



Guidance notes for umpires working towards a qualification

January 2024

Working towards C Award following online course attendance

- It is your responsibility to contact the County Officiating Lead (COL) if you want mentor support following completion of an online C award course.
- Mentoring is offered on Notts League fixtures at NUSA during both Winter and Summer Leagues. You must be over 16 years of age to officiate these fixtures.
- For **under 16s only**, mentoring and assessment may be offered at a club training session or other registered netball leagues.
- You must **pass an online written assessment usually within 6 months of course attendance** as you cannot apply for practical assessment without this.
- You are entitled to **one mentor session prior to a written pass**. A further 3 sessions will be offered only on confirmation of a written pass.
- Remember you have **up to 2 years after passing a written C award paper** to pass the practical assessment.
- Formal assessments will be arranged by the Practical Assessment Co-ordinator following recommendation by your mentor and receipt of an application form and payment by BACS of £45. A completed logbook of matches should accompany the application. Assessments are usually conducted on suitable Notts League fixtures at NUSA.

General advice

- Consider whether you have enough time to commit to the amount of practical experience needed to meet practical assessment criteria.
- Be prepared to officiate fixtures in recognised netball leagues (NOT commercial or social leagues) which should be recorded in your logbook; download from www.englandnetball.co.uk
- Be prepared to arrange your own officiating schedule but be aware that you must officiate at **least your first 2 Notts league division 2 fixtures with your mentor present**. This requirement may not apply to other leagues (check their rules). This requirement does not apply at club training. As a qualified IO, you may umpire division 3 games without a mentor.
- Be prepared to officiate matches which do not involve your own club / team.
- Be prepared to travel to NUSA (NG8 4HY) or other local venues.
- Take ownership of your own progression by ensuring that you **umpire regularly** to address all development points from mentors. This may be at club training, friendlies, school fixtures etc
- Do not expect a mentor to support you on a weekly basis. Mentors will suggest a suitable amount of time between mentored sessions to allow development points to be addressed.
- Be aware that you or your club may need to contribute a fee for additional mentoring if necessary (refer to Changes to Mentor Programme November 2023).
- Familiarise yourself with league rules and policies for any / all leagues where you umpire. Notts league rules and policies can be found on www.ncna.co.uk
- If you are not a member of a club, consider joining one to suit your needs as this will provide more opportunities to support your progression as an official.