



Safety Directors' Development Program Description

Revised 3/2021

USA Water Ski & Wake Sports (USA-WSWS) Safety Directors' Development Program is designed to improve and maintain the quality of Safety Directors at all USA-WSWS sanctioned events (tournaments, practices, exhibitions, and clinics). USA-WSWS members can advance through the four Safety Director rating levels – coordinator, state, regional and national – by following the three-step process – education, participation, and evaluation – for completing all quantitative and maintenance requirements at each level. However, the major difference between the four rating levels within the program is the amount of experience, both administrative (procedures/paperwork) and practical (serving at sanctioned events with various numbers of contestants), that is required to advance through the program. A detailed description of the quantitative requirements for advancing and maintaining each rating is included on the other side of this form.

Step One - Education: Educational opportunities through on- and off-water clinics are increasingly available. Safety Directors of all levels and for all sport disciplines are encouraged to take advantage of those opportunities as listed on the USA-WSWS website and in *The Water Skier* magazine. Attendance at a USA-WSWS sanctioned safety clinic once every four years is mandatory for both upgrading and maintenance purposes. Please refer the quantitative requirements below.

Step Two – Participation: For each rating, there are certain quantitative requirements which must be fulfilled before the Safety Director proceeds to the next step. Remember to record your work as such in your Personal Performance Record (available from the USA-WSWS website) and have it signed by the Chief Safety Director. It is important to verify that your work is accurately listed on the Tournament Officials' Record included in the Tournament Scorebook, since this is how your work is recorded and credited at USA-WSWS Headquarters. For work performed at sanctioned practices and exhibitions, the **Safety Directors Exhibition Work Record** should be completed and returned to the USA-WSWS Officials Coordinator (officials@usawaterski.org). First Aid and CPR certification (or equivalents) are required for state, regional and national ratings. A certificate of completion is accepted as proof. Annual maintenance requirements are averaged over a two-year period (i.e., work performed January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021 counts for renewal for 2022).

Step Three – Evaluation: After completing the quantitative requirements for your next rating, you may contact USA-WSWS to verify that you have indeed done so and that your work has been correctly recorded at USA-WSWS Headquarters. A Safety Coordinator who aspires to become a State Safety Director should contact USA-WSWS' Officials Coordinator for final rating approval and verification that work requirements have been satisfied.

1. Aspiring Safety Coordinators will take a comprehensive open-book test at a clinic.
2. State Safety Directors aspiring to become Regional Safety Directors will be sent an open-book test which they have up to 30 days to complete and return to USA-WSWS Headquarters to be graded.
2. Regional Safety Directors who aspire to become National Safety Directors will take a closed-book test under the supervision of an instructor/trainer at a clinic or other meeting place that has been agreed upon.

Aspiring Regional and National Safety Directors can only take the test once per calendar year. Once you have successfully completed Step 3, you have achieved the final rating and will receive an e-mail confirmation from USA-WSWS Headquarters.

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Safety Directors' Development Program

Quantitative Requirements for Advancement and Renewal



Junior Safety Coordinator – A junior safety coordinator may assist the Safety Director at any USA-WSWS sanctioned event. A junior safety coordinator may not serve as the only USA-WSWS official on site for a sanctioned practice, exhibition, clinic, or Grass Roots event. A junior coordinator will automatically transfer to a safety coordinator when they turn 18, and work performed as a junior coordinator will be applied towards an upgrade to State Safety Director. A junior safety rating will be issued for three years. Since a junior coordinator will be an adult at the expiration of their junior rating, there will be no renewal option for a junior coordinator.

- Age 15-17
- Attend one USA-WSWS sanctioned Safety clinic

Safety Coordinator – A Safety Coordinator may serve as the safety personnel required to be present at any USA-WSWS sanctioned practice, exhibition, clinic, or GrassRoots event. A Safety Coordinator may not serve as Chief Safety Director at any USA-WSWS-sanctioned tournament with a higher sanction classification than GrassRoots. However, a Safety Coordinator may assist at any USA-WSWS sanctioned tournament to gain credit towards achieving his/her State Safety Director rating.

- Minimum age – 18
- Attend one USA-WSWS-sanctioned Safety clinic

State Safety Director (use application) – A State Safety Director may serve as Safety Director or Assistant Chief Safety Director at any USA-WSWS sanctioned tournament. A State Safety Director may serve as the Chief Safety Director at all sanctioned events except the AWSA National Championships, AWSA Regional Championships and NSSA Division 1 National Championships. To advance from Safety Coordinator to State Safety Director, you must complete the following requirements and document experience on the [Application of State Safety Director](#). Tournament work credit shall also be recorded in the electronic tournament scorebook.

