



## Club Race Officer Certification Requirements

*A Club Race Officer (CRO) is expected to be able to properly run any race normally conducted at their local sailing organization, including organizing the race committee, writing correct sailing instructions, and scoring the event.*

### **A US Sailing Race Official must:**

- be a member of US Sailing and at least 18 years old
- be a person of good character and integrity as described in the [US Sailing Race Official Personal Attributes](#) document
- be an experienced racing sailor (no time limit)
- maintain current [SafeSport training and background screening](#)
- possess or have access to a physical or digital edition of the current *Racing Rules of Sailing, Including US Sailing Prescriptions and Race Management Handbook*

### **To qualify as a Club Race Officer, you must:**

- pass the Basic Race Management Seminar at 80% or higher or the Advanced Race Management Seminar at 75% or higher in the last four years
- submit an application for certification or recertification that includes the name of an officer or race committee leader at a local sailing organization who is familiar with race management and has observed your work on the water
- be approved by your Area Race Officer

### **An up-to-date [SOARS log](#) is required, showing that you:**

- have experience in each race committee job, including setting marks and scoring
- have experience writing, editing or reviewing sailing instructions for the events (reading and discussing the SIs with the race committee chair constitutes reviewing)
- have been the person in charge on the water for at least four separate events\*

### **Additional Recommended Qualifications (not required):**

- maintain current first aid and CPR training
- take a US Powerboating class or equivalent
- attend a US Sailing Club Judge Seminar, roundtable or Protest Day
- possess or have access to physical or digital editions of the current *Join the Race Committee Team* and the *Race Management Handbook*

### **Notes:**

**Experience:** All the experience except racing must take place during the four-year period ending when US Sailing receives your complete application. The majority of the qualifying events at which you have been in charge on the water must take place in the United States.

\*Separate events are run under separate sailing instructions, not multiple instances of the same event under the same SIs. Instances of the same event in different years are acceptable.

**The Club Race Officer program** is administered in each US Sailing Area by the [Area Race Officer \(ARO\)](#). AROs certify applicants as Club Race Officers when they have met the certification requirements.

**SafeSport training and background screening:** You must maintain [SafeSport training](#) (annually) and [background screening](#) (every two years). US Sailing covers the cost. If your SafeSport training lapses, your race official certification will be suspended until you renew your training.

**Applications:** Candidates for initial and renewal certification must submit an [application](#). Race officials are certified for a four-year term ending December 31 of the fourth year. Please submit your application for recertification to your Area Race Officer as early as possible.

**Membership:** You must maintain your [US Sailing membership](#) to keep your race official certification current.

**[Apply to be a race officer](#)**

(Rev. 4/10/2026)