



DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME



FINA DIVING JUDGES PATHWAY

CERTIFICATION PROCESS

FINA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



Introduction.....	3
1. FINA Criteria for Judges.....	3
2. Judges Certification Pathway.....	4
3. FINA Diving Development Schools for Judges.....	5
3.1 Overview.....	5
3.2 Course description and format.....	5
3.3 Course requirements.....	6
3.4 Registration.....	6
3.5 Assessment.....	6
3.6 Qualification framework.....	7
3.6.1 Content.....	7
3.6.2 Competencies.....	7
4. FINA Diving Certification Schools for Judges.....	7
4.1 Overview.....	7
4.2 Course description and format.....	7
4.3 Course requirements.....	8
4.4 Registration.....	8
4.5 Assessment.....	9
4.6 Certification.....	9
4.7 Recertification.....	9
4.8 Qualification framework.....	10
4.8.1 Content.....	10
4.8.2 Competencies.....	10
5. FINA Diving Officials Online Exam for certified judges.....	10
6. Evaluation of certified judges.....	11
6.1 Evaluation criteria.....	11
6.1.1 Numerical.....	11
6.1.2 Behaviour.....	11
6.1.3 Neutrality.....	11
6.1.4 Knowledge of the Rules and additional Diving Education.....	11
6.1.5 Leadership.....	11
6.1.6 Report.....	11
6.1.7 Inconsistencies / Comparisons.....	11
6.2 Evaluation procedure.....	12
7. FINA Diving Officials List.....	13
7.1 List principles.....	13
7.1.1 FINA G-Judges.....	13
7.1.2 FINA A-Judges.....	13



Introduction

The purpose of this document is to explain the process that all the Technical Officials, within a FINA National Member Federation, must follow in order to become eligible to judge at FINA Events.

A key element in this process are the FINA Schools, a development programme that offers all the officials around the world the opportunity to progress and to be acknowledged as certified officials.

The main goal of this programme is to promote sports growth by offering a continuous learning pathway for active diving judges, providing and setting the necessary competencies to become a FINA Judge.

A range of FINA Development and Certification Schools are currently offered by the FINA Development Programme, with the objective of establishing a universal and standardised judges training and certification system.

Through this programme all the participants have access to the same information, guidelines and interpretation of the FINA Rules, increasing the number of certified judges and enhancing their knowledge.

1. FINA Criteria for Judges

All judges must be able to meet the following criteria:

