



OFA OFFICIALS - LTAD LINKAGE

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Adopted by the OFA August 2011

Preamble

The Canadian sport system is aligning itself with the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) Framework. This document sets out the linkage between the different stages of LTAD and the different training and certification levels for officials in Ontario. We consider this linkage from two independent perspectives: the level of official required to support competitions at the different LTAD stages, and how the development of officials is linked to their overall progression through the LTAD framework.

LTAD Primer

For information about LTAD, please visit <http://www.canadiansportforlife.ca/>. The Fencing specific model is available from the Canadian Fencing Federation.

In brief, the main purposes of the LTAD framework are to increase awareness about what 'the ideal' training model should look like for typical athletes throughout their development, and to increase the likelihood that people will remain engaged in sport across the lifespan.

There are 7 stages in the fencing-specific LTAD model:

Active Start

FUNDamentals: Learning to play the fencing way

Learn To Train: Playing while you train

Train To Train: Developing the fencer

Train To Compete: Developing a Consistent Competitor

Train To Win: Learning to Win and Living to Win

Active For Life: Remaining Active in Fencing for life

Formal competitions are first introduced at the Learn To Train stage of development, and at this stage, the focus is on skill and tactical development, rather than competitive results. Competitions at this stage are mostly local and regional.

At the Train to Train stage of development, there is more of an emphasis on competitive results. Competitions at this stage would include Provincial Championships, National events Provincial Games, Canada Games and such.

At the Train to Compete stage of development, competitions start to include international level events.

Active for life encompasses competitions at all levels.

Linkage by LTAD Competition Stage

Active Start through Learn to Train:

All officials at this stage need to be contextually aware, and have a good understanding of both the rules and conventions of the sport. Therefore, competitions at the L2T stage should use mostly officials who hold at least 'regional' licenses. Ideally there would also be some more highly certified officials who can serve as mentors for the less experienced officials.

Train to Train:

Officials working at 'training' competitions at this stage should be either provincially licensed, or about to sit their provincial level examinations. Officials working at 'performance' competitions should be provincially licensed.

Train to Compete:

Officials working at competitions at this stage should at a minimum be nationally licensed, and preparing for their international examinations.

Train to Win:

Officials working at this stage should be internationally licensed.

Active for Life:

Since this stage may encompass competitions at all stages, the minimum certification level for officials should be appropriate for the level of competition as defined above.

Linkage by Fencer LTAD Development Stage

Active Start and FUNdamentals:

Fencers at this stage of development are just becoming familiar with the sport. As such, they have very little experience, but are typically highly motivated, and are eminently suited to working as runners, time-keepers, and assistants to more experienced officials. Towards the end of this stage, fencers might achieve their first level of certification as officials.

Learn To Train:

Fencers at this stage of development are beginning to compete formally, and are starting to gain some experience in officiating through the armband program. Towards the end of this stage, fencers might attend officials workshops, and achieve their second level of certification as officials.

Train to Train:

Fencers at this stage are competing provincially and nationally. They should be familiar with competitions at a variety of levels and contexts. At this stage, fencers might attain their regional and provincial licenses.

Train to Compete:

Fencers at this stage are competing nationally and are starting to compete internationally. At this stage, fencers might attain their national or international licenses.

Train to Win:

Fencers at this stage are typically focusing on competing.

Active for Life:

Since this stage may encompass fencers at all levels, fencers at this stage may be certified at any level.

APPENDIX 1: Officials certification levels in Ontario

(see the Officials Policy for more information)

Referees

There are seven recognized certification levels for referees in Ontario:

1. Basic (I)

Those tournament officials with a basic understanding of the Rules of Competition who serve as runners, work at registration, act as scorekeepers and timekeepers, and fill miscellaneous roles.

2. Referee candidate (RC)

Referees who have completed the Provincial Refereeing Workshop or have otherwise initiated their referee training program.

3. Regional-level Referee (R)

Referees who are working toward their Provincial-level license but who do not yet possess the experience or ability to succeed at their examination.

4. Provincial-level Referee (P or P-)

Referees who hold a full or provisional Provincial-level license.

5. National-level Referee-candidate (NC)

Referees who hold a full Provincial-level license and are of sufficient competence to challenge for their National-level license, or who hold a provisional National-level license.

6. National-level Referee (N)

Referees who hold a full National-level license.

7. FIE-level Referee (A/B)

Referees who hold an International license.

Secretariat

There are five recognized certification levels for secretariat in Ontario:

1. Basic (I)

Those tournament officials with a basic understanding of the Rules of Competition who serve as runners, work at registration, and fill miscellaneous roles.

2. Secretariat-candidate (SC)

Individuals who have completed the Provincial Secretariat Workshop or have otherwise initiated their secretariat training program.

3. Regional-level Secretariat (R)

Individuals who are working toward their Provincial-level license but who do not yet possess the experience or ability to succeed at their examination.

4. Provincial-level Secretariat (P)

Individuals who hold a full or provisional Provincial-level license.

5. National-level Secretariat (N)

Individuals who hold a full National-level license.

Armourers

There are five recognized certification levels for armourers in Ontario:

1. Weapon Technician (T)

Individuals who have completed a technician's workshop and have a basic knowledge of competition rules related to safety, equipment testing, maintenance and repair of personal equipment.

2. Club Armourer (T-CA)

Individuals who have completed the Provincial Technician training, mentoring and examination. Advanced knowledge of safety, equipment testing, maintenance and repair of club equipment which is more comprehensive than weapon technicians, and including scoring equipment, mask and jackets etc . This level must include a sound understanding of the materials rules and competition setup standards.

3. Regional Armourer (R)

Individuals who are working toward their Provincial-level license but who do not yet possess the experience or ability to succeed at their examination. Designed to prepare people to run "just for fun" training competitions within their clubs from a technical standpoint, and to prepare for running smaller Provincially sanctioned events.

4. Provincial Armourer (P)

Individuals who hold a full or provisional Provincial-level license and are fully qualified to run Armoury for larger tournaments such as Open or Championship events.

5. CFF Certified Armourer (N)

Individuals who hold a CFF Armourer Certification.