

Match Official Certification Policy 2020-21

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1. Policy Purpose & Intent Statement

The Gameplay Department believes that our dedicated match officials should be rewarded for the work that they put into this sport. As such, we have made changes to make our department run as a resource training based department rather than a testing-is-training one.

2. Disclaimer

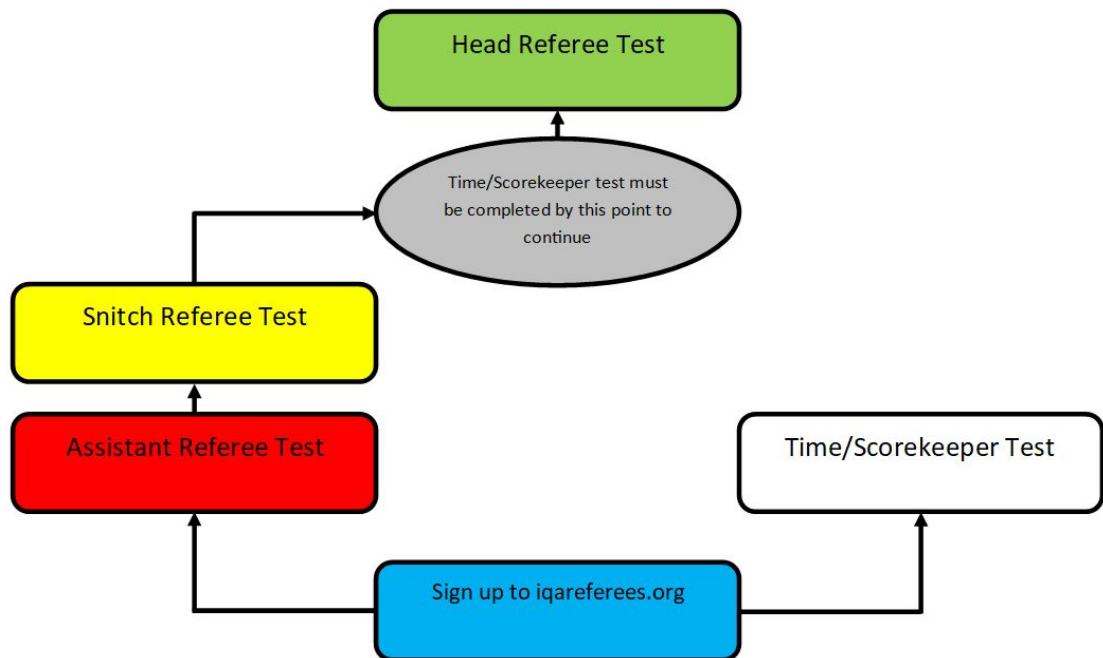
The IQA reserves the right to change this policy where they feel appropriate and any changes will come into effect from when they are publicly announced.

3. Tests

There are 7 tests available for this cycle. A referee will need to pass a maximum of 4 tests. The number of tests to pass depends on previous certifications and the certification intended to get. An overview can be found in section 6.3.

- a) The tests are:
 - i) Assistant Referee Initial Certification
 - ii) Assistant Referee Recertification
 - iii) Time/Scorekeeper Initial Certification
 - iv) Snitch Referee Initial Certification
 - v) Snitch Referee Recertification
 - vi) Head Referee Initial Certification
 - vii) Head Referee Recertification

4. New Match Official: Initial Certification Procedure Model



5. New Match Official Certification Procedure

After signing up to the iqareferees.org website, the following tests will be unlocked and ready to take:

- a. Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Initial Certification Test
- b. Assistant Referee Initial Certification Test

5.1 - Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Initial Certification Test

- a. The Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Initial Certification test consists of 15 multiple-choice questions to be answered in 15 minutes
- b. You must score a minimum of 80% to pass (12 correct answers).

5.2 - Assistant Referee Initial Certification Test

- a. The Assistant Referee Initial Certification test consists of 25 multiple-choice questions to be answered in 20 minutes
- b. You must score a minimum of 80% to pass (20 correct answers).

