

ASA Synchronised Swimming
Grade Testing Conditions and Guidance

Grade Day General Conditions

Black costume and white hat to be worn

1. All elements must be attempted and awarded a mark.
2. The result will be determined by the average mark over the 10 elements.
3. All elements must contain the mandatory requirements to achieve the bronze pass mark of a 5.0.
4. If more than 2 elements have a score of less than 4.5 it will be an automatic fail.
5. Unless otherwise stated, movements should be performed relatively stationary and in uniform motion.
6. Assessments will mimic a competition and all swimmers can only attempt each element once.
7. For the entries in routine grades, the water depth must be at least 1.8 metres.
8. For Figure Grades 3-6 an appropriate depth of water should be available for vertical descents and spins.
9. For dry land skills, swimmers must wear a costume/leotard.
10. Judges are asked to highlight any areas in which the Swimmers are not yet competent in the feedback box.
11. No retakes will be offered unless requested by the Supervising level 3 Judge.
12. All figures will be judged following the current FINA judging guide.
13. Any concerns about how an assessment has taken place must be brought to the supervising level 3 Judge by a coach or team manager from the club during the assessment time.

Club and Regional Responsibilities

1. It is the responsibility of each Region to hold the appropriate Grade Testing Days in line with ASA Guidance and Policies.
2. A Level 3 Judge should be appointed as the Supervising Judge of the day.
3. The cost per swimmer per Grade is £15
4. Applications must be made by the official Club representative and made in bulk.
The Head Coach of the Club must sign the application form to confirm the swimmers are ready to attempt the grade entered
5. Applications will not be accepted by individual swimmers.

6. Approximately 50 applications are to be accepted, with 50% of spaces reserved for the applicants from within the organising Region.
7. The Region (This may be the Regional Manager or the Grade Coordinator) will be responsible for all administration relating to the Grade Testing Days including sending the summary of all results to the ASA Synchro Coordinator with 28 days of the Grade Testing Day

Judges

1. Clubs must provide sufficient numbers of qualified Judges to accompany their swimmers as follows:
 - a. 1-5 swimmers 1 Judge is required
 - b. 6-15 swimmers 2 judges will be required
 - c. 16-25 swimmers 3 judges will be required (increasing 1 judge per additional 10 swimmers)
2. Clubs must provide a Level 2 Judge if submitting swimmers at Grade 3,4 & 5 for assessment and a level 3 judge if submitting a figure grade 6.
3. Failure to provide insufficient Judges may preclude your swimmers from being assessed.
4. The Role of the Supervising Judge will be to:
 - a. Provide a briefing to all judges, ensuring everyone is clear about the mandatory requirements.
 - b. Ensure all swimmers are treated fairly and equally
 - c. Provide guidance in the event of a swimmer doing the incorrect element being allowed to re-do the element.

Entry Qualifications

1. It is the responsibility of the Club's Head Coach to ensure the swimmer is ready to take the grade in a safe environment.
2. Swimmers may only attempt Figure Grade 4,5,6 at the appropriate age:
 - a. Figure Grade 4 = January 1st of the year that they turn 13
 - b. Figure Grade 5 = January 1st of the year that they turn 15
 - c. Figure Grade 6 = January 1st of the year that they turn 15
3. A swimmer must have achieved a minimum of a bronze level at the relevant Grade (ie Figures or Routines) before progressing to the next grade.

Assessment Criteria & retakes

1. All grades will be assessed using the FINA Judging Scale. Routine grades are marked on execution only.
2. A mark will be given to each element and the average score will determine the level of pass:
 - a. Gold : An average of 7.0 will be achieved
 - b. Silver: An average of 6.0 will be achieved
 - c. Bronze: An average of 5.0 will be achieved
3. Each element will have mandatory requirements which must be achieved regardless of the score
4. If two elements are scored at 4.5 or less, it will result in an automatic fail
5. Swimmers will not be allowed re-takes on the day unless requested by the Supervising Level 3 Judge