



## **World Lacrosse Officials Pathway Adoption**

Lacrosse Canada | Officials Development Framework

### **Purpose**

Lacrosse Canada will formally adopt the World Lacrosse (WL) Officials Pathway to create a clear, consistent, and nationally aligned system for officiating development. This framework establishes defined expectations for D1, D2, and D3 officials, integrates evaluation and education standards, and introduces national fitness standards beginning in 2027.

### **Pathway Structure (WL Alignment)**

#### **D1 - Entry-Level Officials**

Target Group: Entry-level and community officials

- Focus on foundational rule knowledge, positioning, mechanics, and basic game management
- Officiate local and provincial competition
- Mandatory introductory education and structured mentorship (OIC Lead)
- Evaluated through observation-based assessments

Outcome: Readiness for consistent provincial-level assignments

#### **D2 - Performance Officials**

Target Group: Advanced provincial and national-stream officials

- Advanced rule application, decision-making under pressure, and effective communication
- Eligible for national championships and inter-provincial events
- Required annual education updates and formal performance evaluations
- Introduction of baseline fitness expectations (education-only in 2026)

Outcome: Eligibility for national-level assignments and D3 consideration

#### **D3 - High Performance Officials**

Target Group: National and international high-performance officials

- Officiate elite domestic and international competitions
- Advanced tactical awareness, leadership, consistency, and professionalism standards
- Annual evaluations, individualized development plans, and fitness compliance
- Full alignment with World Lacrosse international appointment criteria

Outcome: International readiness and World Lacrosse pathway progression

## **Evaluation & Advancement Process**

Standardized Evaluation Tools: Nationally consistent evaluation forms aligned with World Lacrosse competencies

Evaluator Network: Trained provincial and national evaluators approved by Lacrosse Canada

### **Evaluation Methods:**

- In-game observation
- Video review (where available)
- Post-game feedback and development planning

### **Advancement Criteria:**

- Demonstrated competency at current level
- Positive evaluation trends
- Education completion
- Assignment readiness and conduct standards
- Advancement is earned, not automatic, and based on demonstrated performance over time.

### **Fitness Standards (Implementation Timeline)**

2026: Education and awareness phase (no testing requirement)

2027: Introduction of mandatory fitness standards for D1 and D2 officials

2028: Review and refinement; potential expansion to D3 (developmental focus)

Fitness standards will be role-appropriate, evidence-based, and aligned with international best practices to support performance, safety, and longevity.

### **Governance & Oversight**

Lacrosse Canada Officials Development leads national alignment and policy

Provincial associations deliver education, mentorship, and evaluations

World Lacrosse alignment ensures international credibility and consistency

### **Key Outcomes**

- Clear, transparent national officiating pathway
- Consistent standards across all disciplines
- Improved official retention, performance, and international readiness
- Strong alignment with World Lacrosse governance and expectations

This framework positions Lacrosse Canada officials for sustainable growth, excellence, and global alignment.