

Becoming an SAA Official

Why should I become an official?

Local, Regional and National tournaments are always in need of officials. Without qualified officials tournaments in the province cannot take place. Judging is a perfect outlet for parents of archers. Judging allows the parent to be involved in tournaments giving them the “up close” advantage to the shooting as they walk to and from the target with the archers. Officials also have access to the inner workings of the tournament process allowing them the opportunity to learn more about the sport that their children are involved in.

But ... you don't have to be a parent to be a official. You just need to have an interest in the sport and a willingness to help facilitate the tournament process.

In the big picture, officials endeavor to be impartial, respecting and abiding by the rules in the true spirit of sportsmanship. A successful tournament experience encourages healthy growth in the sport.

Who can become an official?

To become an Official , you must be a member of the SAA for at least one year immediately preceding the application and you must be 18 years of age or older.

What “type” of official should I become?

A **Local official** typically works within their club environment. In accordance with the Archery Canada Operational Plan, all clubs must have two qualified safety officers or club-level officials in order to receive liability insurance. By becoming a local official you will be supporting your club during club activities and local events. Local level official's candidates are required to officiate a minimum number of championships as outlined in the chart below:

Local level official - Minimum requirements (under supervision of a veteran official)	
1 x 3D competition	Indoor or outdoor
1 x Target competition	Indoor or outdoor

A **Provincial official** works at both provincial and club level events. To become a provincial level official you will work with a provincial level official and/or the Provincial Officials coordinator who will evaluate your progress and when satisfactory results have been obtained recommendations will be made that you be given provincial officials status. Local judges with interest in candidacy can contact the Provincial Officials coordinator. Provincial level officials candidates are required to officiate a minimum number of championships as outlined in the chart below:

Provincial level official - Minimum requirements	
3 x 3D championships	1 indoor/ 1 outdoor/ 1 of choice
1 x Field championship	outdoor
2 x Target championships	1 indoor/ 1 outdoor

A **National official** is involved at and has excelled at the provincial level and has identified interest to Archery Canada in judging national level events. National official candidates will be invited by Archery Canada to work at national level events. Interest in candidacy is brought forward to the provincial official's coordinator to present to Archery Canada.

An **International official** participates in the highest level of events. World Archery events require international officials.

When can I begin judging?

Almost immediately!

First, you will need to study the Archery Canada Rules book and the Officials Guidelines plus learn how to apply them. An open book examination must be completed then marked to ensure a passing grade in order to become a local official's candidate. Once you officiate the required minimum competitions with a veteran official you will become an accredited local official.

Links to both found on the SAA website: <http://www.saskarchery.com/judges.html>

Do I have to know everything to begin judging?

NO! Usually you will be one of many officials, some of which have the knowledge and experience that you can go to with questions as they arise. Rule books are available on Archery Canada website for referencing.

Basically you will need to know the following:

- how to call an arrow value,
- be observant of safety situations,
- correct arrow scores,
- what to do in the case of equipment failures,
- mark arrow holes and
- stop the target's shooting if there is a bounce out, pass thru or hanging arrow.

The rest can be handled through consultation with other officials on the field.

What Equipment do I need? (In addition to the Archery Canada rule book and Officials Guidebook)

As an official you will also need some additional tools to help with the job you are to perform.

- SAA Judges shirt (1st shirt at 50% off cost – ordered through the SAA)
- Khaki pants for SAA judging.
- Comfortable shoes.

Once you have successfully any level of judge accreditation you will be issued a certificate for that level.

Once you receive Provincial official's accreditation the SAA will provide you with a kit that includes:

- Officials bag
- Nametag
- Whistle on a lanyard
- Red ink pen to correct and initial arrow value changes.
- Small magnifying glass
- small flash light
- Officials log for tracking your competitions worked
- Stop watch

As they spend more time judging events, Officials usually procure a hat, additional shirts, a jacket, etc.

How do I remain an active official ?

There are a couple things to do:

- Familiarize yourself with the tournaments in your local area and province. The SAA calendar lists the club and provincial tournaments (<http://www.saskarchery.com/ShootDates.html>) and club contacts are listed on the SAA website (<http://www.saskarchery.com/Club-Directory.html>)
- Officials then let the SAA know what tournaments they are available for by contacting the Officials Coordinator listed on the SAA website. (<http://www.saskarchery.com/contact.html>)

What is required of me to maintain official's status?

You are required to keep your SAA membership current and work to officiate one competition every 3 years. This can be then be reported to the Officials Coordinator on a yearly basis to fulfill your status active.

The SAA Officials Coordinator will always be at your disposal to offer assistance that you may require as you progress with your training. As you continue to serve at the local level, provincial and national judging opportunities may arise and when given the chance, you are encouraged to participate in higher level opportunities.

How do I sign up?

Contact the Officials Coordinator listed on the SAA website so we can get you on your journey to becoming an archery official. (<http://www.saskarchery.com/contact.html>)

TAKING THE TEST

Local Official - Archery officials within clubs are required to successfully complete questionnaire exercises to be accredited as local officials.

The purpose of these exercises is to help local officials become familiar with the rules, common safety practices and procedures used in Canada so they can advise club members and help ensure the safety and fairness of club events.

The exercises are intended to assist the official to explore and become familiar with the Archery Canada rulebook. They are not intended to simply be answered without exploration of the rulebook. Local officials must complete the tests that are assigned by their Provincial Officials Co-ordinator. Officials in clubs focusing solely on target or 3-D need not complete all. Once the test is completed the Provincial Officials Co-ordinator will evaluate the answers.

<http://www.archerycanada.ca/en/judging-rules/local-club-judge-tests>

A normal pass mark is 80%.

Becoming a Safety Officer

Archery Canada Safety Officer Regulations

If your Archery Canada club does not have a safety officer already, the process is quite simple.

1. Read the safety officer guidebook on the Archery Canada website.
2. Answer the exam questions found on the Archery Canada website.
3. Send your answers to the Archery Canada office, either by mail or **e-mail** to the contact listed on the Archery Canada website.
4. Candidates need 90% to pass.

<http://www.archerycanada.ca/en/judging/range-safety-officers>