

The Australian Powerlifting Alliance (APA) is not the first powerlifting organisation in Australia - because of the history of powerlifting federations in Australia, there exists a large number (estimated to be in the hundreds) of experienced powerlifting referees.

Instead of requiring all referees to requalify as referees from scratch, we intend to fast track referees with experience in comparable organisations. This policy intends to guide these decisions.

Australian Powerlifting Union Referees

1. APU Referees who have been active in 2023 can (with proof) move directly to being APA referees of the equivalent rank.
2. Tenure with the APU will count towards seniority for sitting exams for the APA.
3. The APU had a "State Referee" rank, which does not exist in the APA structure. These referees will move to the Provisional Referee rank, however their experience at both Local and State rank will count towards their tenure with the APA for the purposes of exams.
4. These provisions will expire 12 months after the APU disaffiliates from the IPF (i.e. the 31st of December, 2024.)
5. Referees that only did their provisional theory exam in APU and were waiting for a practical exam will be required to redo the exam before sitting the practical exam.

Other National IPF Affiliates

1. Referees from other National IPF Affiliates (e.g. the NZPF, GBPF) can be accepted into the APA with a letter from their national organisation President, Head of Technical Committee, Secretary, or similar leadership position indicating they are in good standing with their federation.
2. These referees come into the APA at the equivalent rank of their other federation.
 - a. In the event there is no obvious equivalent rank, the committee can decide which rank they think is most appropriate.
3. Referees from other National IPF Affiliates can referee in APA meets without becoming members, so long as they can produce a letter showing their good standing with their current federation (as above.) They still must be of an appropriate rank to referee National level meets.

Other Federations

1. Referees from other federations can be accepted with proof of experience (e.g. referee cards or list of competitions refereed) and assessed on the key differences between federations through an online exam.
2. Referees from other federations can come into the APA at the rank that the committee thinks is most appropriate.
 - a. Note - not all federations have the same strict rank structure as the APA has, so this may not be easy or straightforward to assess in all cases.