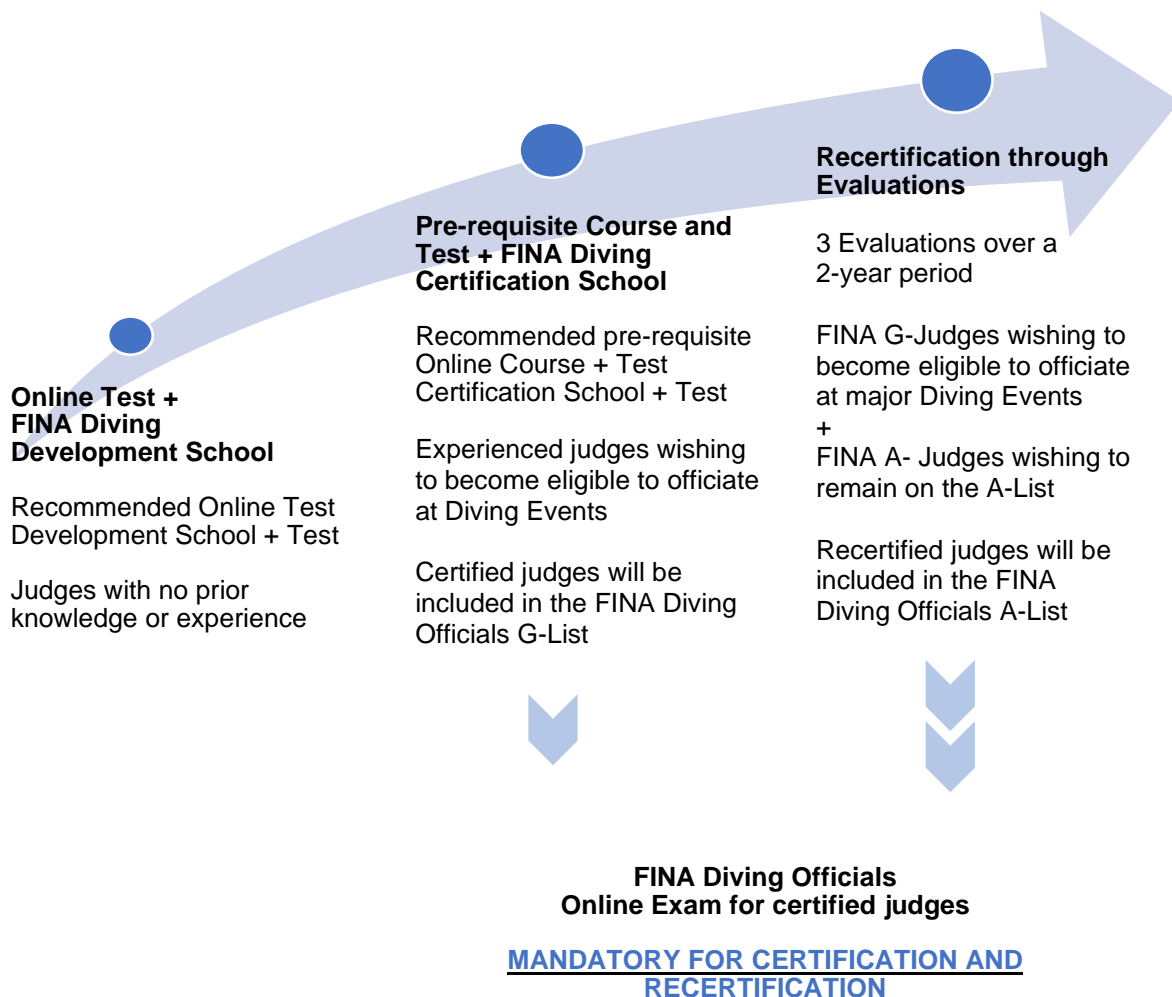
- Education: they shall have a complete knowledge of the rules
- Experience: they shall develop judging experience in competitions
- Application: they shall demonstrate the practical application of the rules
- Neutrality: they shall show no preference to any diver or nation
- Consistency: they shall maintain a standard in judging
- Behaviour: they shall at all times conduct themselves in a professional manner

2. Judges Certification Pathway

The FINA Judges Certification Pathway allows a Technical Official to progress through different steps to become a recognised International Technical Official.

There are a variety of entry points for officials depending on their existing knowledge, experience, proven ability and qualification.

The below flowchart illustrates how the diving judges may progress along the certification pathway:



To maintain their existing certification, all FINA Judges must annually pass an Online Exam through the FINA Learning Platform

3. FINA Diving Development Schools for Judges

3.1 Overview

In order to begin the training as a Diving Judge, FINA offers all National Federations the possibility to host a FINA Diving Development School.

- They are designed to meet the needs of those National Federations who have requested judges' instruction and do not have any judges training programmes in place.
- This school caters to those participants with limited basic knowledge or no experience in judging.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The following do not need to attend a FINA Diving Development School for Judges and may attend a Certification School: former divers, coaches, experienced national judges whose federation certify they have judged at a national-regional level and international events hosted by the Federation within the past 3 years.

3.2 Course description and format

This course is open to all the National Federations interested in training their judges with no prior diving experience.

The programme consists of two parts: a non-compulsory Online Test that the candidates may complete through the [FINA Learning Platform](#) followed by the FINA Diving Development School held at the Host Federation's chosen location.

