

Club Race Officer Certification Requirements

A Club Race Officer is expected to be able to properly run any race normally conducted at his or her local sailing organization, including organizing the race committee, writing sailing instructions and scoring the event.

In order to qualify as a Club Race Officer, you must:

- [be a member of US Sailing](#)
- be at least 18 years old
- be recognized as having outstanding personal character
- have experience as a racing sailor (no time limit)
- maintain current [SafeSport](#) training and background screening
- maintain current First Aid and CPR training
- own the current version of *Join the Race Committee Team*
- own the current version of the *Race Management Handbook*
- attend a complete, approved One-Day or Advanced Race Management Seminar (for initial or renewal certification) or approved continuing education events (for renewal certification)
- pass the basic race management test at 80% or higher or the advanced race management test at 75% or higher
- maintain an up-to-date record of your race management activities in US Sailing's Sailing Officials Automated Reporting System ([SOARS](#))
- have served at least twice in each race committee job, including scorer
- have been the principal race officer for at least four separate events in the USA. Separate events are run under separate sailing instructions, not multiple instances of the same event under the same SI.
- have the experience necessary to properly run races for the types of boats, competitors, racing formats and events run at your local sailing organization
- be endorsed by a flag officer or equivalent of your local sailing organization, which must be affiliated with US Sailing
- be approved by your Area Race Officer

Experience: All of the experience except the racing must take place during the four-year period ending at the time the complete application is received by US Sailing. The minimum experience requirements must be met at events in the USA.

The Club Race Officer program is administered within each US Sailing Area by the [Area Race Officer \(ARO\)](#). The ARO may certify an applicant as a Club Race Officer when all of the requirements necessary for certification have been met.

SafeSport training and background screening: All certified officials are required to maintain periodic SafeSport training and background screening. Please see the [SafeSport & Race Officials](#) page for more information on this requirement.

SOARS: Applicants for certification and all certified race officers are required to record their race management activities in [SOARS](#). For assistance using SOARS, please read the documentation available at the bottom of each page or contact your ARO.

Local Sailing Organization (LSO) endorsement: LSO endorsement is required for initial and renewal certification. The form is available on the [certification forms page](#). Please ask a flag officer or equivalent to submit your LSO endorsement.

Renewal: In order to renew at your current level of certification, you must submit an [application](#) and continue to meet all the other program requirements, including attending required continuing education events and passing the appropriate test.

Race Official Insurance: Certified officials are covered under US Sailing's [liability insurance](#) policy while they are acting as volunteers for US Sailing. Coverage remains in effect as long as your membership and certification are current.

Lapsed membership: You must maintain your [US Sailing membership](#) to keep your race official certification current. If your membership has lapsed, you may be reinstated as a race official for the balance of your term if your membership is renewed within 60 days.

Expiring certification: Your certification expires on December 31 of the fourth year of your term. US Sailing must receive your renewal application by November 1 to ensure that your certification and insurance coverage continue uninterrupted.

[Apply to be a race officer](#)

(rev. 11/2018)