

RACE OFFICIAL EDUCATION

Did you know that it takes in the neighbourhood of 75 volunteers to effectively run a FIS slalom? As a result, volunteers are a key component of ski racing events across Canada. In order to volunteer at a ski race as a race official, volunteers are required to have an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the Race Organizing Committee.

The Alberta Alpine Officials program is a structured, integrated program involving four levels of Officials and four levels of Technical Delegates. It covers all Officials from the novice Level I, to the highly qualified and experienced Level IV Officials and Technical Delegates. The program stresses the integration of practical knowledge with theory at all levels. It seeks to provide the means by which Officials can build a broader and more knowledgeable base of experience and maintain that level of experience. It is vital that Officials are able to provide race organization and officiating skills that will match the competitors' performance levels and program goals. Competitors have the right to expect that Officials have this level of expertise so that race results reflect the athlete's ability and skill without being compromised.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Program are the following:

- To standardize the methods and techniques of organizing and officiating at ski races across Alberta
- To ensure that ski competitions are fair, safe, and consistent with prescribed standards
- To ensure uniformity with respect to rule interpretations
- To ensure that required numbers of qualified Officials are available at all races in Alberta
- To offer opportunities to anyone, anywhere to become a ski Official
- To offer opportunities, through established programs, for Officials to progress from club level Officials to International officials
- To establish criteria for Officials certification which reflect the current competition standards
- To offer recognition to Officials for their achievements

ALBERTA ALPINE OFFICIALS PROGRAM

LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
Level I	The Level 1 Officials course prepares individuals for volunteering at local races in various junior Race Officials positions. This course is 3 hours long

with no exam and no pre-requisites.

Level II	The Level 2 offers further education and training to individuals who have already completed their Level I and have gained 8 race days of practical experience at local races in at least three different positions from two different categories (see chart below). Level II Officials are qualified for several Chief and Jury positions. The course is 6 hours with a national exam requiring a minimum of 70% to pass.
Level II for coaches	This course places a heavier emphasis on areas and material critical for a coach to understand, in particular preparation for coaches to hold the Referee position at a ski race.
Level III	Prepares Officials for all Chief positions and for minimum entry qualifications for the Technical Delegate (TD) program. Course prerequisite - must be Level II official with specified experience. Course is 2 days with national exam. Minimum of 70% is required to pass. For prerequisites please see below.
Level IV	This level is for those Officials who have gained further experience at National or International races and who have demonstrated superior abilities as an Official. They must be recommended by the Alberta Officials Chair to the National Officials Committee
Alberta Technical Delegate	Must be Level III or IV Official, serve as TD Candidate at two races and be evaluated in both cases. Practical and written exam. Qualified to TD at Alberta races and some National Level Races.
National Technical Delegate	Obtained through experience and demonstrated superior ability. They must be recommended by the Alberta Officials Chair to the National Officials Committee.

Pre-requisites for entry to a Level 3 Official course are:

1. successful completion of the Level 2 Officials course
2. completion of an assignment as Chief of Race at a K1 or K2 race, or higher
3. **plus** one of the following positions at a K1 or K2 race, or higher: *Chief of Course, Chief of Timing/Calculations, Chief of Gate Judges or Race Secretary*

4. **plus** two assignments as a Jury member, other than as Chief of Race: i.e. positions of *Referee, Assistant Referee, Start Referee or Finish Referee*
5. **plus** one assignment from the following table at a **FIS level race**. This should be a different assignment than that listed in 1 to 4 above.

Event	Administration	Quality	Course	Timing	Jury
Race Organizing Committee Chairperson			Chief of Race	Chief of Timing & Calculations	Technical Delegate
Chief of Administration (Race Secretary)			Chief of Course	Chief of Timing Electric Gate Judges	TD Candidate Referee Jury
			Gate Judge	Starter	Advisors
			Course		Start
			Crew		Referee
					Finish
					Referee

Note that accredited Level 3 CSCF coaches are eligible to register for a Level 3 Officials course even though they may not meet the above practical assignments.

Not having completed all the above practical assignments does not preclude you from registering for the Level 3 course but your request will be subject to review before attending. If you feel you have close to, or equivalent, practical experience to the above, we'd like to hear from you. Please provide details of this experience.

Note that, even though you may attend the Level 3 course you will not be accredited as a Level 3 Official until the practical prerequisites are completed, or your current practical experience is accepted as equivalent.