



Athletics Australia Level 3 Officials Process

Athletics Australia have revised the requirement for Officials to attempt their Level 3 (formerly Level A) qualification. The following remains relevant for the 2015 calendar year and will be revised when the new Level 3 Official's process is fully implemented from 1st January 2016. It is relevant for officials who have yet to commence the A grade process. Those that have should continue under the scheme for which they have already started.

Shortly, all Officials who currently hold a Level C or B will be transferred to the new AAOES Level 2 grading. This process will be completed by the State Associations.

Athletics Australia is dedicated to providing a pathway for Officials from the grassroots to the international level. The highest level available within the Australian system is Level 3 (old Level A) qualification. However, Officials must be aware that as this is the highest level of grading nationally, the requirements are onerous and stringent. Officials need to demonstrate they are able to sit the Level 3 exam before progressing.

Prerequisites for Level 3

Officials **must**:

1. Have successfully completed their Level C/B qualification in the discipline they wish to attempt. i.e are a Level 2 Official.
2. Have officiated regularly since completing their Level B qualification. Many officials may have already fulfilled this requirement. As a guide, regular officiating should include over the past three years:
 - I. Completed at least 15 days at club/state competition, including regular appointments State level.
 - II. Should have completed at least 5 days as a Chief or Referee at a State Championship (this can be a part of the 15 days as outlined above).
 - III. In addition to the two points above, should have officiated for at least 10 days as an official at a National Championship.
3. Demonstrate that they have officiated across all events within that discipline.
4. Demonstrated that they are competent leaders of a team.

Applying for Level 3

1. If an Official believes they have achieved the above, they should apply to sit their Level 3 via an email to their State Official's Representative stating the following:
 - a. Positions held (demonstrate diversity of tasks and positions)
 - b. Dates of competitions
 - c. Seminars attended
2. The State Official's Representative will confirm the Official's ability to attempt Level 3.
3. If the response is unfavourable to the Official, they can contact Athletics Australia seeking clarification or a review of this decision.

Level 3 Process

1. Once confirmed, a member of the Athletics Australia Official's Advisory panel will suggest a mentor to assist with the learning process.
2. The Official will need to officiate for at least 20 days under the guidance of their mentor or another Level 3 Official. This will be demonstrated via the Athletics Australia practical



- card. The Official **must** advise the mentor or Level 3 Official that they wish to be observed prior to competition. The 20 days must include:
- No more than 10 days at an interclub competition (in the discipline), including at least 5 days as a Chief or Referee
 - No less than 5 days at a State Championships (including 3 days as a Chief or Referee)
 - No less than 5 days at a National Championships
 - Must attend at least 2 seminars in the discipline and/or on rules updates
3. The Official must then submit their paperwork to their mentor who will confirm they are eligible to complete their Level 3 exam.
 4. The mentor must apply to the state representative of the Athletics Australia Official's Advisory panel who will sign off on the decision.
 5. In judging the Official's ability to sit the exam, the mentor and Officials Advisory panel's member must ensure (throughout the practical and via other means) that the official can:
 - Provide leadership to their team as a Chief or Referee
 - Demonstrate an excellent knowledge of the rules
 - Demonstrate an excellent knowledge of the application of the rules
 - Demonstrate that they can converse positively with athletes and other Officials
 - Demonstrate a positive attitude to their officiating, which includes, but is not limited to, punctuality, complying with the dress regulations of the competition, a desire to continue their learning etc.
 6. The State representative will then notify Athletics Australia and provide the exam details (date/location etc)

Exam Failure

The exam for Level 3 is an onerous process and should not be underestimated. If the Official fails the exam, they must return to officiating and may not re-sit the exam for at least 3 months (in which time the Official must have completed at least 10 days of officiating under the guidance of their mentor).

Upon a second successive failure, the Official must return to officiating and cannot attempt the exam again for 6 months (in which time the Official must have completed at least 15 days of officiating under the guidance of their mentor).