

USA Weightlifting Technical Official Advancement Policy

Effective April 5, 2025

National Technical Official: Must meet each requirement below.

1. WSO Technical Official for at least 24 months prior to application date
2. National Competition Requirement. Technical Official at one USAW National competition in the 36 months prior to submitting an application as follows (10 sessions):
 - a. Five sessions as a referee
 - b. Five sessions in any Technical Official position (includes referee sessions in excess of the five used to meet requirement 2a).
3. Additional competition requirement: Technical Official at four (4) additional USAW-sanctioned competitions at any level in the 36 months prior to application as follows (20 total sessions):
 - a. Ten sessions as a referee
 - b. Ten sessions in any Technical Official position (includes referee sessions in excess of the five used to meet requirement 3a).

Adaptive NATIONAL Technical Official: Must meet each requirement below.

In order to accommodate all people, USAW has the following procedure for National Technical Official Certification where there is a disability “defined by the ADA as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a person who has a history or record of such an impairment, or a person who is perceived by others as having such an impairment.” <https://www.ada.gov/topics/intro-to-ada/>

1. All points noted in the “National Technical Official” requirements above.
2. An adaptive testing candidate must be able to execute one or more technical Official duties on a National level, including Speaker, Timekeeper, Weigh-In Official, Marshal, Assistant Marshal, Technical Controller, and Referee.
3. Testing Accommodation
 - a. The USAW Technical Committee will evaluate each Adaptive National Referee candidate’s application concerning the candidate’s specific stated limitation(s).
 - b. The Testing Coordinator will structure a process for testing to meet the candidate’s specific stated limitation(s) (i.e., the written test administered orally; practical testing limited to the candidate’s abilities; assistance from proctor, etc).
 - c. Upon completion of the testing process, the individual will be considered a National Technical Official. They will receive a National TO patch and booklet indicating their level of certification. Their participation and assignments at a National Event will be made in concert with the Competition Secretaries and according to the limitations understood through the testing process.

IWF Category 2 ITO: Must meet each requirement below.

1. National TO for at least 36 months prior to application date.
2. National competition requirement. Technical Official at eight (8) USAW national competitions in the 25 months prior to application, as follows (30 sessions).
 - a. Ten sessions as a referee at any in-person or virtual competition.
 - b. Twenty sessions in any Technical Official position at in-person or virtual competitions.
3. Additional competition requirement: Technical Official at any additional 4 USAW sanctioned competitions at any level, in the 25 months prior to application.

IWF Category 1 ITO: Must meet each requirement below.

1. IWF Category 2 ITO for at least 24 months prior to application date.
2. National competition requirement. Technical Official at eight (8) USAW national competitions in the 25 months prior to application, as follows (30 sessions).
 - a. Ten sessions as a referee at any in-person or virtual competition.
 - b. Twenty sessions in any Technical Official position at in-person or virtual competitions.
3. Additional competition requirement: Technical Official at any additional 4 USAW sanctioned competitions at any level, in the 25 months prior to application.

PROCESS FOR TECHNICAL OFFICIAL ADVANCEMENT

1. Applicants submit applications online via the forms available at <https://www.usaweightlifting.org/referees/referee-and-competition-secretary-information>
2. USAW Technical Committee reviews the application
 - a. If Denied
 - i. Applicant will be notified of the reason for the denial
 - b. If approved:
 - i. Testing candidate selects a USAW National Event to complete the practical testing. There is no practical testing at Masters Nationals or National Youth Championships.
 1. The candidate is required to be present for the entire event where they wish to complete practical testing
 2. The candidate will be scheduled for 15-17 sessions
 - a. Candidate may request up to 2 sessions off
 - b. The Preliminary Schedule is tentative until after the VFE
 3. Candidates are required to wear the IWF TO uniform:
 - a. Navy blue suit (pants or skirt), white shirt with collar, black shoes, black or flesh-colored socks or tights, and scarf or tie
 4. Candidates seeking to advance to National TO, IWF Category 2 ITO, or IWF Category 1 ITO will be proctored by a jury of Category 1 ITOs across **four sessions**. The candidate's final score will be calculated based on their results from all four sessions. Passing threshold for the referee testing:
 - a. National TO candidate must achieve 90% or higher to advance.
 - b. Adaptive National TO candidates must achieve 90% or higher to advance.
 - c. IWF Category 2 ITO candidates must achieve 90% or higher to advance.
 - d. IWF Category 1 ITO candidates must achieve 95% or higher to advance.
 - ii. Candidates are notified of the next possible date on which they may take the written test. This may take place before or after practical testing. Passing threshold for the written test:
 1. National TO candidate must achieve 90% or higher to advance
 2. Adaptive National TO candidates must achieve 90% or higher to advance
 3. IWF Category 2 ITO candidate must achieve 90% or higher to advance
 4. IWF Category 1 ITO candidate must achieve 95% or higher to advance

- c. IWF Category 2 and 1 ITOs
 - i. The results of both practical and written tests are subject to IWF approval. A candidate's ITO certification status will be reflected in their USAW membership profile only after IWF approval.
 - ii. Following IWF approval, USAW will invoice the \$200 license fee (or the prorated amount for the remainder of the current quad) and send an IWF book and patch to the individual.
 - 1. The dollar amount is subject to change and defined by the IWF. It will ultimately be transferred from USAW to the IWF.
 - iii. The individual will also be invoiced for an IWF scarf and/or tie for \$30 each.
 - 1. The dollar amount is subject to change and defined by the IWF. It will ultimately be transferred from USAW to the IWF.
- 3. Per the IWF TCRR 7.3.20, "Candidates who fail either practical or written must wait at least six (6) months before taking the examinations again."
 - a. Candidates who fail either the practical or written exam may reapply to the USAW Technical Committee after six months have expired. The events and sessions worked where the candidate was unsuccessful will count towards the activity requirements for the new application.