



Baulkham Hills Netball

Umpiring Policy

Version 1

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear and consistent guidelines for the selection, development, conduct, and appointment of umpires within Baulkham Hills Netball Association (BHN) competitions.

It aims to ensure that all affiliated clubs uphold high standards of umpiring by providing suitably qualified individuals, fostering ongoing education and accreditation, and promoting fairness, safety, and integrity across all levels of play.

This policy supports the effective management of umpiring responsibilities and reinforces BHN's commitment to excellence in officiating.

2. Club Umpires Convenor

- a) All affiliated Clubs must nominate a Club Umpires Convenor - BHN Constitution s9.4(v).
- b) The Club Umpires Convenor is the Association's point of contact for all umpiring matters.
- c) The name and contact details of the Club Umpires Convenor must be supplied to the Association in the required format each year prior to the start of each competition year.
- d) The Club Umpires Convenor is responsible for:
 - i. providing and developing umpires who are of a suitable standard for the teams their Club enters into the competition
 - ii. allocating umpires to each Club game in the fixture during the competition rounds and providing a list of suitably qualified umpires for Finals series
 - iii. arranging testing of candidates for association badges and identifying and recommending umpires for National badge assessment
 - iv. attending umpiring meetings and disseminating relevant information to club members

3. Umpires

3.1 Registration & Eligibility

- a) All umpires must be a registered member of an affiliated Club.

- b) All umpires participating in competitions conducted by Baulkham Hills Netball are to abide by the Baulkham Hills Netball Constitution, Official Codes of Conduct and the current Rules of Netball.
- c) An umpire must be twelve (12) years before being placed on a junior game.
- d) An umpire must be sixteen (16) years or meet the minimum qualification (see Annexure 1) to umpire a senior game.

3.2 Umpire Dress Code

- a) All umpires are required to dress in the appropriate uniform.
- b) Uniform for umpires will consist of:
 - i) white top and white or black bottoms. Bottoms can be skirts, skorts, shorts (minimum 4-6 inches / 10-12 cm inseam) or tracksuit pants
OR
 - ii) registered club uniform. A white top may be worn over the top of the uniform.
- c) White or club tracksuit top or jacket may be worn during inclement weather.
- d) Bike shorts or lycra shorts and leggings are not permitted.
- e) The above uniform policy also applies to NetSetGO umpiring.
- f) Failure of an umpire to conform to dress standards will result in a warning from the Umpire Conveners and a fine or other sanction as deemed appropriate may be levied if necessary.

4. Competition Requirements

4.1 Saturday Winter Competition

- a) The system of umpiring for Winter Competition rounds and NetSetGO games will be “umpire your own”.
- b) Games during the Finals series are allocated on a neutral basis.
- c) Clubs are responsible for making sure that all umpiring requirements as listed on the competition fixture are met.
- d) It is the responsibility of each club to provide a suitably qualified umpire to the standard of each of their teams during competition. (see the Allocations Table in Annexure 1 for the minimum umpire qualifications required for each grade)

- e) A list of umpires, their qualifications and contact details must be provided each year to the Association in the required format before the commencement of the Winter Competition.
- f) When a club arranges a swap for umpiring duties with another club, each club agrees to accept all responsibility for the umpiring duty swapped to them.
- g) When a club covers a game for another club during regular rounds through the season, the club agrees to pay that club for covering their game, at the fee the covering club requests.
- h) A list of weekly club allocations must be supplied to the Association in the required format by 7am each Saturday of the Winter Competition.

4.2 NetSetGo Participation Games

- a) Clubs must supply a representative/person to umpire each team participating in NetSetGo round robin.
- b) The representative/person may be an umpire, coach or club or team official.
- c) All persons umpiring NetSetGO games must complete the NetSetGO education course and assessment to qualify to umpire NetSetGO.
- d) Clubs must supply a list of people qualified to umpire NetSetGo to the Association in the required format before the beginning of the winter season.

4.3 Additional Competitions

- a) Teams registering for additional competitions (such as spring/summer competitions and club carnivals) must supply an umpire of suitable standard.
- b) Teams may seek assistance from the Umpires Convenor to locate an umpire, however the responsibility for supplying an umpire rest with the team.
- c) Umpires for additional competitions are not required to sign on.

5. Sign-On and Missing Umpires

- a) Umpires must sign on at the sign-on area outside the Umpire's room before going to the court.
- b) Games should not commence until both umpires are present at the court.
- c) If an umpire is missing from a court, the on-court umpire should send a spectator to the Umpire's room or the Administration window.

