

UMPIRING POLICY



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1. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

To provide to the sport of netball proficient and intelligent umpiring in line and in conjunction with the Netball Australia Umpire Accreditation System.

2. DUTIES OF THE UMPIRES' CONVENER

1. To preside at all umpire committee meetings, workshops and information sessions.
2. To maintain confidentiality and be aware of where discussions take place about sensitive issues.
3. To abide by the Umpires' Code of Conduct as per the Netball NSW.
4. To delegate tasks to the Umpires' Committee members when and as necessary.
5. To allocate umpires to requests, Greater Open competition, Twilight Social Games, selections.
6. Maintain accreditation as per the Netball Australia Umpire Accreditation System.
7. To ensure that learner umpire sessions are conducted appropriately.
8. To organise coaching of unbadged and badged umpires.
9. To organise discussion about recipients of awards.
10. To organise support for badged umpires at camps and education times.
11. To allocate the appropriate panels for badging of umpires.
12. To ensure that correct records of accreditation are maintained.
13. To liaise with Club Umpires' Conveners.
14. To ensure that relevant information is added to the NNA website and the Facebook page.
15. To ensure that competent umpires are allocated to State Titles.
16. To liaise with Netball NSW re any umpiring matters as necessary.
17. To send, as quickly as possible, the assessable performance criteria information to Netball NSW upon the successful badging of an umpire.
18. To remit to Netball NSW the necessary paperwork when a badged umpire has updated his/her accreditation.

3. DUTIES OF THE UMPIRES' COMMITTEE

1. To attend and contribute to Umpires' Committee Meetings, workshops and information sessions.
2. To maintain confidentiality and be aware of where discussion takes place about sensitive issues.
3. To assist the Umpires' Convener wherever possible.
4. To abide by the Netball NSW Code of Conduct.
5. To perform Umpires' Office Duty when rostered.
6. Provide support to badged umpires at camps and at education and development.
7. Maintain accreditation as per the Netball Australia Umpire Accreditation System.
8. Participate in Umpire education sessions.
9. Provide appropriate coaching to unbadged and badged umpires as set down by the Convener.
10. Be available to support the Convener at any introduction to umpiring sessions.
11. Contribute to discussions about recipients for awards.
12. To sign off the activities in the Umpire's Logbook when satisfied that the entry is accurate.

4. DUTIES OF THE CLUB UMPIRES CONVENER

1. Establish a Club Umpires Committee.
2. Liaise with the NNA Umpires Convener and communicate with the teams, Coaches and Managers about development of umpires in your club.
3. Attend Umpire education opportunities as provided by Netball NSW and/or NNA.
4. Coordinate the development of umpiring within your club.
5. Communicate all NNA Umpire education opportunities to Club members.
6. Facilitate opportunities for members to be awarded the NNA Bronze, Silver and Gold Umpire Awards and support Club Umpires whilst on the Netball Australia Pathway for Umpires.
7. Communicate the importance to team coaches when allocating inexperienced umpires that they are to provide support person/s who have rule knowledge and/or umpiring ability.
8. Ensure players, coaches, parents and supporters maintain the Code of Conduct applicable to their role and follow the principles of the "Shoosh for Kids" campaign and "Good Sports" which are embraced by NNA.
9. Communicate to teams that those players who are new to netball are not to umpire games until their competence has been demonstrated at team training.
10. Communicate to teams that learner umpires will develop greater confidence and competence if given the chance to umpire games back to back and at training.
11. Learner and unbadged umpires officiating on 9:30am, 10:45am and 12pm games are to wear the learner umpire vests that are available from the Umpires' office on both National Park and Parkway Avenue.

12. Attend Club Convener meetings as and when they are scheduled or arrange for an Executive member of your club to attend if you are unavailable. First meeting to be held prior to the commencement of the winter competition.

5. AWARD STRUCTURE

To align with the Netball Australia Umpiring Pathway, the following NNA pathway is in place.

