

**Who is eligible?** All qualified J1 officials who have completed at least 20 hours of poolside experience since qualification. There is a minimum age of 16 years to start the training. If L1 or L2 experience hasn't been gained during J1 training, it must be evidenced as part of the 20 hours of post qualification experience.

### **What is involved?**

**First Theory Session.** The course starts with an Aquatics GB theory session delivered to candidates from across the Region **by ZOOM**. Candidates will be sent the ZOOM link and a small piece of pre course work after acceptance onto the course. For dates see the end of the fact sheet.

This ZOOM session will be followed by each candidate being introduced to their County Officials Training and Development Coordinator who will advise on the practical work and arrange for a local tutor/mentor to provide guidance and deliver the remaining theory. Each candidate will be sent an Aquatics GB logbook summarising the training, some theory review questions and providing the log to record practical work.

**Poolside Training** will cover Judge of Stroke, accurate completion of the Aquatics GB Swimming Disqualification Report, use of radios and taking an order of finish. Each session must be mentored by an official already qualified to at least J2 level. Both Candidates and Mentors shall record in the logbook how the training period went and how they are progressing, and Candidates shall ensure that they fully understand the action plans, if provided.

**It is expected in most cases, 6-8 hours of practical experience would** be sufficient to complete this training, depending upon the composition of the meets attended and the aptitude of the Candidate. Sufficient recording sheets are included in the logbook for this purpose.

**Second Workshop** will take place after the Candidates have gained poolside experience, this may be a 1-2-1 or small Group Workshop by ZOOM, other online platforms or face to face with their local Tutor/Mentor to go over progress to date and to complete some of the review questions in their workbook. The review and writing of Disqualification Reports will be discussed to ensure correct reporting of infractions. At this intermediate workshop, the Tutor/Mentor will go back over the duties for Judge of Stroke, answer any questions and will complete and sign off the second Workshop in each Candidate's workbook.

**Competency Sign-off.** When the Candidates have gained additional poolside experience their Poolside Duties Form should be complete with all competencies signed off. **Final Meeting.** The Candidate should then meet with their Tutor/mentor (or another Aquatics GB Referee agreed by the Mentor) to complete any remaining review questions. The completion of the logbook questions should be done by the Candidate in an "independent and autonomous" manner. This final session may be delivered by ZOOM or similar platforms or face to face. Successful completion of the theory elements and all practical competencies will lead to the award of a J2 pass. There is no final poolside assessment.

**How to apply & enrol.** For 2026, it is now necessary to have registered for the next ZOOM course **ten working days** before each course delivery date to allow for payment by the Region and arrangements for the log book dispatch to arrive before the course date. Complete the Aquatics GB Swimming J2 application form found [here](#) and forward to Jill Beard the Regional Officials Training Coordinator by applying directly to Email [beardfamilyuk@icloud.com](mailto:beardfamilyuk@icloud.com). Please note **NO FEE is required** as the Region generously funds the training. The form should be accompanied by the record of at least/most recent 20 hours poolside experience working as a J1 gained since qualifying as a J1 PLUS an indication of which ZOOM theory session the candidate wishes to attend. All sessions are held at 7.15pm. **The dates in 2026** are Thursday **January 8<sup>th</sup>**; Wednesday **February 11<sup>th</sup>**; Thursday **March 12<sup>th</sup>**; Wednesday **April 8<sup>th</sup>**; Wednesday **May 13<sup>th</sup>**; Thursday **June 11<sup>th</sup>**; Wednesday **September 2<sup>nd</sup>**; Thursday **October 8<sup>th</sup>**; Wednesday **November 11<sup>th</sup>**; Thursday **December 10<sup>th</sup>**.