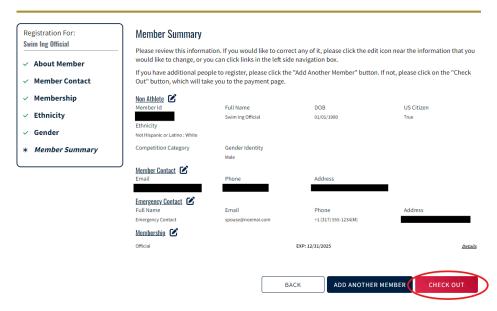
5. Select the appropriate Membership - Select Official and click CONTINUE

Note: If there is no option to select "Official" please reach out to your club registrar. They may have opted to handle all registrations themselves.

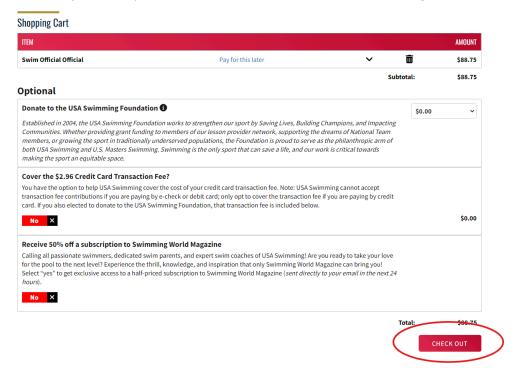


- 6. Complete the required entries and step through the form. You will need to enter information on the subsequent pages.
- 7. Review Member Summary and edit if needed, then click on CHECK OUT

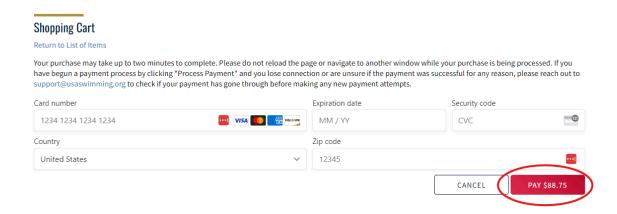




8. Select any options you desire and then click on CHECK OUT again



9. Enter Credit Card information and click the PAY button.



10. Once the credit card processing has been completed, your registration portion will be complete. Please Note that you are not a member in good standing until the following sections are completed.

Registration fees may be reimbursable by your home club if you are affiliated with one. Please reach out to your clubs registrar or business manager to see if you qualify.

Athlete Protection Training

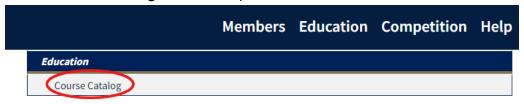
All adult members of USA Swimming must complete the Athlete Protection Training (APT) annually. The courses are provided by the U.S. Center for SafeSport. There are 4 trainings in the cycle and you will only take one course per year: SafeSport Trained Core, Refresher 1, Refresher 2, or Refresher 3. You are automatically enrolled in the appropriate training. You are eligible to renew as early as 90 days prior to your expiration date. The initial core course takes approximately 90 minutes to complete and is offered at no charge. When the course is completed, the membership database will be updated.

Please note that you are not allowed to "fast forward" through the screens.

- Log into your USA Swimming online account at https://hub.usaswimming.org.
- 2. Click on the **Education** link in the upper right hand corner of the website

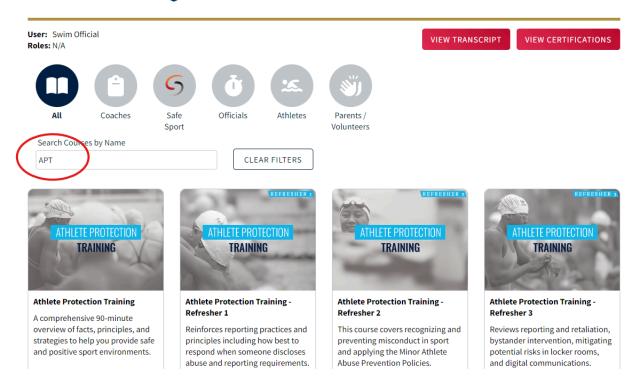


3. Select Course Catalog from the drop down menu



4. Enter APT into the "Search Courses by Name" field to filter the non-APT courses



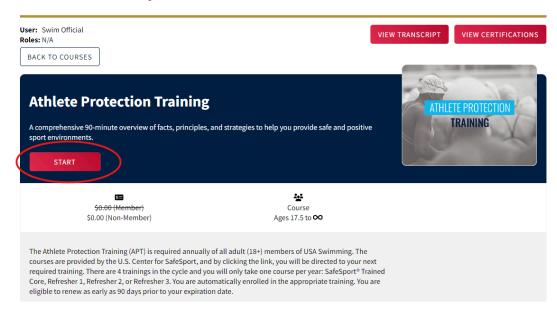


5. Click on **VIEW INFO** below the course titled "Athlete Protection Training." Please note that there are three (3) refresher training modules. These would only be available to take for future renewals.

