

Swiss Netball Match Play: Guidelines for Umpires and Technical Officials

AIM

By organising match play events, Swiss Netball aims to provide opportunities for the officiating team (umpires, scorers and timekeepers) as well as players, to practice in a fun, friendly and safe environment without the pressure of a formal tournament. The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for umpires and technical officials who wish to participate in match play events.

UMPIRING

A learner umpire is an umpire who has started on their umpiring pathway eg. a person who has completed the Swiss Netball Introduction to Umpiring or Netball Europe C Award Theory course.

Each participating club must provide at least 1 qualified umpire (C Award or above), in addition to any learner umpire(s) to support the learner umpire(s) to build up their experience, knowledge and confidence.

It is strongly recommended that qualified umpires should not be expected to fill the role of coach in addition to umpiring in order to fully support the learner umpire.

Swiss Netball recommends the following guidelines in assigning umpires to matches and match play events.

Guidelines for Umpiring at Match Play

Umpiring Course	Club commitment to Learner at Match Play	Level of Match Learner permitted to Umpire
Swiss Netball Introduction to Umpiring	Learner must be shadowed* on court by a qualified umpire	U11 or below
Completed Netball Europe C Award Theory – course only	Learner must be shadowed* on court by a qualified umpire	U11 or below
Learner has completed the above Theory course and passed written assessment and is working toward practical	Learner must have a qualified umpire to watch and provide feedback	U13 or below
Matches for U15 and U17 must be umpired by a qualified C Award (or above) umpire.		
Clubs are to umpire their own teams on the day.		

Swiss Netball believe that once a learner umpire has started on the umpiring pathway, they should be given every opportunity and support to develop their umpiring skills, and we recognise the part that coaches play in facilitating the learning and development process for these umpires.

General comments for qualified umpires supporting a learner umpire

A qualified umpire is required to provide **positive** feedback and encouragement to the learner umpire including achievements made on the day; things to work on or advice on things that may need more attention. A checklist is provided purely as a guide.

TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

Swiss Netball also want to support the development of learner technical officials and provide them with opportunities to gain practical experience.

Whilst acknowledging that public scoreboards may add a degree of pressure to some players, official scoreboards are integral to the game and development of a technical official. Official scoreboards therefore may be used at match play and provided by Swiss Netball on each occasion. Scores will not however be published by Swiss Netball.

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* **Shadowed** - A qualified umpire follows the learner on court, either alongside or behind ie. shadowing whilst providing support and encouragement.

Learner Umpire Name:		Date:	Match observed:
Umpire Name:			
Appearance	COMMENTS		
- Appropriate footwear			
- Appropriate clothing			
- Came with whistle, centre pass band, drink etc.			
Protocols			
- Check nails and jewellery before the game			
Voice and terminology			
- Loud enough to be heard by co-umpire			
- Used correct terminology for infringements			
Use of whistle			
- Loud enough to be heard by co-umpire			
Positioning and movement			
- Start of game			
- After a goal is scored			
- Whilst ball is in shooting circle			
- During play – own half			
- During play – co umpire half			
Observation of rules			
- Footwork			
- Offside			
- Correct centre pass calls (using wristband)			
- Obstruction			
- Contact			
General comments			