



Officials Committee

# Become an Official in 2021

## Overview

All athletics officials in Canada follow a certification program for development from beginner to expert. The program comprises five certification levels representing different levels of skills, experience and responsibility—the first two focusing on becoming an official familiar with all areas of officiating. The later three focus on specialization in specific areas. An illustration of the certification program can be found via the “Career Path” tab on the Officials section of the BC Athletics website: <https://www.bcathletics.org/Officials/>

The pathways for the first two certification levels are described below.

## Opportunities for Officiating within the Club Model

The BC Athletics Officials Committee invites clubs to offer training and development opportunities to their members to become BC Athletics officials through our B.C. Officials Class of 2021 program. The first two levels in the program, provided by Athletics Canada and the National Officials Committee, can be administered within the club and includes web-based training following by hands-on experience.

This is an excellent opportunity for clubs to develop officiating resources for their club meets. Clubs are encouraged to identify a point person who can work with the Officials Committee to implement the BC Officials Class of 2021 in their Club.

Next steps? Please contact Marilyn Benz at: [m.benz@shaw.ca](mailto:m.benz@shaw.ca).

## B.C. Officials Class of 2021 Program

BC Athletics members are invited to join the B.C. Officials Class of 2021. Registration is now open. The program includes the first two levels of the officials’ certification program. The pathways to these levels are listed and described in detail below.

- **Pathway to Level 1**—for those who have not had exposure to the world of athletics and looking for a quick and easy way to try officiating.
- **Pathway to Level 2**—provides the base line officiating knowledge and skills in the major events so you can participate in officiating teams and make some officiating decisions under supervision of an experienced official.

Next steps? Please contact Marilyn Benz at: [m.benz@shaw.ca](mailto:m.benz@shaw.ca).

## Pathway to Level 1—Local Official

The pathway to Level 1 Official is for those who have not had exposure to the world of athletics through participation as an athlete, coach or volunteer parent.



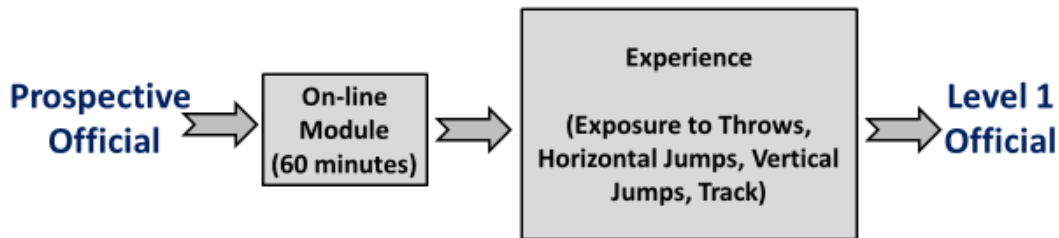
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The pathway is a quick and easy way to try officiating to see if you would like to continue down the pathway to higher levels of certification.

The pathway starts with training delivered over the internet that you can complete at their own time, pace and location. The training is followed by participation at track and field meets to gain exposure to the major disciplines.

### Pathway to Level 1 Official



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Questions? Please contact Marilyn Benz at: [m.benz@shaw.ca](mailto:m.benz@shaw.ca).

### Pathway to Level 2—Regional Official

The pathway to Level 2 Official is for:

- those officials who are currently Level 1, or
- those with previous experience in the world of athletics. For example, athletes, coaches and volunteer parents will enter the official's development program at this pathway. Experience must be within the previous 7 years and significant enough that the prospective official has a solid understanding of the major events that comprise athletics.

The pathway to Level 2 provides the base line officiating knowledge and skills in the major events such that you can participate in officiating teams and make some officiating decisions under supervision of an experienced official. A Level 2 official is expected to be able to:

- Work as part of an officiating team.
- Apply the basic rules in a consistent and fair manner—after an orientation session and under supervision of an experienced official.
- Follow safety procedures.



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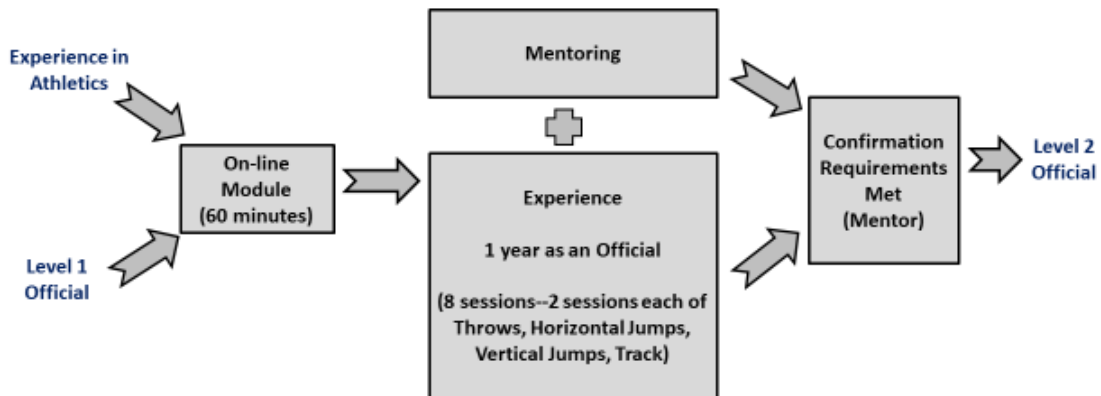
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Examples of activities a Level 2 official may undertake include the following:

- Track—helping to assemble athletes for their race, monitoring the race for any rule infractions, and assist with officiating equipment such as hurdle setup and placement of starting blocks.
- Field events—setting up and adjusting equipment, measuring results, operating a timing clock and organizing athletes in competition sequence.

The pathway starts with training delivered over the internet that the prospective official can complete at their own time, pace and location. The training is followed by participation at track and field meets to gain hands-on experience in the disciplines of track, throwing events, horizontal jumps and vertical jumps. A mentor is assigned to support the experience component and answer questions that may arise during the pathway, including next steps after becoming a Level 2 official. The mentor will also confirm the official has met the requirements of Level 2.

### Pathway to Level 2 Official



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Questions? Please contact Marilyn Benz at: [m.benz@shaw.ca](mailto:m.benz@shaw.ca).

Note: all participants must have an active BC Athletics Membership and current Criminal Record Check: <https://www.bcathletics.org/Officials/Membership/>