Online Test

- Each participant will receive access to the FINA Learning Platform on the day following the registration deadline
- It is recommended that the candidate completes the Online Test by the end of the school he/she has registered for

FINA Diving Development School

- The FINA Diving Development Schools are held over a duration of two (2) days concluding with a written test
- The instruction is theoretical and is delivered in English

3.3 Course requirements

Host Federations must have a minimum of ten (10) and a maximum of thirty (30) participants attending a FINA Diving Development School.

All participants attending a Development School shall ensure that they comply with the below requirements:

- Be registered through the FINA GMS as described in section 3.4
- Be at least 16 years old on December 31 of the year of the Development School
- Demonstrate a minimum level of spoken and written skills in English
- Fully participate in the course and complete all required assessments
- Agree to abide by the FINA Code of Ethics
- It is strongly recommended that candidates have independent appropriate insurance coverage before undertaking any independent officials practice to cover any unusual circumstances such as travel and health

3.4 Registration

All participants attending a FINA Diving Development School must be nominated by their National Federations through the FINA GMS by the registration deadline:

- Only fully submitted registrations including the candidate's personal email address (to access the Learning Platform) will be considered for approval
- The approvals will be done on a first come first served basis
- The registration will be closed by the registration deadline or once the maximum number of 30 participants has been reached

Please note that only approved participants will receive access to the Online Test and may attend a FINA Diving Development School.

3.5 Assessment

For the written exam, interpreters, use of online resources, electronic watches and cell phones are not permitted.

Disciplinary actions will be taken against those who act in a dishonest way or for any misconduct.

In order to pass a FINA Diving Development School the candidate must score a minimum of 85% at the FINA Diving Development School's test. Candidates who have successfully completed the test will receive a Development School Diploma.

IMPORTANT NOTE: A Development School Diploma will entitle the holder to participate at a FINA Diving Certification School for Judges. However, a Development School diploma does not entitle the holder to integrate into the FINA Diving Officials List.

3.6 Qualification framework

3.6.1 Content

The curriculum will be based on the current [FINA Diving Officials Manual](#) and the current [FINA Handbook](#).

- Judge's Responsibilities
- Fundamentals: Diving Competitions & Competition Format
- Diving Number Designations: Degree of Difficulty
- Statement of Dives: Competition Procedure
- The Dive: Starting Position - The Approach - The Take-Off
- The Dive: The Flight - The Entry
- Judging Synchronised Diving
- Rules: Interpretation & Application
- Judging Diving overview – categories: Secretariat, Judging – Wireless Keypads, Judging – Flash Cards, Duties of the Referee, Duties of the Secretariat

3.6.2 Competencies to be achieved at the end of the school are:

- Participants will become familiar with the FINA Diving Rules (current [FINA Diving Officials Manual](#) and the current [FINA Handbook](#))
- Participants will demonstrate understanding of the rules and the application of the rules to judge to a national level of competency

4. FINA Diving Certification Schools for Judges

4.1 Overview

FINA offers to all National Federations the possibility to host a FINA Diving Certification School.

- This course caters to experienced judges who require more in depth training of skills at an advanced level
- They are designed to prepare and certify highly qualified judges wishing to be on the FINA Diving Officials List, subject to meet the list criteria (see section 7)

4.2 Course description and format

The programme consists of two parts: a non-compulsory Pre-requisite Course and Test that each participant may complete through the [FINA Learning Platform](#) followed by the FINA Diving Certification School held at the Host Federation's chosen location.

Pre-requisite Course and Test

- Each participant will receive access to the FINA Learning Platform on the day following the registration deadline
- It is recommended that the candidate completes the test by the first school day

FINA Diving Certification School

- The FINA Diving Certification Schools are held over a duration of three (3) days concluding with an exam
- The course has a theoretical and a practical component and it is delivered in English by a team of instructors

4.3 Course requirements

Host Federations must have a minimum of ten (10) and a maximum of thirty (30) participants attending a FINA Diving Certification School.

These courses are open to all the National Federations interested in training their judges to be on the FINA Diving Officials List for the first time or seeking to renew their FINA Certification.

