

UMPIRING CODE OF CONDUCT

North East Wales Netball League

The key principles of responsibility and competence are the framework of this Code of Conduct.

Umpires must comply with this Code and such guidelines as may be issued from time to time by the North East Wales Netball League Association and shall show:

Duty of Care

1. Have a duty to exercise reasonable care and skill to enforce the rules of the game, to apply them fairly and to effect control of the game so as to ensure the safety of the players.
2. At all times, umpire consistently, independently (an attitude of mind characterised by integrity) and with complete impartiality, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern the game, in the true spirit of sportsmanship.

Personal Fitness / Dress

3. Conform to a standard of mental and physical fitness which enables them too effectively and efficiently control the matches to which they are appointed.
4. Be smartly dressed and shall appear on court in clothing that will project an image of health, cleanliness and functional efficiency. (Where possible at least endeavour to wear white top when umpiring)
5. Not consume alcoholic drinks or smoke either immediately prior to or whilst officiating.

Up to Date Knowledge / Self Control

6. Maintain a complete knowledge and up-to-date interpretation of the official rules of Netball, and be fully conversant with the rules, regulations and scoring systems applicable to the event at which they are officiating.
7. Remember they are the controllers of the games, and their decisions should not be influenced by spectators, team officials or players
8. Not wager on, or coach during, any match or in a tournament at which they are officiating as an Umpire.
9. Not offer or attempt to offer, either directly or indirectly, any consideration whatever to anyone with a view to influencing the result of any match, or to accept any such consideration.

Breach of Code of Conduct

10. Exercise self-control at all times and not commit any action likely to bring Welsh Netball or the game into disrepute.
11. Be liable to disciplinary action if they have committed any breach of the Code of Conduct or have failed to comply with guidelines issued by the Welsh Netball Umpiring Group

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The best umpires are:

- Unobtrusive, ruling correctly but judiciously, ensuring the game is enjoyed by players, spectators and themselves.
- An umpire will be required to attend one umpiring forum within a two year period to ensure that they are kept up to date with all current rules and regulations.
- The umpiring forums will be run by the North East Wales Netball League

And one that:

- Has a sensitivity and understanding for play and the players
- Contributes something of their personality, as well as their knowledge of the rules.
- Is involved in the game and is part of the game.
- Is not afraid to show a little positive emotion on court.
- Enjoys moments of good team work and quietly sympathises with mistakes.
- Is human enough to make the odd error and big enough to admit it afterwards.
- Can lift the game from the doldrums of mediocrity and bring out the best in players
- Players readily say, "Good, we have got that umpire again".

PLAYERS / COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT TOWARDS UMPIRES

- The NEWNL expect all players to respect the role of the umpire as they are critical to our game
- The NEWNL will not tolerate any players being disrespectful to umpires/ or their decisions. All decisions made by the umpire are to be accepted as final.
- During play do not question a decision made by an umpire either by gesture, look, verbally, obscene language or by commenting to another player.
- Keep yourself in control at all times and do not retaliate.
- The captain of the team is the only person who can ask the umpire to clarify a rule or decision at the end of a quarter or end of play.
- If a player continually shows disrespect to an umpire the umpire will deal with this on the court as per IFNA guidelines.
- NEWNL would support sportsmanship by thanking both umpires for officiating your match.

Reviewed Feb 2016 (Teresa Ketland)

