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# Huron Hurricanes Aquatic Club (HHAC)

## Officiating Policy

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### 1. Purpose

Huron Hurricanes Aquatic Club (HHAC) is committed to developing qualified swimming officials in accordance with the officiating pathways established by Swim Ontario and Swimming Canada.

This policy ensures:

- Compliance with provincial and national standards.
- Fair and equitable distribution of volunteer responsibilities.
- A safe, professional, and positive competitive environment.
- Ongoing development of certified officials within the club.


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### 2. Policy Statement

HHAC follows structured certification pathways for swimming officials, which include training, deck evaluations, and progressive advancement. The officiating pathway is governed by the standards and certification levels outlined by Swim Ontario and Swimming Canada. Officials progress through levels of certification that complement the club's ability to host and support meets and contribute to fair and safe competition.

Qualified officials are essential to:

- Hosting sanctioned swim meets.
- Supporting athlete development.
- Ensuring safe, fair, and rule-compliant competition.
- Maintaining the club's good standing.

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**Officials Certification Pathway:** The official development program includes multiple levels of certification (e.g., Level I → Level V) based on completed clinics, evaluations, and experience on deck. Full details on the certification pathway and specific requirements for each level are available here: [Swim Ontario Officials Certification](#)

**Note:** All officials must maintain active, annual registration with Swim Ontario and Swimming Canada through the REMS (Registration and Events Management System). Failure to maintain registration may impact officiating eligibility.

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### 3. Family Officiating Requirement

To remain in good standing as a Competitive Member:

- Each competitive swimmer family must designate one parent/guardian or family member to register as an active swimming official.
- The designated official must complete all required clinics and deck evaluations according to the official pathway.
- Families are expected to progress through officiating levels as their swimmer advances.

This requirement applies to all competitive training groups.

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### 4. Officiating Pathway Expectations

HHAC aligns officiating development with swimmer progression.

#### **A. Competitive Swimmer – Year 1**

**Requirements:**

- Registration as an official with Swim Ontario
- Completion of:
  - Introduction to Swimming Officiating
  - Safety Marshal
- Completion of required deck evaluations
- Maintain annual registration with Swim Ontario and Swimming Canada through REMS

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**Expectations:**

- Officiate at club-hosted and away meets
- Accept assigned officiating positions
- Begin progression toward Strokes & Turns certification

**B. Competitive Swimmer – Year 2**

**Requirements:**

- Strokes & Turns (Inspector of Turns)
- Judge of Stroke
- Completion of required deck evaluations
- Maintain annual registration with Swim Ontario and Swimming Canada through REMS

**Expectations:**

- Officiate at club-hosted and away meets
- Accept assigned officiating positions
- Mentor Year 1 officials where possible

**C. Competitive Swimmer – Year 3+**

**Requirements:**


- Chief Timekeeper
- Clerk of Course
- Continued advancement within the officiating pathway
- Maintain annual registration with Swim Ontario and Swimming Canada through REMS

**Encouraged Advancement:**

- Meet Manager
- Starter
- Referee (where appropriate and qualified)

**Expectations:**

- Officiate at club-hosted and away meets

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- Mentor developing officials in lower levels
- Promote professionalism and compliance with Swim Ontario / Swimming Canada standards

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## 5. Advancement Principles

Families are expected to:

- Continue officiating education as swimmers progress;
- Complete evaluations in a timely manner;
- Accept leadership roles when certified;
- Contribute to mentorship and meet operations.

HHAC supports long-term officiating development to strengthen the club's ability to host sanctioned meets and support higher-level competition.

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## 6. Meet Participation Requirements

Families must:

- Fulfill assigned officiating sessions at club-hosted and away meets;
- Sign up by posted deadlines;
- Notify the Officials Coordinator promptly if unable to attend.


Failure to meet officiating obligations may result in review by the HHAC Board of Directors.

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## 7. Officials Coordinator

HHAC will appoint an Officials Coordinator to:

- Track certification levels and evaluations.
- Assign officiating roles.
- Facilitate mentorship.
- Communicate clinic opportunities.

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Certification records will follow Swim Ontario and Swimming Canada tracking systems.

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## 8. Club Support

HHAC will support officials by:

- Hosting clinics when feasible;
- Promoting educational opportunities;
- Encouraging advancement in the officiating pathway;
- Fostering a respectful and collaborative deck environment.

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## 9. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed periodically and may be amended to reflect updates to provincial or national officiating standards.

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## 10. Exemption Clause

Parents who do not wish to participate in the official development program may appeal to the board, in writing, for an exemption to this policy. The final decision rests with the Board of Directors.