

# USMS Open Water Committee

## Open Water Referee Certification Test

### Personal Information

**1. About you:**

Name:

Mailing Address:

Email Address:

Primary Phone:

**2. Open Water Experience: Briefly describe your experience in event management, event support, event participation, etc.:**

**Test: Passing Grade is 20 out of 25 (80%) – may be taken “open book”**  
**[circle the correct answer]**

1. The Open Water Referee position is defined by:
  - a. USMS Rule 303.8.1C
  - b. The USMS National Office Open Water Compliance Coordinator.
  - c. The Open Water Event Director.
  - d. LMSC Open Water Policies and Procedures.
2. True False A USMS-certified Open Water Referee is required only for USMS Open Water National Championships.
3. True False Open Water Referees are appointed by the event host and approved by the USMS Open Water Compliance Coordinator upon successful completion of this test.
4. True False Open Water Referees have these desirable qualifications: experience as an official, experience as an open water swimmer, and/or basic knowledge of water safety.
5. True False The Open Water Referee may perform the duties of other officials.
6. True False The Open Water Referee has authority over all event officials and safety staff.

7. True False The Open Water Referee or designee should conduct a pre-swim meeting for all officials, but attendance is optional.
8. True False All swimmers must attend a pre-race meeting to discuss course, conditions, & hazards, as well as safety procedures.
9. True False Open Water Referees may bar, remove, or take other appropriate action with any swimmer who acts in an unsporting manner within the swimming venue.
10. True False Open Water Referees have the authority to disqualify a swimmer.
11. True False The Open Water Referee has the authority to modify the manner in which the swim is conducted, change the course or distance, delay the start, or stop a swim in progress if circumstances warrant.
12. True False Modifying a swim is usually (but not always) done for safety reasons. Such a decision must be coordinated with both the Event Director and Safety Director.
13. True False The Open Water Referee is the only person who may stop a swim in progress.
14. True False Because the Safety Director's main role is to oversee event safety, the Open Water Referee has only a minor role in providing event safety.
15. True False Enforcement of USMS swimwear rules is a key role of the Open Water Referee.
16. True False The Open Water Referee may grant exemptions on medical or religious grounds from the USMS swimwear rules.
17. True False The USMS rules and guidelines define disability and govern participation of swimmers with disabilities in USMS open water events.
18. True False Modifications for swimmers with disabilities may give a swimmer a competitive advantage under certain circumstances.
19. True False Swimmers may draft from escort craft in bad weather.
20. True False In swims requiring individual escorts, event hosts have the option to allow or prohibit drafting from other swimmers when only nonmotorized escorts are allowed.
21. True False If a swim is stopped, the Open Water Referee must determine if the swim is to be restarted or considered official. Only the Event Director can cancel the entire event.

22. True False Any protest arising from an open water competition shall be made to the Referee within 30 minutes after the release of results.
23. True False The Open Water Referee may join in the swim after the prerace meeting is complete.
24. True False The Open Water Referee should submit a written report after the event.
25. True False The main responsibility of the Open Water Referee is the fair conduct of the swim.