5.3 - Snitch Referee Initial Certification Test

- a. The Snitch Referee Initial Certification test consists of 20 multiple-choice questions to be answered in 20 minutes
- b. You must score a minimum of 80% to pass (16 correct answers).

5.4 – Head Referee Initial Certification Test

- a. To unlock the Head Referee Initial Certification Test, you must:
 - i. Have gained the Snitch Referee Certification
 - 1. This can be gained through initial certification, or recertification (see section 6)
 - ii. Have gained the Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Certification
 - iii. Have paid the Head Referee Certification Test Fee

6. Returning Match Official Recertification Procedure

6.1 - Eligibility to become a Returning Match Official

- a. To be eligible to follow the Returning Match Official Recertification Procedure outlined in section 8, referees must meet the training completion score.
 - i. The amount of training that must be completed will be a minimum of 50% of all published training in every 6 month period, unless otherwise officially announced by the IQA or exemption is given under exceptional circumstances (See 8c).
 - 1. Failure to meet this requirement in any of the 6 month periods does not mean that the referee cannot become a referee the following season. It means they must follow the New Referee Recertification Procedure outlined in section 5.
- b. For the 2020 rulebook cycle, any referee who held a certification for the 2018-2020 rulebook will be eligible to be a returning match official

6.2 - Entry to the Returning Match Official Recertification Tests

- a. Referees who wish to follow this procedure must fill out the Returning Match Official Recertification Form.
- b. When details and eligibility are confirmed by the IQA Gameplay Department, access will be granted to the relevant test.
 - i. Anyone who does not meet the eligibility criteria, outlined in section 6.1, without exemption, described in section 8, will be notified of this fact and will have to follow the New Match Official Recertification Procedure, outlined in section 5.

6.3 - Determination of which test(s) the Returning Match Official will take

Current certification for the current cycle	Desired certification for the upcoming cycle	Test(s) to be taken (provided the referee doesn't fail a test more than the limited number of times)
Head Referee	Head Referee	Head Referee Recertification**
Head Referee	Snitch Referee	Snitch Referee Recertification
Head Referee	Assistant Referee	Assistant Referee Recertification
Head Referee	Time/Scorekeeper	Time/Scorekeeper Initial Certification
Snitch Referee	Head Referee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistant referee initial certification (2020 only)* - Snitch referee recertification - Time/Scorekeeper Initial Certification - Head referee initial certification
Snitch Referee	Snitch Referee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistant referee initial certification (2020 only)* - Snitch referee recertification
Snitch Referee	Assistant Referee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistant referee initial certification (2020 only)*
Snitch Referee	Time/Scorekeeper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time/Scorekeeper Initial Certification
Assistant Referee	Head Referee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistant referee recertification - Snitch referee initial certification - Time/Scorekeeper Initial Certification - Head referee initial certification
Assistant Referee	Snitch Referee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistant referee recertification - Snitch referee initial certification
Assistant Referee	Assistant Referee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assistant referee recertification
Assistant Referee	Time/Scorekeeper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time/Scorekeeper Initial Certification

* This is due to the assistant referee test not being mandatory before the snitch referee test for the previous cycle. Due to the fact that this cycle has AR mandatory before SR means for future cycles, this test will not need to be taken where an asterisk is indicated.

** Head Referee Recertification will only be unlocked once the fee has been paid in the same way as to unlock Head Referee initial certification described in section 5.

