

CHARLESTOWN NETBALL ASSOCIATION



UMPIRES POLICY

Policy adopted: 17 January 2022

Contents

1.	Policy statement	3
2.	CNA Netball Umpiring Program	3
3.	Umpire development pathways	4
4.	CNA Umpires Coordinator	4
5.	Charlestown Netball Association Umpires Committee	5
6.	Affiliate Club Umpire Convenors	6
7.	Important information about umpiring requirements for Affiliate Club Umpire Convenors for our Winter/Saturday competitions	7
8.	Saturday umpiring process	7
9.	Issues and complaints	8
10.	Representative umpiring opportunities	9
11.	Relevant information	9
12.	Policy review	9

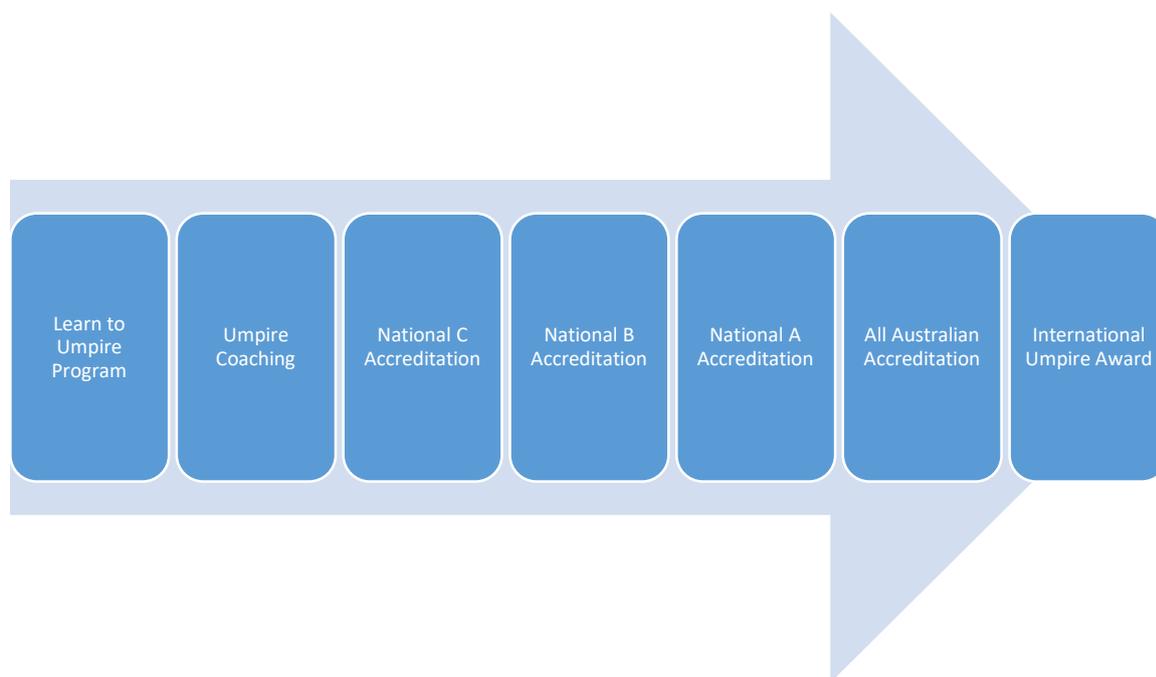
1. Policy statement

1. Charlestown Netball Association aims to provide a supportive environment for members to improve as umpires, providing suitable opportunities for members to develop their confidence and umpiring skills.
2. This policy has been prepared by the Charlestown Netball Association as a guide for the Umpiring Convenors of our affiliate clubs. The aim is that this information will support Affiliate Club Umpires Convenor with the development of umpires within their Club, which in turn will increase the depth and breadth of umpiring talent more broadly across our Association.

2. CNA Netball Umpiring Program

1. The Charlestown Netball Umpiring Program is developed with the evolving umpire in mind. They are purposely designed to assist our umpires in their pathways into Netball NSW and Netball Australia programs and include:
 - a. Learn-to-Umpire Program (a 4-week 'beginners course' to umpiring);
 - i. The Learn-to-Umpire Program typically runs from week 5 to 8 of each playing season and introduces learning umpires the rules of the game and how to apply on court
 - ii. Learn-to-Umpire bibs are available in the Clubhouse for individuals to demonstrate to those watching the game that these umpires are also developing their skills in the game.
 - b. Active mentoring and coaching for individuals working toward national accreditation;
 - c. Provision of umpiring opportunities at Representative Carnivals and other Netball NSW events (for those working towards National Badging);
 - d. Umpiring opportunities at Junior / Senior State Titles (nationally badged umpires only);
 - e. Supporting individuals applying to external umpiring programs (such as Hunter Academy of Sports).
2. There are also a range of [umpiring courses available via Netball NSW](#), which CNA would encourage aspiring umpires to undertake. This will also give developing umpires more exposure to other umpires and help them establish their own network of umpiring colleagues.