All participants attending a Diving Certification School shall ensure that they comply with the below requirements:

- Be registered through the FINA GMS as described in section 4.4
- Be at least 18 years of age at the start of the FINA Certification School programme
- Demonstrate a minimum level of spoken and written skills in English
- Fully participate in the course and complete all required assessments
- Agree to abide by the FINA Code of Ethics
- It is strongly recommended that candidates have independent appropriate insurance coverage before undertaking any independent officials practice to cover any unusual circumstances such as travel and health

4.4 Registration

All participants attending a FINA Diving Certification School must be nominated by their National Federations through the FINA GMS by the registration deadline:

- Only fully submitted registrations including the candidate's valid passport copy and personal email address will be considered for approval
- The approvals will be done on a first come first served basis
- The registration will be closed by the registration deadline or once the maximum number of 30 participants has been reached

Please note that only approved participants will receive access to the Pre-requisite Course & Test and may attend a FINA Diving Certification School.

4.5 Assessment

In order to pass a FINA Diving Certification School the candidate must obtain a minimum score of 85% at the Certification School's exam. Both classroom and practical application of judging will be examined during the school.

For the written exam, interpreters, use of online resources, electronic watches and cell phones are not permitted. Paper dictionaries are allowed but must be shown to the instructor prior to writing the exam. Disciplinary actions will be taken against those who act in a dishonest way or for any misconduct.

4.6 Certification

Candidates who have successfully completed the above-mentioned assessments will become certified on the FINA Diving Officials G-List and will receive a Certification School Diploma. FINA Certification is valid for two (2) years.

IMPORTANT NOTE: In order to maintain the FINA Diving Judge status, each certified judge must pass the FINA Diving Officials Online Exam every year through the [FINA Learning Platform](#). Please see section 5 for any further information related to this matter.

4.7 Recertification

The following will ensure a two-year recertification and inclusion on the FINA Diving Officials A-List:

1. Be evaluated within a two year period at three (3) different competitions (at 3 different events) with at least a 90% rating and recommended by the FINA TDC for a two year recertification. Judging the following competitions will equal two (2) competitions, because evaluations are done by at least two (2) different FINA TDC Members from different continents over a five (5) or more day period: FINA World Junior Diving Championships, FISU World University Games.
2. Judge at the FINA World Championships, FINA Diving World Cup or Olympic Games with a minimum average evaluation of 90%.
3. Successfully pass a FINA Diving Officials Certification School to remain on the FINA Diving Officials A-List.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Once a year and in order to maintain the certification status, each certified judge must pass the FINA Diving Officials Online Exam through the [FINA Learning Platform](#). Please see section 5 for any further information related to this matter.

4.8 Qualification framework

4.8.1 Content

The curriculum will be based on the current [FINA Diving Officials Manual](#) and the current [FINA Handbook](#).

- Pathway to becoming an Elite FINA Judge
- Philosophy – “Ten Golden Rules”
- Elements of the dive
- Using the Point Scale
- Understanding Overall Impression and Elements
- Referee: Duties Before, During, After
- Application and Judging Techniques
- Synchro Rules

4.8.2 Competencies to be achieved at the end of the school are:

- Participants will fully be versed with the FINA Diving Rules (current [FINA Diving Officials Manual](#) and the current [FINA Handbook](#))
- Participants will demonstrate a high level of understanding of the rules and the application of the rules to judge at an international level of competency

5. FINA Diving Officials Online Exam for certified judges

Once a year, each FINA certified judge must pass the FINA Diving Officials Online Exam through the [FINA Learning Platform](#).

- All the FINA certified judges will receive access to complete the Online Exam within the year
- The exam is available each year as of February 1
- A score of 85% is required to pass the exam
- The exam can be taken more than once
- Those judges who do not pass the online exam by December 31:
 - 1) will not be eligible for nominations by the TDC in the following year (see section 6.2)
 - 2) a judge attending a Grand Prix event will be required to sit and pass the exam before the start of the competition

IMPORTANT NOTE: The FINA Diving Officials Online Exam for certified judges does not serve as recertification.