7. Failing a Match Official Test

7.1 - Failure of an Initial Certification test

- a. Failure of the Head Referee Initial Certification test
 - i. Failure of this test means the referee must wait 72 hours before attempting again
 - 1. Failure of this test on 6 attempts means the referee cannot hold the Head Referee certification for this cycle
 - 2. Failure of this test on 3 attempts by a referee who also failed the Head Referee Recertification test means the referee cannot hold the Head Referee certification for this cycle
- b. Failure of the Snitch Referee Initial Certification test
 - i. Failure of this test means the referee must wait 24 hours before attempting again
 - 1. Failure of this test on 6 attempts means the referee cannot hold the Snitch Referee certification for this cycle
 - 2. Failure of this test on 3 attempts by a referee who also failed the Snitch Referee Recertification test means the referee cannot hold the Snitch Referee certification for this cycle
- c. Failure of the Assistant Referee Initial Certification test
 - i. Failure of this test means the referee must wait 24 hours before attempting again
 - 1. Failure of this test on 6 attempts means the referee cannot hold the Assistant Referee certification for this cycle
 - 2. Failure of this test on 3 attempts by a referee who also failed the Assistant Referee Recertification test means the referee cannot hold the Assistant Referee certification for this cycle
- d. Failure of the Timekeeper/Scorekeeper Initial Certification test
 - i. Failure of this test means the referee must wait 24 hours before attempting again
 - 1. Failure of this test on 6 attempts means the referee cannot hold the Timekeeper/Scorekeeper certification for this cycle

7.2 - Failure of a recertification test

- a. Failure of the Head Referee Recertification test
 - i. Failure of the Head Referee Recertification test means the referee must wait 72 hours from the failed attempt to retry
 - 1. Failure of 3 attempts at this test does not mean the referee cannot become Head Referee certified this cycle.
 - a. A referee may take the Head Referee Initial Certification test as described in 5.4 when both of the following have been achieved:
 - i. Snitch Referee Certification obtained through either the SR Recertification test or the Snitch Referee Initial Certification test
 - ii. Time/Scorekeeper certification obtained through the Time/Scorekeeper initial certification test.
 - 2. The referee will still be eligible to take the Snitch Referee Recertification test after 3 failed attempts at this test
- b. Failure of the Snitch Referee Recertification test
 - i. Failure of the Snitch Referee Recertification test means the referee must wait 24 hours before attempting the test again
 - 1. Failure of 3 attempts at this test does not mean the referee cannot become Snitch Referee certified this cycle.
 - a. A referee may then take the Snitch Referee Initial Certification test as described in 5.3 when the following has been achieved
 - i. Assistant Referee Certification obtained through either the Assistant Referee Initial Certification Test or Assistant Referee Recertification Test.
 - 2. The referee will still be eligible to take the Assistant Referee Recertification test after 3 failed attempts at this test
- c. Failure of the Assistant Referee Recertification test
 - i. Failure of the Assistant Referee Recertification test
 - 1. Failure of 3 attempts at this test does not mean the referee cannot become Assistant Referee certified this cycle.
 - a. They may take the Assistant Referee Initial Certification test as described in 5.2.

8. Training

- a. Referee Training sessions with a resource presentation will run regularly throughout the cycle with regular breaks.
 - i. The IQA may change the regularity of the training based on the importance and quantity of content to be shared.
- b. In each training, there will be a code shown for people to fill in the IQA Referee Training Registration Form.
 - i. The code given will be valid until 23:59 GMT on the day which is 28 days from the training being made public.
 1. A different validity period may be given to non-english speakers to allow our translation department to do subtitles in different languages for the trainings which will come out at a later date.
 - a. The validity period for a language will be publicly announced and emailed to those who ask for exemption for language reasons.
 - ii. Where possible, the IQA will put reminders out on social media platforms to remind people how long of which active trainings are left
 - iii. The IQA Referee Training Registration Form and its contents will be used to determine each referee's eligibility for becoming a Returning Match Official for the next rulebook cycle.
- c. Exemption from a section(s) of training can be obtained by contacting the IQA Gameplay Department through official channels.
 - i. This will be dealt with a case by case basis and discussed in the IQA Gameplay Department
 - ii. The number of sections of training will be determined by the IQA Gameplay Department and can be extended should they deem it necessary
 - iii. Exemptions applied for due to language barriers will be temporary until a validity period is confirmed for the language the translation has been released for