3. Umpire development pathways



1. National C accreditation: can occur on appropriate games at Charlestown Netball Association.
2. National B accreditation: we encourage and support through mentoring our umpires to be assessed on our highest level of competition at Charlestown.
3. National A accreditation: can be awarded by Netball NSW under their programs.
4. All Australia (AA) accreditation can be awarded by Netball Australia under their programs.
5. International Umpiring Award (IUAs) are awarded by International Netball Federation under their programs.
6. **Notes:**
 - a. It is not essential to proceed sequentially through each badge level. The only pre-perquisite is an A badge before testing for an AA badge.
 - b. There are no age restrictions on any badge level.
 - c. Candidates may be tested twice in any calendar year for the same badge level.

4. CNA Umpires Coordinator

1. The **CNA Umpires Coordinator** is the Charlestown Netball Association Executive Member who will provide regular updates to the Association members on opportunities relating to umpiring.
 - a. The CNA Umpires Coordinator is required to be a current holder of a National Umpires badge.

- b. The CNA Umpires Coordinator is responsible for the coordination of badging of umpires for National Badged accreditations. In addition to this, the CNA Umpires Coordinator will maintain a register of the Association's National Badged Umpires.
- c. The CNA Umpires Coordinator is responsible for the Learn-to-Umpire workshops, which support the development of new umpires from our members (notably through the Affiliate Club).

5. Charlestown Netball Association Umpires Committee

1. The Charlestown Netball Association Umpires Committee consists of the CNA Umpires Coordinator plus the Umpires Convenors (or nominated committee member) from our Affiliated Clubs.
 - a. Each Affiliated Club will provide one committee person to act on their behalf as part of the Charlestown Netball Association Umpires Committee.
2. The Umpires Committee are responsible for:
 - a. umpiring matters related to the Association;
 - b. carrying out functions as may be directed by the Association to ensure that reports on umpiring activities are shared at General Meetings;
 - c. allocating teams to umpiring duties for competition fixtures;
 - d. allocating suitably qualified umpires during the final series for competition;
 - e. assessing umpires for badging panels.
3. In addition to these responsibilities, the Umpires Committee will aim to:
 - a. support all affiliated clubs in the development of umpires at all levels;
 - b. provide information to umpires in regard to the pathways available to them ;
 - c. encourage, develop, and engage all umpires at the Association.
4. While the CNA Umpire Coordinator is the Chair of this committee, it is the responsibility of all affiliate clubs to liaise with the CNA Umpire Coordinator concerning the provision of umpires for Association competitions.

6. Affiliate Club Umpire Convenors

1. Being an Affiliate Club Umpires Convenor is a rewarding and challenging task, supporting the development of your clubs' umpires.
2. Affiliate Club Umpires Convenors should:
 - a. Hold a National Badge (where possible) ;
 - b. Be fun and approachable;
 - c. Be organised and responsible;
 - d. Be accountable to supporting the learning of umpires (particularly within their club, but also for all CNA members);
 - e. Demonstrate leadership and work as part of the broader umpire network;
 - f. Be dedicated to the development of umpires at Charlestown Netball Association;
 - g. Actively participate in the Charlestown Netball Association Umpires Committee.
3. Affiliate Club Umpire Convenors are responsible for:
 - a. the development of umpires and supplying umpires as per team allocations for Association competitions in which their players participate;
 - b. Ensuring their team allocated umpires are supported by a competent mentor (where required);
 - c. Ensuring that team allocated umpires check in for their umpiring duties (the Club Convenor will be called upon should their team allocated umpire fail to attend);
 - d. Supervising the development of their club umpires (this includes providing coaching, mentoring and general support – be the go-to resource person!);
 - e. Ensuring that all beginner umpires are encouraged to participate in the Learn-To-Umpire program run by the Association;
 - f. Ensuring that all Team Umpires are encouraged to complete the relevant Theory Exam mark to support them as an umpire;
 - g. Being the link between your umpires and the Association Umpires Convenor.
4. Tips for Affiliate Club Umpire Convenors:
 - a. Don't do this on your own - find likeminded people within your club to help and assist you with your responsibilities;
 - b. Delegate jobs where you can;
 - c. Be organised to assist you game day;

- d. If you need help, don't be afraid to ask the Association Umpires Convenor (they are here to support you);
- e. Have a succession plan to encourage new people into your club committees (this helps to build stronger clubs and a stronger Association).