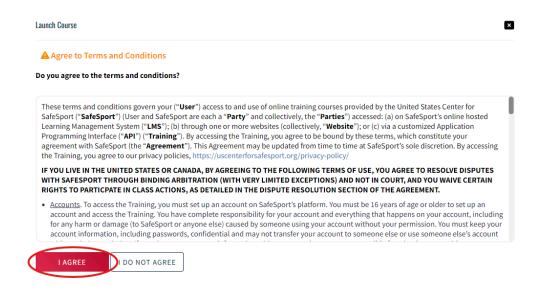


6. Click START to open and begin the training module. The course takes approximately 90-minutes to complete.

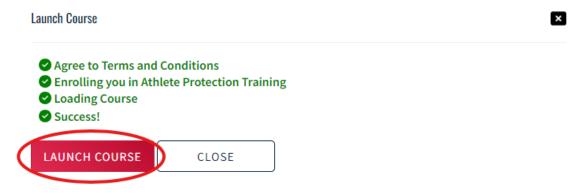




7. Once the course has been launched, you will need to agree to the Terms and Conditions. Once these have been reviewed, click on **I AGREE** to continue.



8. Next, click on LAUNCH COURSE.



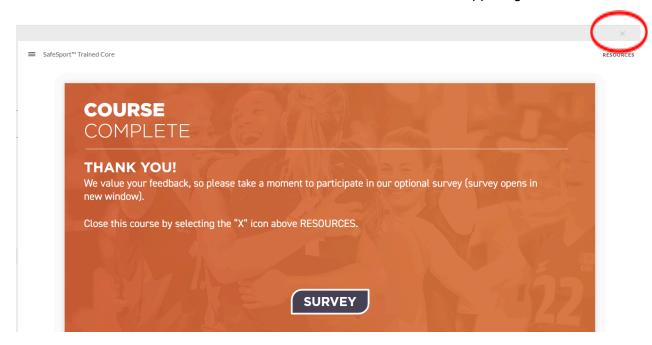
9. The course will load in the U.S. Center for Safesport Learning Management System (LMS). Navigation links are in the lower right corner of the web page.



10. Follow the prompts within the U.S. Center for Safesport LMS to complete the training.



11. **IMPORTANT**: Click the "X" icon above the word RESOURCES in the upper right corner



12. Your APT training is complete. Your USA Swimming online account should automatically update upon completion. In some cases, it may take a while for it to appear. If after 48 hours you do not see it posted, you may open a ticket with USA Swimming using the Help menu option in the upper right corner.

Concussion Training

Complete Concussion Protocol Training. This is only taken once in Indiana. (~ 20 minutes).

- 1. Log into your USA Swimming online account and navigate to the Education section as described in the section above.
- 2. You may click on the Officials icon to filter the courses



3. Select the Concussion Protocol Training option by clicking on VIEW INFO

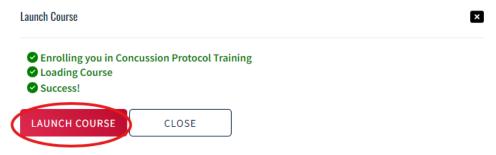


4. On the next page, click on START





5. Then, click on LAUNCH COURSE



6. You will be redirected to the CDC Heads Up Online Training Page. Select **Online training for sports officials** in the menu options on the right hand side, below the section "ON THIS PAGE"



7. Click on the HEADS UP to Sports Officials: Online Concussion Training link.

Online training for sports officials



The training provides essential info to help sports officials spot possible concussion signs and symptoms.

The HEADS UP to Sports Officials: Online Concussion Training was developed through a partnership between CDC and the National Association of Sports Officials (NASO) to share the latest guidance on concussion safety and prevention. The training provides essential information to help sports officials spot possible concussion signs and symptoms that can help keep athletes safe.

8. In the "Overview" section, click on the link **Take the Training**.

Overview

HEADS UP to Sports Officials: Online Concussion Training



- 9. If you do not already have an account, you will need to create one on the CDC Train website. Follow instructions on this site to create an account and to complete the training course. Upon completion, you should receive a confirmation/certificate of completion. Be sure to save this completion certificate!
- 10. After completion, a copy of the completion certificate must be emailed to Indiana Swimming (michele@inswimming.org AND tony@inswimming.org) to update your USA Swimming profile. Also include your <u>Area Officials Representative</u> on this email. Please allow several business days for this to be updated.

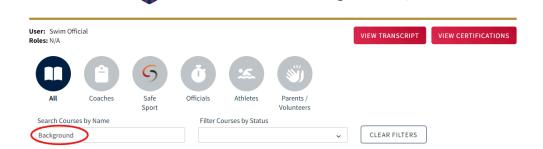
Background Check

All Officials are required to submit to a background check. There is a fee that may be reimbursable through your home club. The background check is valid for 2 years.

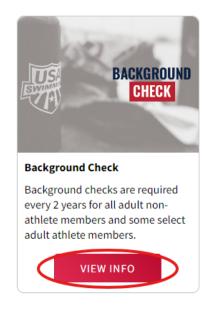
 Log into your USA Swimming online account and navigate to the Education section as described in the section above.