- d) If the allocated umpire or a replacement is not located within five minutes of the start of the game then the team who has failed to provide an umpire has the following options:
 - i) take an on court player off to umpire (senior games)
 - ii) forfeit the game
- e) Once a game has commenced the umpires may not be replaced unless an umpire is injured or ill. An umpire arriving late to the court after a game has commenced may not replace a volunteer umpire.
- f) Umpires are not required to sign the scoresheet.

6. Game Management and Disciplinary Procedures

- a) All decisions are to be based on the current INF Rules of Netball. It is the responsibility of umpires to apply the Rules of Netball with impartiality, fairness and consistency.
- b) Game management processes are to be followed as outlined in the Rules of Netball.
- c) Umpires who require support or assistance during a game should follow the Umpire Incident Management Procedure (see Annexure 2)
- d) Any and all such game management actions or breaches of Codes of Behaviour during a game should be documented by the umpire/s on the Disciplinary Action Report Form printed on the back of the official scoresheet, or a separate form attached to the official scoresheet, in accordance with the processes in the BHN Disciplinary Procedure.
- e) An umpiring coach/mentor can complete and lodge a Disciplinary Action Report in conjunction with or on behalf of a junior umpire.
- f) The Disciplinary Action Report should be completed immediately after the conclusion of the game in question, either before the scoresheet is submitted to the Administration building, or shortly thereafter.
- g) The umpire and/or umpire mentor must sign or otherwise identify themselves on the report.

7. Umpire Development

7.1 Umpire Programs

- a) A range of programs to develop umpiring skills, techniques and knowledge are offered annually by the Umpires Committee. These include, but are not limited to:

- i) Top Program
 - ii) Umpire Development Program
 - iii) Tail Program
- b) Umpires may nominate for programs annually.
- c) Umpires may also be talent identified and recommended for inclusion in a program by the Umpires Committee.

7.2 Representative Umpiring

- a) Umpires in the Representative Umpire Pool umpire on behalf of the Association at representative carnivals.
- b) Umpires in the Pool may also be considered for nomination for Netball NSW competitions such as State Titles.
- c) Umpires may nominate for the Pool annually.
- d) Umpires may also be talent identified and recommended for inclusion in the Pool by the Umpires Committee.
- e) Allocation of umpires to the Pool will be considered on umpiring experience, skill and umpiring qualifications.
- f) The Umpire's Convenor in consultation with the Umpires Committee is responsible for all decisions about Representative Umpire appointments.

8. Badging Procedures

8.1 Association Badges

- a) Association badges are not recognised outside of the Association.
- b) Club umpire convenors are responsible for the testing of their umpires for Association badges.
- c) Club umpire convenors must ensure that candidates are registered, possess the appropriate prerequisites and supply these details to the Association in the required format before testing of candidates is undertaken.
- d) Testing for association badges should take place on games of appropriate standard, as indicated by the BHN badge testing matrix (see Annexure 4).
- e) Clubs will be invoiced for each badge supplied.

8.2 National Badges

- a) Requirements and processes for the National C, B, A, and AA Badges are outlined within the National Umpiring Development Framework.
- b) Only National C and B badges may be assessed at association level.
- c) Club umpire convenors may recommend umpires for assessment to the Umpires Convenor. Convenors must ensure that candidates are registered, possess the appropriate prerequisites and supply these details to the Association in the required format before assessment of candidates is undertaken.
- d) Umpires may also be talent identified and recommended for assessment by the Umpires Committee.
- e) The decision to test a candidate for a National C or B badge is the responsibility of the Umpires Convenor.
- f) National C and B badges will be tested on games of appropriate standard, to be decided by the Umpires Convenor.
- g) Clubs will be invoiced for each badge supplied.

9. Finals Series

9.1 Supply of Umpires for Finals Series

- a) Umpires during the Finals series are allocated by the BHN Umpire's Committee on a neutral basis.
- b) Every Club must supply a minimum of one suitably qualified umpire for every team from their Club playing in the Finals series.
- c) In addition to the above, each Club must supply an additional one umpire per 7 teams (or part thereof) for the Reserve Umpire Bench.
- d) The term "suitably qualified" umpires means that for every team playing, an umpire suitable of umpiring that standard of game (as deemed by the Umpire's Committee) or higher must be supplied
- e) A list of the names and qualifications of each umpire (including the highest grade suitable for each umpire) must be submitted in the required format by the conclusion of Round 13 annually.