7. Important information about umpiring requirements for Affiliate Club Umpire Convenors for our Winter/Saturday competitions

1. Club Umpire Convenors are responsible for ensuring that each team allocated to umpiring duty from their club has a competent umpire for each age group. Ideally you will work with Club team coaches to roster all players to the experience of umpiring on a regular basis. This supports their development as an umpire and a player.
 - a. Note that CNA support our Umpires who are learning the rules of the game with the wearing of learning-to-umpire bibs (umpires in training).
 - b. Anyone of any age who is learning the skills of umpiring can grab an umpire patch to wear. This provides a visual representation to all participating in the game that the umpire, like the players are developing their skills.
2. With the guidance and support of the Club Umpire Convenors, we strongly encourage team coaches to rotate all their umpires (where possible) through umpiring duties to help building the capability of all our playing members in developing their umpiring. This will help to strengthen the number of umpires across clubs, as well as improve the depth of the club's umpiring members.

8. Saturday umpiring process

1. All umpires must check in at the clubhouse at least 15 minutes prior to the timeslot allocated for umpiring.
2. At the same time as checking in, junior/new umpires who are developing their skills are encouraged to grab a learning-to-umpire patch – don't forget to return this at the end of the game to the Clubhouse.
3. Umpires should be wearing either their club uniform (with a white top over their playing uniform) or umpire attire that is different to their club colours (preferably white). All umpires must wear suitable joggers as footwear.
4. Umpires are to have their own whistle and either a hair band or similar to keep track of the centre passes. (Whistles are for sale in the office if required.)
5. Umpires are reminded to check all players before the game commences (hair, jewellery, nails, etc) and ensure that the team captains have advised them of who won the centre pass, and which team has which goal ends.

6. Failure to provide a team allocated umpire

- a. In the event that the team allocated umpire fails to attend, it is the responsibility of the Club Umpire Convenor to seek out and supply an alternate umpire immediately.
- b. Where an alternate umpire is not found by the Club Umpire Convenor and the Association has to provide an umpire, **the team will be fined in accordance with the Associations Competitions policy**. The fine must be paid in full prior to the following next round of play.
- c. The team allocated will also have **a loss of competition points for failing to supply a suitable umpire** (as per the Association's Competition policy).

7. INDEPENDENT SENIOR TEAMS

- a. Independent senior teams are also responsible for supplying a suitably experienced umpire to umpire a game at their grade level, similar to club team requirements.
- b. The same requirements for Saturday umpiring applies to independent senior teams, regarding allocation of umpire, timeliness of umpire checking in for their allocated game, and loss of competition points and fine for failure to provide an umpire (see clauses 1-6 above).

9. Issues and complaints

1. It is best practice if the Clubhouse/CNA Executive are alerted to any umpiring issues immediately (on or off court) as we would prefer to resolve the issue before it manifests further and ensure that our umpires are supported through the process.
 - a. Ideally the Association Umpires Coordinator would be the first person alerted to an issue. However, depending on circumstances, it may be more practical and more time-efficient to alert another member of the CNA Executive or another member of the Association Umpires Committee.
2. If a complaint is made to the Clubhouse/CNA Executive concerning an umpire or any other incident which occurs during the game, the following will occur:
 - a. If the concern is raised during the game, a member of the Association Umpire Committee or an Executive Member will go to the game and observe the umpire and the players and take appropriate action to resolve the issue.
 - i. The Club Umpire Convenor (or Club President) will be informed of the incident. For independent senior teams, the team coach or team manager will be informed.
 - b. If the issue is not able to resolve on court or a complaint is made after the conclusion of the game, the Umpires Coordinator or a member of the Association

Umpires Committee will handle the complaint in the first instance. Where the complaint is deemed serious, an Incident Report will need to be submitted by the person making the complaint (and where possible, also by both umpires) to ensure that the issue is handled appropriately.

10. Representative umpiring opportunities

1. The Association Umpires Coordinator is responsible for assisting the Representative Convenor with provision of umpires for all carnivals and Netball NSW events that CNA participates in.
2. Unbadged umpires, as well as National Badged umpires, may attend and umpire at Representative Carnivals.
 - a. Participating umpires will be allocated games appropriate to their qualification.
3. As per Netball NSW requirements, only National Badged umpires are able to attend Junior State and Senior State Titles and these umpires must have the appropriate fitness levels for three consecutive days of games.
4. Senior State Titles are typically held over the June long weekend. This may require the umpire to take the Friday off work in order to participate.
5. Junior State Titles are typically held during the June/July school holidays. This may require the umpire to take the Friday and Monday off work in order to participate.
6. Those umpires who nominate to be involved in Representative opportunities are encouraged to participate in Representative training sessions (when available), to undertake fitness training, and to umpire games during match play. Umpires should not interfere with the coaching of the teams unless asked by the Coach to provide clarity or information regarding umpiring-related questions.

11. Relevant information

See also

- Charlestown Netball Association - Competition Policy

12. Policy review

At a minimum, this policy will be reviewed every three years by the CNA Executive. The policy may be reviewed more frequently if deemed necessary by the CNA Executive.