



## COL REPORT FOR CLUBS' MEETING 23.11.23

**Into Officiating Award** Between end July 2022 and 2023 a total of 21 umpires are now qualified IOs. 12 of these are not actively umpiring in Notts Leagues at NUSA. On line courses are still popular and are often oversubscribed. In Notts we currently have a total of 21 learner umpires working towards qualification with allocated mentors. A further 10 learners are booked onto future courses.

**C Award** No new qualified umpires at this level between July 2022 and 2023. 9 qualified IO umpires have attended a C award course. A total of 10 are working towards qualification with allocated mentors. Another 1 has booked onto a C award course. Unfortunately, C courses are often undersubscribed and are therefore converted to additional IO courses. COL has raised concerns about this with EN.

**B Award** There are 7 C award umpires actively working towards qualification. 6 have allocated mentors in Notts and 1 is working with Derbyshire.

**A award** We currently have 1 umpire working towards qualification with an allocated mentor.

**Umpire Forums 2023-24** These were only compulsory this year for qualified IO umpires and those working towards IO. A total of 20 umpires attended over 2 different dates. Another forum will be held prior to the start of our Summer League 2024. Date and venue tbc. Advance notification that there will be compulsory forums for all umpires next season (2024-25) in line with revised INF rules of netball.

**C Award Development** A total of 8 C award umpires have taken up the CPD offer. The general consensus is that it has been a positive experience. The programme will be complete by 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023. We have 1 new C\* umpire from this process.

**Changes to Notts Mentor Programme** We have previously offered mentoring to all levels of umpire free of charge, funded by NCNA. Following a recent review of costs, value for money and perceived benefits to our leagues, Notts Officiating TSG made several recommendations to the committee for mentoring of umpires working towards IO and C awards all of which were ratified at the October 2023 meeting.

2022-23 Budget for expenditure on mentor programme and umpire CPD (C\*) was £800. Actual expenditure was £1,577.79 plus £258.40 for C\* giving a total expenditure of £1,836.19.

We need to strike a balance between encouraging new umpires to qualify whilst being realistic about the benefits to all members and our leagues by spending your money to support their qualification.

1. All mentoring will take place at NUSA whenever possible to reduce mentor travel expenses. Other venues, such as club training facilities, will be considered for anyone aged under 16 as they are not able to officiate senior leagues.
2. Any Notts member working towards IO will be offered a maximum of 3 sessions of 1 to 1 mentoring free of charge to be staggered over several months to allow for development points to be addressed. In addition, a further 2 group sessions per year at NUSA will be offered (only 1 this year due to time constraints).

3. Any Notts member working towards C award will be offered a maximum of 4 sessions of 1 to 1 mentoring free of charge to be staggered over several months to allow for development points to be addressed. The first session post course attendance will not only give practical development points but will ensure the learner's understanding of the qualification process i.e. the need to pass an online written paper within 6 months of course attendance before applying for practical assessment. Following a written pass, 3 further 1 to 1 mentored sessions will be offered preferably on division 2 Winter League or division 3 Summer League games at NUSA.
4. Any umpire (working towards IO or C Award) who is not ready for practical assessment after the maximum number of free sessions can ask for further mentoring. The cost for each additional session will be EITHER the umpire's match fee OR a minimum of £15 donation from the individual or their club to NCNA. All payments should be made by BACS.

All umpires will be advised of these changes by email following the Clubs' meeting.

**Clubs should also advise any of their members attending any officiating courses after 1<sup>st</sup> October 2023 that it is now their responsibility to contact the COL for mentor support.** All officiating tutors will include this information as part of the course.

Notts Officiating TSG will consider possible changes to mentoring costs for umpires working towards B and A award at their next meeting in January 2024.

**Assessor re-accréditation** EN assessors were required to attend an online reaccréditation session during September and October 2023 and to complete a virtual C award assessment to continue being deployed as assessors. All 8 of Notts assessors have reaccrédited.

**Shadowing of Officiating TSG roles** Having held the role of COL since 2004, it would be great if someone with a genuine interest in developing and supporting officials in Notts would volunteer to take over this role. I would be happy for someone to shadow my current role to allow for a seamless transition.