Please see section 4.7 for any further information concerning the recertification process.

6. Evaluation of certified judges

6.1 Evaluation criteria

6.1.1 Numerical

All certified judges shall be evaluated into one of the following categories:

- 97 - 100 % = very good
- 95 – 96.9% = good
- 90 – 94.9 % = satisfactory
- 85 – 89.9 % = developmental

6.1.2 Behaviour

While judging the contest, the judge must at all times reflect appropriate international behaviour which includes:

- To wear the appropriate dress code
- To report for duty on schedule and attend the meetings
- Not to communicate with the other judges and coaches during the event
- Not to coach the diver from the chair
- To be prompt in the response to the referee for scores
- To concentrate on the event and the field of play (no mobile devices in the judge's chair, etc.)

6.1.3 Neutrality

- Does not show bias towards or against certain divers or Federations.

6.1.4 Knowledge of the Rules and additional Diving Education

- Ability to understand and apply the rules during the competition
- Complete the FINA Exam at all FINA Events, except FINA Diving Grand Prix Events
- Ability to document diving activities

6.1.5 Leadership

- Work cooperatively with others
- Show initiative without directive
- Prepared to listen openly to different views

6.1.6 Report

- Use analysis reports to complement observers' evaluations

6.1.7 Inconsistencies / Comparisons

- Scores vary throughout the competition without apparent reasons

6.2 Evaluation procedure

The following diving events are the main venues for evaluation by TDC Members or nominated experts:

- FINA World Championships
- FINA World Junior Diving Championships
- FINA Diving World Series
- FINA Diving World Cup
- FINA Diving Grand Prix
- Olympic Games
- Youth Olympic Games
- FISU World University Games
- Commonwealth Games

The following competitions do not necessarily have a FINA Evaluator or nominated expert. The OC would have to send a request in advance to FINA, which will have to be confirmed by the FINA TDC:

- Continental Championships and Cups
- Regional Championships
- Special Invitation of TDC Observer to National or Regional Championships

Federations organising FINA Events are expected to provide free admittance and working facilities for the appointed evaluator. The organising Federation is also expected to use an approved software programme capable of producing a judges' analysis. In case this is not possible prior to the end of the competition, the analysis shall be sent to the appointed evaluator as soon as possible.

Members of the TDC or nominated experts shall serve as appointed evaluators at the above-mentioned diving meets.

After each competition, an evaluation report shall be sent to the FINA TDC Commission and to the FINA Judges' Sub-Committee Coordinator.

Possibilities to judge in FINA or IOC Diving Competitions:

FINA Diving Grand Prix	Each NF can send up to two (2) A- or G-Judges
FINA World Junior Diving Championships	Each NF can send up to two (2) A- or G-Judges
Youth Olympic Games	Selection of A- or G-Judges (40+under) by TDC Priority to A-Judges
FINA Diving World Cup	Each NF can send up to two (2) A-Judges
FINA Diving World Series	Selection of A-Judges by TDC based on evaluations
FINA World Championships	Selection of A-Judges by TDC based on evaluations
Olympic Games	Selection of A-Judges by TDC based on evaluations

7. FINA Diving Officials List

7.1 List principles

A list of FINA Diving Officials with certified judges is established annually by FINA.

Federations can delete their certified judges annually, after receiving the revised *FINA Diving Officials List*, no later than December 14 of each year.

In special circumstances National Federations are entitled to delete certified judges during the year.

7.1.1 FINA G-Judges

To be considered for the FINA Diving Officials G-List, the applicant must comply with the following criteria:

- FINA Diving Certification School Exam passed for the current year as described in section 4.6
- FINA Diving Officials Online Exam passed each year as described in section 5

7.1.2 FINA A-Judges

To be considered for the FINA Diving Officials A-List, the applicant must comply with the following criteria:

- Recertification valid for the current year as described in section 4.7
- FINA Diving Officials Online Exam passed each year as described in section 5