1. For unbadged umpires to receive each level, you must:

- **BRONZE level:** Complete the 12 years umpire education program as set down by NNA.
 - **SILVER level:** Complete National Rules of Netball Theory Umpire Exam with a pass mark of 70% or higher and satisfaction of practical component on a minimum of two (2) NNA competition games endorsed by an NNA umpire official according to Silver Award practical criteria (See Appendix).
 - **GOLD level:** Complete the National Online Foundation Umpiring course and satisfaction of practical component on a minimum of two (2) NNA competition games endorsed by NNA umpire official according to Gold Award practical criteria (See Appendix).
2. Club umpire convenors to liaise with the NNA Umpire Convenor via email to arrange any practical endorsement of their club umpires no later than round 6.
 3. Certificates will be available for club presentation events.
 4. At the completion of the Gold level, umpires may be viewed in preparation for their National Badge.
 5. Support for NNA Pathway umpires who have been identified to be accepted into Tier 1. (See the criteria below).
 - i. Minimum NNA Gold Award
 - ii. Names to be forwarded to NNA Umpire Committee by round 4
 - iii. Will be coached during the season to develop umpire competencies
 - iv. May be considered for a National Badge if competencies are reached
 6. Support for NNA Pathway umpires who have been identified to be accepted into Tier 2. (See the criteria below).
 - i. Must satisfy Tier 1 criteria
 - ii. To hold a current National Badge
 - iii. Will be coached during the season to develop umpire competencies
 - iv. May be considered for a higher National Badge if competencies are reached on a suitable game.
 - v. Will be supported in all areas to maintain umpire competencies including but not limited to further educational opportunities and potential representatives' opportunities.

Neita Matthews Award: To receive this award an umpire must be a new National C badged recipient, have shown enthusiasm and a positive attitude to umpiring, and to have shown a willingness to assist NNA wherever possible.

Umpires' Scholarship: To receive this award an umpire must meet the following criteria:

- Must be affiliated with NNA
- Must have completed Online Foundation course and the Rules of Netball Theory pass mark and a National Badge
- Commitment to all aspects of NNA umpiring.

Umpires must be nominated by an NNA member. Nomination forms to be made available to all NNA members by registration day each year. Scholarship is a monetary contribution towards umpire education or uniform to the value of \$150. Recipient will be reimbursed on presentation of receipt/s in year of award.

6. ACCREDITATION

Refer to the Netball Australia Umpire Accreditation System.

7. UPDATING QUALIFICATIONS

For full details please refer to the Netball Australia Umpire Accreditation System link on the NNA website.

8. EDUCATION

1. To be coached on games unbadged umpires must have Foundation course accreditation and have successfully completed the Rules of Netball Theory Exam at a 70% pass mark or higher. The Convenor and Coaching umpire will determine when the learner umpire is ready to be badged on a game. The umpire will be assessed according to the performance criteria as set out in the Netball Australia Umpire Accreditation System.
2. From time to time and particularly at the beginning of the season, mandatory information sessions for badged umpires will be conducted.
3. Courses/camps to comply with the Netball Australia Umpire Accreditation System will be conducted with presenters either from Netball NSW or from NNA for both badged and unbadged umpires.
4. The committee may schedule umpire education programs as required.
5. Those umpires who indicate they wish to attain a higher badge will be coached by a competent umpire and be assessed by the performance criteria as set down by the Netball Australia Umpire Accreditation System.

9. GENERAL UMPIRE EDUCATION SESSIONS

There are several education sessions members can access:

- A. An education session for 12-year-old as per unbadged Bronze Level.
- B. An umpire education session for the Intermediate age group (13yrs – 15yrs) coaches, parents will be held as a Rules and Pizza as set down by the Umpires' committee.
- C. Umpire and netball rules education sessions can be scheduled for any interested groups e.g. coaches, representative teams, teachers, etc as required

