

USA Powerlifting Referee Requirements and Procedures (Effective January 1, 2020)

USA Powerlifting State Referee

Requirements:

- At least 18 years old
- Involved with the sport of powerlifting for at least one year in one of the following capacities: athlete, coach, meet director, and/or scoring table official
- Current USA Powerlifting member in good standing
- Approval of state chair to sit for exam
- Pass open-book written exam with a score of at least 80%
- Pass practical exam with a score of at least 90%

Procedure:

- Contact state chair to confirm that requirements have been met and get approval
- Arrange testing schedule with state chair
- Take online open-book written exam
- Take practical exam (can be administered at any USA Powerlifting-sanctioned full power meet)

USA Powerlifting National Referee

Requirements:

- At least 20 years old
- Current USA Powerlifting member in good standing
- State referee for a minimum of 2 years (i.e., 24 months)
- Platform referee (side or chief) for a full session in at least 6 different full-power events
 - Note: Working more than one session at a single event only counts as one event for the purposes of the national exam requirements
 - Note: Single- or two-lift events do not count for national exam requirements
- Chief referee for a full session in at least 2 different full-power events
 - Note: Rotating between chief and side referee within a session does not count for the purposes of the chief referee requirement for the national exam
- Approval of state chair and Technical Committee to sit for exam
- Pass closed-book written exam with a score of at least 90%
- Pass practical exam with a score of at least 90%
- Referee at a national meet within 12 months of passing the national referee exam in order to officially be given the national referee rank

Procedure:

- Contact state chair to get approval
- Complete and submit national referee application at least 30 days prior to exam
 - Application: <https://www.usapowerlifting.com/technical/>
- Receive Technical Committee approval to take national exam
 - Note: Technical Committee will assign an approved examiner
- Exam can be administered at any USA Powerlifting-sanctioned full power meet

Note: Meeting all of the requirements and submitting the application does not guarantee Technical Committee approval to take the national referee exam. Candidate must receive official approval from the Technical Committee prior to taking the exam.

IPF Referee Requirements and Procedures for USA Powerlifting Referees (Effective January 1, 2020)

IPF Category 2 International Referee

Requirements:

- Current USA Powerlifting member in good standing
- National referee for a minimum of 2 years (i.e., 24 months)
- Platform referee (side or chief) for a full session in at least 4 different full-power national championships within any 4-year period
- Chief referee for a full session in at least 2 different full-power national championships
- Approval of state chair to sit for exam
- Pass written proficiency exam (administered by USA Powerlifting Technical Committee at national events upon request) with a score of at least 90%
 - Note: The proficiency exam must be passed prior to scheduling IPF exam
- Approval of Technical Committee and USA Powerlifting
- Pass IPF Category 2 written and practical exam (administered by IPF at international championships upon request) with a score of at least 85% on each

Procedure:

- Contact state chair to get approval
- Complete and submit IPF Category 2 referee application at least 6 months prior to exam
 - Note: This is an internal USA Powerlifting application – not the official IPF application on the IPF website
 - Submitting the official IPF application is the last step – after receiving USA Powerlifting approval
 - Application: <https://www.usapowerlifting.com/technical/>
- Receive Technical Committee and USA Powerlifting approval to take IPF Category 2 exam
- Receive instructions from Technical Committee for scheduling Category 2 referee exam with the IPF

IPF Category 1 International Referee

Requirements:

- Current USA Powerlifting member in good standing
- Category 2 international referee for a minimum of 4 years (i.e., 48 months)
- Referee in at least 4 different full-power international championships
- Pass written proficiency exam (administered by USA Powerlifting Technical Committee at national events upon request) with a score of at least 95%
 - Note: The proficiency exam must be passed prior to scheduling IPF exam
- Approval of Technical Committee and USA Powerlifting
- Pass IPF Category 1 written and practical exam (administered by IPF at international championships upon request) with a score of at least 90% on each

Procedure:

- Complete and submit IPF Category 1 referee application at least 6 months prior to exam
 - Note: This is an internal USA Powerlifting application – not the official IPF application on the IPF website
 - Submitting the official IPF application is the last step – after receiving USA Powerlifting approval
 - Application: <https://www.usapowerlifting.com/technical/>
- Receive Technical Committee and USA Powerlifting approval to take IPF Category 1 exam
- Receive instructions from Technical Committee for scheduling Category 1 referee exam with the IPF

Note: Meeting all of the requirements and submitting the application does not guarantee Technical Committee and USA Powerlifting approval to take an IPF referee exam. Candidates must receive official approval from the Technical Committee and USA Powerlifting prior to registering with the IPF to take the exam.