



Level One Candidate Assessment Guidance

As a Level 1 Candidate you are being assessed to see whether, given a reasonable time and practice, you will gain the skills outlined below. **We do not expect perfection at this assessment**, of all the skills outlined in your course or outlined below, but the assessor will be asking themselves whether the candidate has sufficient grasp, confidence, and ability to achieve those standards with Coaching and Practice.

There is effectively no Pass or Fail at this assessment; it's simply a question of whether you are Ready or Not Ready. If you do not yet feel ready for the assessment, then it is recommended you ask for Coaching, not Assessment.

When you have been successful in your assessment, what happens after that is wholly down to you and what your aims are for the future and whether you aspire to take Neutral Appointments at higher leagues or whether you wish to remain as a Club Umpire [Club Umpire Assessed]. This decision is not important at this stage; it is something you may wish to think about and take YOUR time in indicating your intentions. Do NOT be hurried by your club or other colleagues.

AT THIS STAGE THE CANDIDATE MUST:

- Be registered with England Hockey as a Club Umpire Unassessed and been given an EH Registration Number
- Be registered on GMS as an umpire. [England Hockey](#)
- Have competed an On-Line Rules Test within the last 2 years
- Completed a Level One Umpire Course with England Hockey within the last 2 years
- Had at least 3 practice games of a competitive nature and suitable level of the games you want to umpire
- Together with your Club Umpire Developer, be satisfied you are ready for an assessment

Key Competencies - Level 1 Umpire

1. Demonstrate an appropriate level of knowledge of the Rules, in particular the safety of players and those affected by the game.
2. Understand the principles of safety, flow, fairness, and impartiality.
3. Understand the importance of correct positioning to assist their colleague, manage players and make accurate decisions, particularly the management of Set Pieces. In short, be in the Right Place, at the Right Time to make Accurate Decisions
4. Understand the basic principles of Clear Communication [signals, whistle, and voice] and how that will affect your umpiring.



Assessment Criteria

1. Preparation and Appearance

Whether you are prepared and given yourself time to get into umpire mode.

- ✓ Do you look like an umpire, have the correct equipment, and do you conduct yourself as an umpire should?
- ✓ Have you met with your colleague and discussed control of that game?
- ✓ Do you have sufficient fitness for the level of game you are umpiring, and the level of alertness required for that level of game?

2. Positioning

Be in the Right Place, at the Right Time to make accurate decisions.

- ✓ In the right place to make the correct decision [1st Offence].
- ✓ Correct positioning to assist your colleague and support their decisions.
- ✓ Right place to see what happened in the build-up to an offence.

3. Communication

Demonstrating clear and effective communication skills with players and other umpire.

- ✓ Getting the best out of your tools [eyes, ears, mouth, whistle, signals, cards].
- ✓ Timely given, correctly applied, and understood by colleague & players – when assisting and leading, maintaining eye contact, rapport etc.

5. Control

Competence in managing the game in partnership with your fellow umpire, demonstrating safety, flow, fairness, and impartiality.

- ✓ Control of your Circle.
- ✓ Control of Danger - recognising danger in the early stages and prevent it developing.
- ✓ Understand the importance of using all the management tools available to you, including whistle tone, upgrading / reversal of penalties, use of warning cards, captains, speed of response, recognition of intent & frustration v dissent, etc.
- ✓ Control the intentional breakdown of the flow of the game and have the confidence to effectively manage that breakdown [example, 5 metre encroachment].