10. GAME DAY PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES

1. Members of the Umpires Committee or a delegated person, who will wear appropriate identification, will patrol the courts to assist umpires and be available to respond to those requiring assistance.
2. All persons who wish to umpire games for NNA's Saturday Competition **MUST** be a registered member of NNA/Netball NSW. Failure to do so will be deemed to be "Failure to Umpire" and the team engaging the unregistered umpire/s will be fined and/or lose points. Refer to the "Competition Structure Guidelines" for the relevant fines.
3. All persons who wish to umpire a senior game on Saturdays **MUST** be at least 15 years of age unless they are a badged umpire, or an umpire being coached by an umpire duly appointed by the Umpire Convenor or his/her delegate. Failure to do so will be deemed to be "Failure to Umpire" and the team engaging the underage umpire/s will be fined and/or lose points. Refer to the "Competition Structure Policy" for the relevant fines.
4. Badged umpires and those unbadged umpires in training are to inform the Convenor of their availability to either umpire or coach other umpires by the round prior to the game, to facilitate the allocation of umpires.
5. Teams may request one (1) official umpire to umpire their game for the prescribed fee, and by completing the 'Request' form correctly by 5.00pm on the Saturday prior to the requested game .If games are abandoned, requests are to be in to the Convenor by 5pm on the Wednesday before the game requested. A Request Form is found on the NNA website.
6. Teams may request one (1) official umpire to umpire the game for the allocated umpire for the prescribed fee and by completing the 'Request' form correctly by 5.00pm on the Saturday prior to the requested game .If games are abandoned requests have to be made to the Convenor by 5pm on the Wednesday before the game requested. A Request Form is found on the NNA website.
7. The Convenor will maintain a record of the games umpired by those umpires allocated to the Greater Open Competition and one payment will be made to each of these umpires at the end of the season. Sponsorship for these payments is actively sought. Refer to Competition Structure Policy.

8. Umpires who wish to receive payment for the request games to which they are allocated, must complete the appropriate form (Statement by Supplier Tax form) and hand to the Convenor or a delegate at the beginning of the season.
9. PAYMENTS FOR GAMES. A Team representative is required to attend the court prior to the start of the game, to pay the allocated umpire. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN NO FURTHER REQUESTS BEING ALLOCATED
10. Coaching umpires are not remunerated.
11. For the semi-finals, finals and grand finals, the umpires for the Greater Open Competition will be selected by the coaching umpires in conjunction with the Convenor on performance-based criteria as seen throughout the season.
12. For the semi-finals, finals and grand finals, umpires must present a 'Drawn Game Card' to the scorers of their game and the procedure set down on this card is to be followed. A copy of the 'Drawn Game Card' is attached to this document.
13. Umpires allocated for semi-finals, finals and grand finals where possible are to be badged.
14. Fines are administered to teams for failing to umpire. Refer to the "Competition Structure Guidelines" for details. In exceptional circumstances and in conjunction with the Point Score Recorder, the Convenor may request that the team do another umpiring duty in lieu of the fine.
15. In exceptional circumstances, the Judiciary committee may request the Umpire Convenor to allocate badged umpires to a particular game.
16. The fee for requesting an official umpire either by a team or the team allocated umpire team, will be determined by the Umpires Committee prior to the commencement of the season and communicated to the clubs.

11. REPRESENTATIVE UMPIRES

See Representative Umpires Guidelines.

Appendix 1 - Drawn Game Card

As per information in the "Competitions Structure Policy", Semi Finals, Finals and Grand Finals drawn games procedure.

- a. When goal scores are even at full time - toss for goal end or centre pass, and after an interval of two (2) minutes, play an additional two (2) periods of five (5) minutes each with a two (2) minute break between periods. If scores are still even at the completion of the additional periods of play, play continues until one team has scored a two (2) goal advantage and that extra time will be timed independently.

Appendix 2 - Practical Silver Level Criteria

Competency	Achieved	Working towards	Comments
Recognise Basic Rules, e.g. most minor infringement			
Loud voice			
Loud whistle			
Keeps centre passes			

Appendix 3 - Practical Gold Level Criteria

Competency	Achieved	Working towards	Comments
Recognise Basic Rules, e.g. minor and some major infringement			
Loud voice			
Loud whistle			
Keeps centre passes			
Begin to use Hand Signals			
Demonstrate a degree of confidence and control of game			