



Australian Athletics Officials' Education Scheme Level 3 Process

The Australian Athletics Officials' Education Scheme (AAOES) Level 3 (formally Level A) has been revised to enable Officials to further their qualifications.

The Australian Athletics Officials' Education Committee can now provide details of the new process for all Officials wishing to attempt a Level 3 qualification. This new process will come into effect from 1st July 2016.

Those Officials who have already commenced obtaining a Level A under the old Athletics Australia scheme will continue with this process until completion.

Officials who currently hold the old Level C or B in either Association, will be transferred to the new AAOES Level 2 grading. This process will be completed by the Member Associations.

Athletics is dedicated to providing a pathway for Officials from the grassroots to the international level. The highest level available within the Australian system is the 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 competent in the practical component of the discipline and have the knowledge to sit the Level 3 exam before progressing.

LEVEL 3 QUALIFICATIONS

The following Level 3 qualifications exist:

- Track
- Jumps
- Throws
- Out of Stadia
- Technical
- Race Walks
- Competition Management (progression from Level 2 Administration)

Pre-requisites for Level 3:

Officials **must have**:

1. Successfully completed their Level 2 qualification in the discipline they wish to attempt.
2. Officiated regularly since completing their Level 2 qualification
3. Demonstrated that they have officiated across all events within that discipline.
4. Demonstrated that they are competent leaders of a team.

Next Steps:

1. If an Official believes they have achieved the above, they should contact their Member Association Officials' Representative.
2. The Member Association Officials' Representative will provide details of the Level 3 process.

Contact details for each Member Associations are as follows:

- ACT: AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY – info.act@athletics.org.au
- NEW SOUTH WALES – info@nswathletics.org.au



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- NORTHERN TERRITORY – info@ntathletics.org.au
- QUEENSLAND – info@qldathletics.org.au
- SOUTH AUSTRALIA – info@athleticssa.com.au
- TASMANIA – info@tasathletics.org.au
- VICTORIA – officials@athsvic.org.au
- WESTERN AUSTRALIA – info@waathletics.org.au

Level 3 Process

1. A Member Association Officials' Representative 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.
3. The practical experience will be demonstrated via the Australian Athletics Officials' Education Scheme Practical Card.
4. The Official **must** advise the Mentor or Level 3 Official that they wish to be observed carrying out their assigned duties **prior** to competition.
5. 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)

State Championships include

- State Open Championships
 - State Junior Championships
 - State Relay Championships
 - State Combined Event Championships
 - State Little Athletics Championships
 - State Secondary School Athletics Championships
 - State Cross Country Championships
 - State Little Athletics Cross Country Championships
- No less than 5 days at a National Championships

National Championships include

- National Open Championships
 - National Junior Championships
 - National All Schools Championships
 - Athletics Australia meets such as Track Classics
 - National Cross Country Championships
 - National Road Racing Championships
 - National Race Walking Championships
 - Australian Little Athletics Championships
- Must attend at least 2 seminars in the discipline and/or on rules updates. These seminars will be approved through the Member Association.



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- In the case of Level 3 Competition Management, candidates will have to attend a 2 day Competition Management course delivered by Athletics Australia
- 6. The Official must then submit their paperwork to their Mentor who will confirm they are eligible to complete their Level 3 exam.
- 7. The Official must apply to the Member Association Officials' Representative who will sign off on the decision.
- 8. In judging the Official's ability to sit the exam, the Mentor and Member Association Officials' Representative must ensure (throughout the practical experience 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.
- 9. The Member Association Officials' Representative will provide exam details.

Exam Failure

The exam for Level 3 is an onerous process and should not be under-estimated.

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).