|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **HHUA Guidance for Scoring** |  |

Please note that this is a set of guidelines produced primarily for HHUA assessors to deliver consistency and specific feedback to umpires. In the interests of transparency, we want to make it available to everyone!

As a set of guidelines therefore, this information is not a set of ‘rules’ and it is not exhaustive. As umpiring evolves, and this document is used, we expect it to adjust accordingly.

**Assessors:** please ensure you are using this document as a basis for the score awarded at assessment, and the specific feedback given to umpires for where they are performing well and where they should concentrate on improving.

**Developers:** you are welcome to use this document as a prompt for your conversations with umpires about the areas they can work on and how they might demonstrate improvement.

**Umpires:** this document should give you a clearer picture of the standard we would expect demonstrated within the various panels for an umpire competent at that level. Please do use it to consider your own performance in these areas!

Please don’t look at this as a set of boxes to be ticked! There needs to be balance in a performance, which will be down to the Assessor to decide if this has been achieved, and if it hasn’t, to point out specifically why. Remember we are looking for consistent application of the standards in each of the theme areas – so achieving something one time in one match does not necessarily make an umpire competent. Equally, not achieving a particular standard one time in one match does not mean that an umpire is in the wrong panel. Our assessment system works on the basis of several opportunities to demonstrate an above panel performance for promotion.

**Each example indicates what we would expect to see from an umpire performing in the middle of that panel.**

**THEME: Preparation and Fitness**

This includes: Arriving in good time to pair radios, chat with colleague and be mentally ready; ability to keep up with the match tempo from start to end; ability to keep up with play and deal with quick breaks.

**An umpire performing in the middle of the panel:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County 2 Men** | **County 1 Men / County Women** | **Regional 2 Men** | **Regional 1 Men / Regional Women** |
| Arrival at match a minimum of 30 minutes prior to push back ‘ready to umpire’.Pre-match chat with colleague covers the basics such as areas of control, ‘what to do if …’ situations.The two umpires in their preparation look like an umpiring team.Fitness level is good enough to keep up throughout with the tempo of the match and the skill of the teams.Quick / unexpected breaks are able to be covered at the least with a ‘quick trot’. | As for County 2 plus:Pre-match chat also covers likely scenarios to deal with based on location, relevant experience and knowledge at that league level.Pre-match chat includes specific agreement for dealing with e.g. lifted / dangerous balls, ladder of control, obstructions.Quick / unexpected breaks are able to be covered with a sprint, even if arrival in the D is after play has arrived there.Good general movement around the pitch, little ‘static’ watching. | As for County 1 plus:Pre-match chat includes in-match adjustment of areas of control, including dealing with deliberate breakdown of play.Pre-match chat includes ‘Plan A’ and ‘Plan B’ discussions for spotting and adjusting to match tempo changes.Quick / unexpected breaks are covered with a sprint that keeps up with play, meaning arrival in the D should be at the same time as play.Majority movement around the pitch with play. | As for Regional 2 plus:Pre-match chat includes personal development areas.Pre-match chat includes umpire team decision-making such as what a strong whistle in colleague’s 23m area means.Quick / unexpected breaks happen maybe once or twice at the most as umpire positioning adjusted.No obvious signs of extreme fatigue shown at the end of the match. |

**THEME: Decision-making**

This includes: Giving and selling decisions effectively, being in the right place at the right time, anticipation of play.

**An umpire performing in the middle of the panel:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County 2 Men** | **County 1 Men / County Women** | **Regional 2 Men** | **Regional 1 Men / Regional Women** |
| Prepared to make decisions without hesitation.Gives decisions made with confidence, even if sometimes decisions are more reactive than proactive (players have time to appeal).General positioning choices allow a view of the majority of play, although may struggle to be adaptable to changes in team approach.More often than not ahead of attacking play (attacking ‘their’ end). | As for County 2 plus:Decisions beginning to be more proactive than reactive (players don’t feel the need to appeal).Mainly picking up more subtle body and stick obstructions.Recognising (even if not always dealing with) deliberate breakdown of play.Adapting positioning choices to team approach.c. 75% of the time ahead of attacking play. | As for County 1 plus:Sharp whistle timing evident (when advantage not indicated) for high majority of offences.Dealing with high majority of obvious and subtle fouls and deliberate breakdowns appropriately and effectively for the match atmosphere.c. 90% of the time ahead of attacking play. | As for Regional 2 plus:Almost all (if not all) fouls dealt with appropriately and effectively.Proactive decision-making demonstrated (leads to game management and flow & timing) to ensure game is not adversely influenced by umpiring decisions made.Always ahead of attacking play (excepting the odd unexpected quick break). |

**THEME: Game Management**

This includes: Use of management tools: presence / body language, voice, whistle, cards; empathy with players and bench.

