



**Application And Qualification Process
For International Showdown Referees**



Title: Qualification Process For International Showdown Referees

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Summary

This document describes the process of becoming an official international Showdown referee for Showdown. All national federations and organisations should follow this process.

Definition of “International Showdown Referee”

Only official “International Showdown Referees” will be proposed to tournament organisers by the IRC.

For the following tournaments, only “International Showdown Referees” are considered:

- Continental Championships
- World Championships
- Top level international tournaments (e.g. European Top Twelve)

Note on federation support

Once a referee has been approved by the IRC and is included in the list of international referees, the support of a national federation is not needed and will not be verified. If a referee receives an invite for an international tournament, it is their decision alone whether to accept or not.

The IRC does not take responsibility for any penalty or sanction which might be taken against a referee by their national federation.

Basic Referee Education

Referee education must be done on a national level. National federations and organisations are responsible for finding new referees and educating them. The International Referee Committee (IRC) can provide guidelines in English language for beginner level workshops.

International Referee Qualification

Minimum experience

A referee needs to have a certain degree of experience in refereeing national matches and

tournaments before being considered to be promoted to international referee. No exact number of matches or tournaments are defined. As a rule of thumb, a referee should have umpired Showdown matches for one year, including a minimum of three tournaments.

Language

The written and verbal parts of the qualification process are conducted in English. The applicant must be able to communicate in this language.

Application

Potential candidates can be suggested by:

- international referees
- federation officials
- tournament organisers
- national referee can apply on their own initiative (a "reference" should be provided, e.g. by an international referee)

The application needs to be done in writing by providing personal information and refereeing history of the applicant. The official application form should be used.

Initial review

The data provided in the application is reviewed by members of the IRC. If the minimum requirements are met, the qualification process is initiated. Otherwise the candidate receives a negative response from the IRC.

Test and interview

The candidate will be given a "self-assessment" questionnaire in the shape of an online form. The candidate needs to submit this test with answers provided to all questions. As part of the test, the applicant must indicate the "readiness" to become an international referee.

The IRC will not comment on or evaluate the given answers, but can choose to discuss the test and the given answers in the final interview. The interview will be conducted by at least one IRC member.

The IRC decides whether a candidate will be invited to an international tournament.

Trial tournament

The first international tournament must **not** be one of the following:

- Continental Championships
- World Championships
- Top level international tournaments (e.g. European Top Twelve)

During the first tournament, a member of IRC or an experienced referee appointed by IRC will watch the candidate in a minimum of two full matches. The candidate will receive immediate feedback.

The applicant should start refereeing first round matches. After positive evaluation the referee can be scheduled for further matches.

If there are no serious failures and the candidate qualifies as a team player, she/he will be added to the list of international referees.

Re-application

In case of a failed application, the candidate can re-apply after one year.

Deactivation and suspension

A referee can request on their own initiative to be deactivated temporarily or permanently.

The IRC can suspend a referee temporarily or permanently. The referee will be informed and reasons given.

Questions

Any questions about the process can be directed to the IRC by email showdown.irc@ibsasport.org.