

MHSL OFFICIALS CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

All MHSL officials are required to read and understand the *Mountain Hi Swim League Rules and Guidelines for Officials and Deck Staff* booklet which can be found on www.mhsl.org. Each year, officials re-certifying for the same position they held the previous year are required to attend a clinic/course provided by the League or pass the League test or tests for his/her relevant position with at least 90% accuracy for both the questions and technical references. All new MHSL officials for Stroke & Turn Judge, Starter, and Referee must attend a League conducted clinic. New Referees must attend the "New Referee Clinic", not the Ref/Starter clinic.

Officials that have a break in service longer than one (1) season will be deemed "new" if they choose to become certified again. Requirements for "new" Officials vary depending on the position one is seeking.

The MHSL will accept a USA Swimming Official's credentials for all positions of certification he/she currently holds. No further MHSL certification (tests or clinics) is required unless the official wishes to gain a higher certification. Proof of current certification must be submitted to the Officials Chair prior to the start of the season. The official will be provided a document summarizing rule differences between MHSL and USA Swimming. The official must read, acknowledge, sign, and return the summary form to the officials' chair. Email acknowledgement will also be accepted.

For MHSL Stroke & Turn Judges:

All new Stroke & Turn Judges must attend a League conducted clinic.

Each team must have at least one re-certifying official (preferably the Meet Referee) attend a League conducted S&T Judge clinic. That official may then proctor a team-conducted S&T Judge clinic for re-certifying S&T Judges where all participants must take the S&T Judge test and fill out the answer sheet. The proctor is responsible for submitting the following to the MHSL Officials Chair by May 30th of the current season for each attendee: each person's test answer sheets (each person should keep his/her own test) and a list with the name, phone number, e-mail address, years of experience in the re-certifying position, and team affiliation.

A re-certifying MHSL Stroke & Turn Judge is defined as a S&T Judge who was certified in the League in at least one of the previous two seasons (i.e. a one (1) year break in service is allowed). Re-certifying MHSL Stroke & Turn Judges may:

- ✓ Attend a League clinic; or
- ✓ Attend a team-conducted clinic proctored by an Official who attended the League S&T Judge clinic for the current year, and pass the Stroke & Turn Judge test with at least 90% for both the questions and the technical references; or

- ✓ Pass the Stroke & Turn Judge test with at least 90% accuracy for both the questions and the technical references.
- ✓ New Officials can take the *strokeandturn.com* curriculum at their own expense(\$25) and send the certification to the League Official Chair. They will also need to complete the “MHSL and USA swimming rule differences” form and submit that to the Officials chair as well.

If a re-certifying MHSL official is taking the test, or tests, for his/her re-certification as an individual, all relevant tests must be submitted to the MHSL Officials Chair no later than the date of the last League taught group clinic for that season.

For MHSL Starters and Referees:

All new MHSL Starters must attend a League conducted clinic.

All new Referees must have at least one year of experience as an MHSL S&T Judge in the previous year or be currently certified as a USA Swimming Official. Only in the first year of a new team joining the League will an exception be granted.

All new Referees **must attend the “New Referee”** clinic to obtain Referee and S&T certification. They must separately attend a Starter clinic if they wish to also obtain Starter certification.

Re-certifying MHSL Starters and Referees are defined as Starters or Referees who were certified in at least one of the previous two seasons (i.e. a one (1) year break in service is allowed) in their respective positions. Re-certifying MHSL Starters and Referees may:

- ✓ Attend a League clinic for Starter or Starter/Referee; or
- ✓ **For Starter only** - attend a team clinic proctored by an Instructor who is certified as a Starter in both the Mountain Hi Swim League and USA Swimming, and pass the Starter re-certification test with at least 90% accuracy for both the questions and the technical references. Or, take the Starter re-certification test on their own and pass with at least 90% accuracy for both the questions and the technical references; or
- ✓ **For Referees only** – pass the S&T Judge, Starter, and Referee re-certification tests with at least 90% accuracy for both questions and technical references.