

Netball Queensland Beginner Umpire Recommended Progression

Pre-Umpiring:

Skills	Role of the umpire Basic rule knowledge Basic umpiring techniques
Learning	Read Rules of Netball Complete Rules of Netball Exam Beginner Umpire Workshop (run by club/association or NQ)
Mentoring	Experienced mentor to attend practice matches Mentor may need to “shadow” umpire
Competitions	Practice matches/training session match play

Supervised Umpire:

Skills	Confidence to make decisions Clear and loud communication Application of basic rules e.g. out of court, offside Application of basic umpiring techniques e.g. positioning
Learning	Foundation Umpire Online Course
Mentoring	Experienced mentor to attend matches Mentor to watch from sideline and provide feedback at breaks
Competitions	Junior (11-12yrs) Fixtures or Senior Social Netball Players should have basic understanding of the rules NOT Net Set Go or other modified rules formats

Novice Umpire:

Skills	Hand Signals Correct decisions regarding basic rules Making decisions regarding more complex rules e.g. contact Continued development of umpiring techniques
Learning	Rules Discussions Observation of other umpires
Mentoring	Experienced mentor to attend matches Feedback should focus on C Badge competencies Use of feedback framework e.g. good/better/how
Competitions	Junior Fixtures or Social Netball NOT Net Set Go or other modified rules formats

Beginner Umpire Mentor Behaviours

Effective Beginner Umpire Mentors Will:

- Know and understand the Rules of Netball
- Be good communicators
- Give their full attention to the umpire they are mentoring
- Be positive and encouraging
- Give concentrated feedback based on the badging competencies
- Coach the umpire, not umpire the game for them

Moving Towards C Badging

When an umpire has developed their confidence and is able to manage ladies and/or men's games (players aged 15+) on their own, mentors should begin to evaluate whether the umpire is ready to be assessed for their C Badge. It is important to remember that the C Badge is an entry-level badge only. Testers should not expect perfection or mastery and should focus on assessing umpires based on the listed competencies.

Netball QLD discourages the use of unofficial accreditations/awards that precede C Badging e.g. Association Awards, Bronze/Silver/Gold systems. These awards often present an unnecessary obstacle for umpires progressing into the accreditation pathway. Associations and clubs should seriously consider the need for these awards and should ensure there is clear distinction between the award criteria and the C Badge competencies.

More Information

Contact: coachandofficials@netballq.org.au

Read The [National Umpire Development Framework](#)