



# **PROCESS FOR NATIONAL OFFICIATING ACCREDITATION**

## **ELIGIBILITY**

In order to be nominated as a candidate for National Accreditation, a referee must hold State Officiating Accreditation, and must have held this Accreditation for a minimum of 12 months prior to the nomination (i.e. must have been upgraded from Provisional to Full State Accreditation). Exemption from the 12 month duration may be granted on the recommendation of the State Officiating Director.

State Officiating Directors may nominate any eligible referees to the National Coaching and Officiating Manager to undergo assessment at any AFC Competition – however, there may be a limit to the total number of candidates assessed at any event or competition.

## **ASSESSMENT FOR NATIONAL ACCREDITATION**

Candidates for assessment will be required to referee during a National competition, as directed by the Referee Delegate for the event, with a minimum allocation of one pool and three direct elimination bouts required to complete the assessment. During the refereeing, the candidate will be observed and evaluated by the National Coaching and Officiating Manager (NCOM) or another appointed assessor on the basis of the performance standards outlined in the AFF's National Officiating Training Program, particularly in regards to two major criteria:

- 1) Technical competence
- 2) Manner and conduct

Results from Assessment for National Accreditation will be emailed to the candidate and the State Officiating Director as soon as possible after the competition. The assessor will also provide feedback to the candidate as to areas of possible development or improvement. A candidate who is unsuccessful in their assessment must wait at least six months before they can be nominated as a candidate again.

## **PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION**

A candidate who is successful in their assessment will be awarded Provisional National Accreditation for 12 months. At the end of this period, they will be upgraded to full National Accreditation provided they demonstrate ongoing refereeing practice and development by accumulating 32 points from the list of National Accreditation activities. If they do not gain sufficient points then their Provisional National Accreditation lapses and they must be assessed as before to regain Provisional status.

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

In order to be granted National Accreditation, a Referee must be a capitated member of their State Fencing Association and pay an annual accreditation fee to the AFF.

## MAINTAINING NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

National Accredited referees can maintain their accreditation by accumulating 32 points from the list of National Accreditation activities each year, remaining a capitated member of their State Fencing Association, and paying an annual accreditation fee to the AFF. A referee who does not maintain their accreditation must apply again for assessment as a National Referee candidate in order to regain Provisional status.

## NATIONAL ACCREDITATION ACTIVITIES

### Part A – Refereeing Practice (minimum 20 points)\*

The points for Refereeing Practice are weapon-specific, so can only apply to accreditation in the relevant weapon. Refereeing at State competitions (verified by State Officiating Director or competition organisers) can be included with a multiplier of 0.5, and a maximum of 12 points can contribute towards the total for Part A, and points for refereeing at international competitions (Oceania, Commonwealth or FIE) can be included with a multiplier of 1.5.

- referee for a pool at National Fencing Competition – 1 point
- referee for a direct elimination bout at a National Fencing Competition – 0.5 points
- referee/Assistant for a full Final Series (3 bouts) at a National Fencing Competition – 1 point
- referee for a Team Match at a National Fencing Competition – 1 point

In addition to actual refereeing at competitions, a number of other activities may contribute points. The list of approved activities and their point value will be updated periodically by the NCOM, but examples include:

- completion of training exercises/activities
- participate in AFF Seminars or Workshops
- observation/mentoring of referees at competitions
- other activities approved by NCOM

### Part B – General Theory (minimum 4 points)

The points in this section are general, so can be applied to accreditation in all weapons (and the same activity can be applied for accreditation across multiple weapons). The list of approved activities and their point value will be updated periodically by the NCOM, but examples include:

- participate in AFF or State refereeing seminars/workshops
- Intermediate Officiating General Principles Course
- completion of First Aid Course
- completion of training exercises/activities
- participation in Officials mentoring/training program
- other activities approved by NCOM