**An umpire performing in the middle of the panel:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County 2 Men** | **County 1 Men / County Women** | **Regional 2 Men** | **Regional 1 Men / Regional Women** |
| Umpire is likely to be in ‘directing’ mode (quite forceful and blunt).Basic use of management tools, with possible reliance on voice and cards.Prepared to answer questions from players and bench, although may get drawn into debates.Likely to call captains together during the match to deal with out of hand situations. | As for County 2 plus:Umpire is likely to be in ‘instructing’ mode (quite specific and picky).Understanding and attempting to use body language and whistle tone as well as voice and cards.Attempts to build rapport with teams and show empathy towards player frustrations.Unlikely to call captains together outside of the initial toss-up. | As for County 1 plus:Umpire is likely to be in ‘supporting’ mode (reactive to questions).Consistent use of all management tools, even if specific choices may need adjustment.Good rapport demonstrated with players and bench.Response to and adjustment of management to suit specific in-game situations. | As for Regional 2 plus:Umpire is likely to be in ‘guiding’ mode (pre-empting questions and requirements).Appropriate and effective use of all management tools with good variation of whistle tone.Happy to move up and down ladder of control as required.Ability to spot, diffuse and deal with potentially explosive situations.Cards delivered as an appropriate ‘last resort’ under normal circumstances but are not a surprise to anyone sensible! |

**THEME: Flow and Timing**

This includes: Appropriate use of advantages available, allowing the game to flow, adjusting umpiring to account for changes in game ‘temperature’.

**An umpire performing in the middle of the panel:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County 2 Men** | **County 1 Men / County Women** | **Regional 2 Men** | **Regional 1 Men / Regional Women** |
| Some advantage played, but not always indicated or called.Whistle is the tool used most often to control F&T.Adjustment of advantage played may have been discussed, but not necessarily demonstrated.May be inconsistently picky about ball placement for free hits in all areas of the pitch. | As for County 2 plus:Advantages played, although not always consistently indicated and called.Beginning to talk players through ‘nothing there’ situations with voice.Beginning to ‘shorten’ advantage if game temperature increases.May still make players work ‘too hard’ to win their advantage. | As for County 1 plus:Advantages actively sought and played where possible with good use of both arm and voice.Good voice guidance in ‘nothing there’ situations.Some strategic use of game stoppage opportunities to influence game temperature. | As for Regional 2 plus:95%+ of available advantages called and indicated.Consistent guidance around ‘nothing there’ situations.Consistent appropriate use of game stoppage opportunities including quick self-pass advantages.Good ‘whistle-holds’ shown to see if advantage can develop.Bringing play back appropriately if advantage doesn’t work out.Adjustment of advantage to maintain a steady temperature in the game. |

**THEME: Presentation**

This includes: Showing confidence without arrogance, not imposing self on the game, recovery after mistakes, acting as an umpiring team, appropriate arena umpiring.

**An umpire performing in the middle of the panel:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **County 2 Men** | **County 1 Men / County Women** | **Regional 2 Men** | **Regional 1 Men / Regional Women** |
| Confidence shown under normal playing conditions but may be unsettled by responding to challenges.May respond to challenges with overly long debates, or inappropriate ‘spats’ / ‘retorts’.Some inconsistencies with colleague may show.Mistakes may take a while to ‘unwind’.Warm up with colleague, come together appropriately and at the end of the match.Regular thumbs up used in support.Use of radios to enable quick decisions, but not replace outward communication. | As for County 2 plus:Appropriate response to any challenges e.g. short and clear explanation delivered as a statement, not an invitation to debate. Minimal inconsistencies shown with colleague.Support given for potential decisions such as player numbers for cards.Minor mistakes corrected with good grace.Major mistakes have minimal effect on umpiring performance outside of the mistake itself. | As for County 1 plus:Presence is low-key except when required to step in.Consistent and complementary application of tools and style with colleague.Some arena umpiring being shown (e.g. play on with voice and arms raised). | As for Regional 2 plus:Lots of arena umpiring.Very few / no obvious mistakes that go unrecognised by umpire (i.e. this is not to say none at all, but players/bench do not make a fuss).Any minor mistakes are swiftly dealt with and rectified (such as wrong arm, shortened advantage etc.), does not affect umpire performance or game outcome.Communications are considered from the point of view of their intended wider effect (e.g. a quiet word with a player in passing versus a loud instruction for all to hear). |