9.2 Remuneration of Finals Series Umpires

- a) Each Club is responsible for the remuneration of the umpires required for their Club teams games during the Finals series, plus the reserve umpires (as per clause 9.1(c)) regardless of whether their Club's umpires are allocated or not.
- b) Each Club will be charged as such via invoice to the Club by BHN at the rate specified in the Fees, Fines and Payments Schedule for that competition year.
- c) BHN will be responsible for calculating the payments due to all umpires and reserve umpires allocated to officiate or reserve during the Finals games.
- d) The individual umpires will be paid via their registered Club.
- e) Each Club will receive a list of all umpires and reserve umpires requiring a payment from BHN for disbursement from the Club.
- f) A nett invoice detailing the amount payable by the Club for their team obligations (as per 9.2(b)) less the credit for their allocated umpires (as per 9.2€) will be issued as soon as practicable after the conclusion of the Grand Finals round for all three Finals rounds.

Payments will be made as follows:

- i. Positive balances (amounts due to BHN) are to be paid within 14 days of issue.
 - ii. Negative balances (amounts due to the Club) will be paid by BHN within 14 days of issue.
- g) These disbursements are compulsory as the minimum payment for umpiring services during Finals series games. Individual Clubs may elect to pay their Club umpires more than the minimum at their own discretion.

9.3 Fines for Non-Supply of Umpires during Finals Series

- a) Any Club that does not supply the required number of suitably qualified umpires by the conclusion of Round 13 (in accordance with 9.1(b) and 9.1(c)) will incur a fine as specified in the Fees, Fines and Payments Schedule for that competition year.
- b) The fine is imposed in addition to the invoiced amount for the required number of umpires.
- c) Where an umpire withdraws on the day for other than medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances, or does not show without notice, that Club will incur a fine as specified in the Fees, Fines and Payments

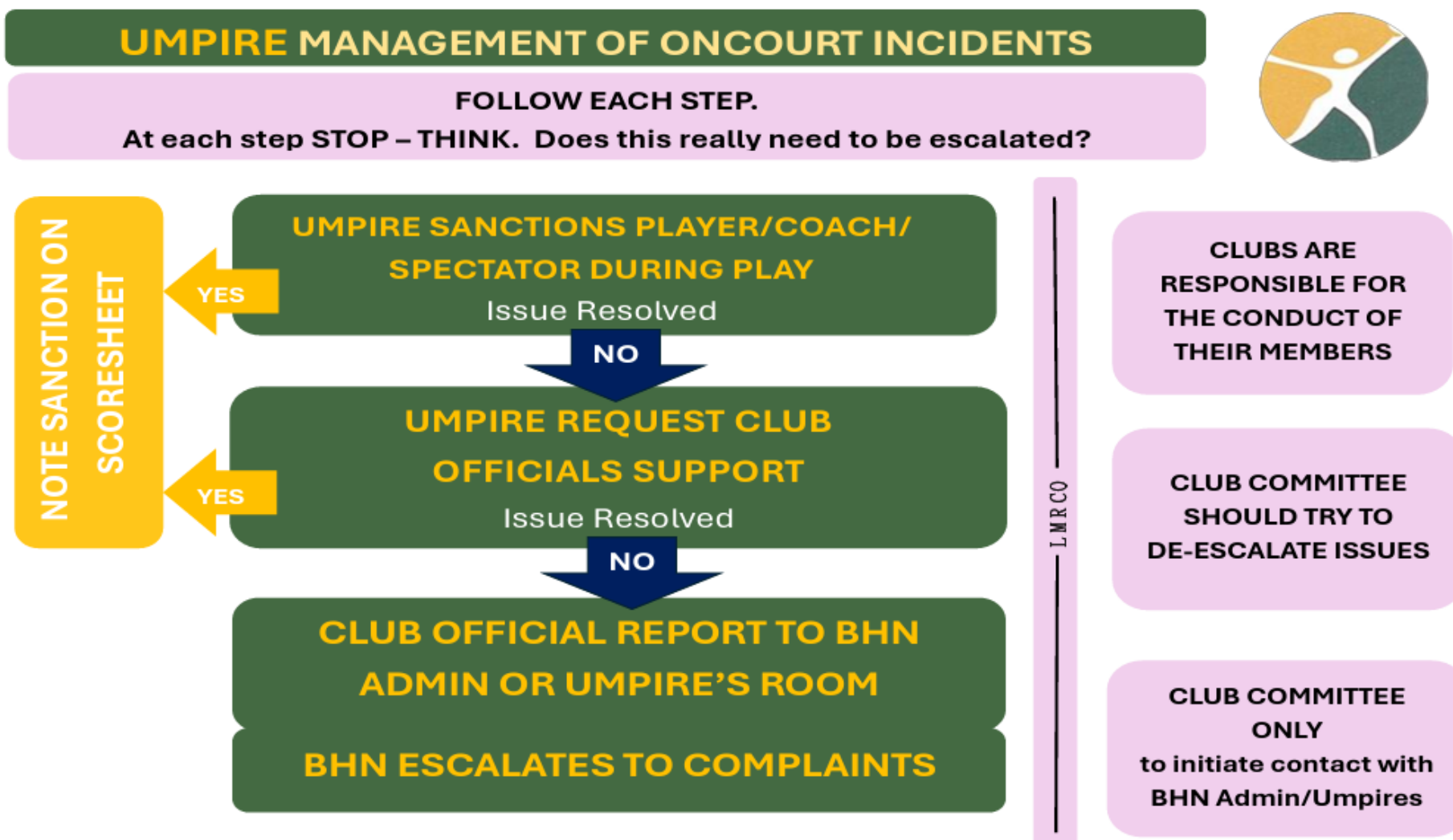
Schedule for that competition year. A medical Certificate or other evidence may be requested by the BHN Umpires Convener.