Welcome to USA Swimming University

Enter Background into the "Search Courses by Name" field to filter the non-APT courses



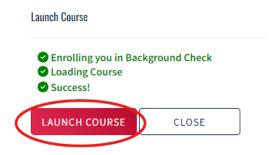
3. Click on **VIEW INFO** below the course titled "Background Check."



4. Click START to begin the process



5. Click LAUNCH COURSE



6. You will be redirected to the USA Swimming Background Screening Portal. Click the START YOUR BACKGROUND CHECK button



7. Step through the forms and submit. There is a fee that may be reimbursable through your home club. Once the Background check clears, you should receive an email and your USA Swimming online profile will be updated.

Contact Area Officials Representative

Once you have completed the above steps, you will need to contact your <u>Area Officials</u> Representative to update your membership to indicate you are ready to start your apprenticeship.

Officials Training

While it isn't required to complete the training prior to completing your apprentice sessions, it is highly recommended. Having completed the training modules first will provide you with a broader foundation and better prepare you to ask questions of your mentor.

New officials will choose the "wet side" path and get their Stroke & Turn/Technical (S&T) certification or the "dry side" path and get their administrative official (AO) certification. Some may also choose to work on both paths simultaneously.

Foundations of Officiating

The Foundations of Officiating is the first course required of all new officials, regardless of learning track.

- 1. Log in to your USA Swimming online account
- 2. Navigate to the USA Swimming University by clicking on the **Education** option
- 3. Click on Course Catalog.
- 4. Click on the Officials button to filter courses
- 5. Locate the "Foundations of Officiating" Course and click **VIEW INFO** as shown to the right.

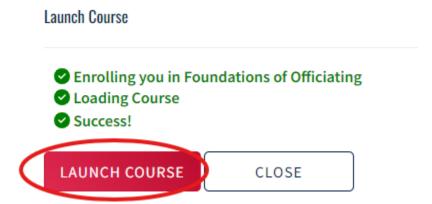


VIEW INFO

6. Click on **START** on the next page.



7. Click on LAUNCH COURSE on the pop up window.



8. You will be redirected to Canvas where you will complete the training course. When you are finished, your USA Swimming account will be updated with your completion status.

Stroke & Turn Certification

The Stroke & Turn certification course is required as part of the officials certification as a Stroke and Turn Judge.

- 1. Log in to your USA Swimming online account
- 2. Navigate to the USA Swimming University by clicking on the **Education** option
- 3. Click on Course Catalog.
- 4. Click on the Officials button to filter courses
- 5. Locate the "Stroke and Turn Certification Course" and click VIEW INFO.
- 6. Follow prompts to complete the training course.

Administrative Official Certification

The Administrative Official (AO) certification course is required as part of the officials certification as an Administrative Official.

1. Log in to your USA Swimming online account

- 2. Navigate to the USA Swimming University by clicking on the **Education** option
- 3. Click on Course Catalog.
- 4. Click on the Officials button to filter courses
- 5. Locate the "Administrative Official Certification Course" and click VIEW INFO.
- 6. Follow prompts to complete the training course.

Apprenticing

Each position requires apprentice sessions as defined in the Officials Certification Standards document. While there is no requirement that an apprentice official complete the online training prior to on deck apprenticeship, it is recommended. This will provide you with more information about the position prior to your sessions.

- Download and print the apprentice form for the position you will be apprenticing for from the <u>Indiana Swimming Officials Website</u> and take it with you to each of your apprentice sessions.
- 2. Upon arrival at the swim meet, sign in as an official and show your <u>USA Swimming</u> <u>credentials</u> showing that you are a member of USA Swimming in good standing. This will allow you to be on the pool deck.
- 3. Locate the officials briefing area and sign in on the "Officials Position Assignments" sheet and be sure to check the boxes for the position you are apprenticing for **and** the Apprentice box.
- 4. Introduce yourself to the Meet Referee and let them know you are there for your apprentice sessions. The Meet Referee will assign you to a mentor for the session.
- After your session is complete, be sure to have your Apprentice Form signed by the Meet Referee
- Upon the completion of all of your required sessions, scan and send a copy of your completed Apprentice Form to your Indiana Swimming <u>Area Officials Representative</u>.
 Upon review of the form, your Area Officials Representative will update your status to certified.

USA Swimming Credentials

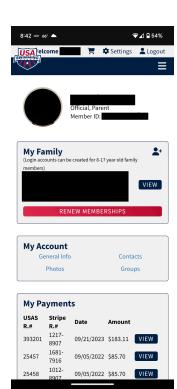
You can view your USA Swimming credentials on both the USA Swimming App and the USA Swimming website. While the USA Swimming App can show you your current membership status with expiration dates, it does not allow you to see other useful information with the Officials Tracking System (OTS). As such, it is recommended that you access your account via the website, even from your mobile device.

When you first log in on your mobile device, you should see a page similar to the one shown to the right.

Scrolling down to the bottom, you will see a section labeled "My Member Cards" like the one below. Tapping on the "Official Card" will open your membership card (shown on the next page) which will show you membership as an official is in good standing.



You will need to show this member card (shown at the right) to gain access to the pool deck where you will also sign in on an Officials sign in sheet.







Navigating OTS

<Coming Soon>