- Provide proof of current First Aid and CPR certification (or equivalent)
- Assist the appointed Chief Safety Director at three USA-WSWS sanctioned tournaments (except Regional and National tournaments). **At least one of these three tournaments must be a Class C or above tournament.**
- Medical professionals with relevant health care experience should refer to section 9.04 of the Official Safety Manual and Policy Handbook for fast-track eligibility and requirements.

Regional Safety Director – A Regional Safety Director may serve as Safety Director or Assistant Chief Safety Director at any USA-WSWS sanctioned tournament. A Regional Safety Director may serve as the Chief Safety Director at all sanctioned events except the AWSA National Championships and the NSSA Division 1 National Championships. To advance from State to Regional Safety Director, you must complete the following requirements. Tournament work credit shall be recorded in the electronic tournament scorebook.

- Attend one USA-WSWS sanctioned Safety Clinic since becoming a State Safety Director
- Provide proof of current First Aid and CPR certification (or equivalent)
- Serve as Chief or Assistant Safety Director at eight USA-WSWS sanctioned tournaments or show ski exhibitions
- Serve as Chief Safety Director at two additional USA-WSWS sanctioned tournaments
- Successfully pass a written take-home test (once the above requirements are met and verified by USA-WSWS)

National Safety Director – A National Safety Director may serve as Safety Director, Assistant Chief Safety Director or Chief Safety Director at all USA-WSWS sanctioned tournaments. To advance from Regional to National Safety Director, you must complete the following requirements. Tournament work credit shall be recorded in the electronic tournament scorebook.

- Attend one USA-WSWS sanctioned Safety Clinic since becoming a Regional Safety Director
- Provide proof of current First Aid and CPR certification (or equivalent)
- Serve as Chief or Assistant Safety Director at nine USA-WSWS sanctioned tournaments or show ski exhibitions
- Serve as Chief Safety Director at three additional USA-WSWS sanctioned tournaments

- Serve as Safety Director at three USA-WSWS sanctioned Regional (Conference) or National tournaments in three **SEPARATE** years (in addition to the previous two requirements)
- Successfully pass a closed book written test taken under the supervision of an instructor/trainer (once the above requirements are met and verified by USA-WSWS)

Rating Renewal Requirements –

Rating	Event(s)/ 2 Years ¹	Clinic(s)/ 4 Years ³	Current First Aid/CPR ⁴	SafeSport Training ⁵
Coordinator	0	1	Recommended	Recommended
State	4	1	Required	Recommended
Regional	4 (2 as Chief ²)	1	Required	Recommended
National	4 (2 as Chief ²)	1	Required	Recommended

- 1. Sanctioned Event Credit:** State, Regional and National Safety Directors must work four sanctioned events or exhibitions averaged over two years (2/2, 3/1, 1/3, or 4 in one year). An event may be of any type from any sport discipline. Safety clinic attendance may be used to replace one of the four event requirements. To receive credit for working a sanctioned event, a safety official must adequately perform duties as assigned by the Chief Safety Director. Safety officials working the event must have their names listed on the Tournament Officials' Record or Safety Director's Exhibition Work Record returned to USA Water Ski & Wake Sports following an event to receive credit. Chief Safety Directors must submit all appropriate forms to obtain credit for the event.
- 2. Regional and National Safety Directors** must work two of the four events as Chief. Serving as an instructor at a sanctioned Safety Clinic may be used to replace one of the two Chief requirements, and two of the four total event requirements.
- 3. Clinics –** Attendance at a USA-WSWS sanctioned Safety Clinic may be used to replace one tournament credit each 2-year renewal period.
- 4. First Aid/CPR Certification –** Upon renewal, send proof of certification to USA-WSWS Headquarters, Attention Officials' Programs (officials@usawaterski.org). All safety director ratings will be deactivated until a current First Aid and CPR certification are on file at USA-WSWS Headquarters. A valid current professional certification which includes emergency medical care will satisfy the first aid requirement. Examples include but are not limited to medical doctor, nurse, EMT, paramedic, wilderness first responder, etc.
- 5. SafeSport Training -** It is recommended that all USA Water Ski & Wake Sports safety officials complete the SafeSport training and annual SafeSport refresher training.