Annexure 1: Minimum Qualifications for Competition Games (Allocations Table)

SENIOR GAMES			
GRADE	MINIMUM QUALIFICATION	GRADE	MINIMUM QUALIFICATION
Open A1	National A/B (or Top Program participant)	Inter A	National C
Open A	National C with experience	Inter B	National C or Gold badge with experience
Open B	National C	Inter C	Gold badge
Open C	Gold badge with experience	Inter D	Green badge with experience
Open D	Gold badge with experience	Unbadged umpires should not be placed on senior grades.	
JUNIOR GAMES			
GRADE	MINIMUM QUALIFICATION	GRADE	MINIMUM QUALIFICATION
14A	National C	12C	Beginner umpire with current theory pass and support person
14B	Green badge with experience	12D	Beginner umpire with current theory pass and support person
14C	Green badge	11A	Gold badge
14D	Green badge	11B	Green badge
13A	Gold badge with experience	11C	Beginner umpire with current theory pass and support person
13B	Green badge with experience	11D	Beginner umpire with current theory pass and support person
13C	Green badge	10A	Gold badge
13D	Beginner umpire with current theory pass and support person	10B	Green badge
12A	Gold badge with experience	10C	Beginner umpire with current theory pass and support person
12B	Green badge	10D	Beginner umpire with current theory pass and support person

Umpires working towards the next badge level (e.g. Gold badge umpires working towards National C) may be allocated games at the higher level provided that they have a coach/mentor or support person to assist them.

Annexure 2: Umpire Incident Management Procedure



Annexure 3: BHN Umpire Development Pathway

To help educate and promote umpiring the following steps act as a guide to umpire development.



Please note that Steps 1-5 below are under the administration of the Club Umpire Convenor.

1.1.1.1 Beginner umpires

Step 1 –Red Award

The Red Award is achieved by attending an education and practical skills session and passing the Red Award theory assessment.

Step 2 – Blue Award

The Blue Award is achieved by learning how to apply the rules on short training games. A coaching umpire must be in attendance to guide and support the learner umpire.

Step 3 – White Award

The White Award is achieved when the umpire has completed at least 4 low grade junior games with supporting umpire in attendance every game, for the whole game.

1.1.1.2 Association badges

Step 4 – Green Badge

A Green Badge candidate should hold a Rules of Netball Theory Pass and is achieved when the candidate meets the practical assessable performance criteria as shown on the Green Test Template.

Step 5 – Gold Badge

A Gold Badge candidate should hold a Rules of Netball Theory Pass and have completed the Foundation Course. A gold Badge is achieved when the candidate meets the assessable performance criteria as shown on the Gold Test Template.

1.1.1.3 National badges

Step 6 – National C and B

The Umpire's Convenors oversee National Badging at BHN.

National Badging is in line with the framework provided by Netball Australia. For detailed information on the prerequisites and pathways, refer to the National Umpire Development Framework.

Annexure 4: BHN Badge Testing Matrix

Qualification	Pre-requisites		Game required	Testers level (minimum)	Organised by
	Education course	Theory			
Association badges					
NetSetGo	NetSetGo course	NetSetGo theory pass (70%+)	NetSetGo game	1 tester Experienced NetSetGo umpire	Club umpire convenor
Green		Rules of Netball theory pass (70%+)	Junior C grade *no badging on 10 year old games	1 tester Green badge with 2 yrs experience	Club umpire convenor
Gold	Foundation Course	Rules of Netball theory pass (70%+)	Senior C grade Inter/Open C *junior umpires may be tested on 14C grade	1 tester Gold badge with 2 yrs experience	Club umpire convenor
National badges					
National C	Foundation Course (within past 4 years)	Rules of Netball theory pass (70%+)	Senior B/C grade Inter/Open B/C 4x10-15 mins	2 testers National B and National C	BHN Umpire's Convenor
National B	Intermediate Course	Rules of Netball theory pass (80%+)	Senior A grade Inter/Open A 4x15 mins	2 testers National A and National B	BHN Umpire's Convenor