

South Central Officiating Team

Guidance for Club Umpire Developers and Level One Assessor

[L1 Club Umpire Unassessed to L1 Club Assessed]

Version 3 – October 2021

The assessment of a candidate for their Level One umpire award is an activity which must be planned and we are sure the candidate is ready for the assessment before they are nominated by the Club Umpire Developer. The planning of the assessment is also crucial so that sufficient time is available for the Assessor to contact the candidate before the assessment day to discuss how the assessment will be conducted.

It must be remembered that **we do not expect perfection**. The assessor is making a judgement as to whether the candidate shows sufficient confidence and ability. They must be able to demonstrate reasonable control of a game.

Candidate MINIMUM Requirements. The Candidate MUST:

- Be registered with England Hockey as a Club Umpire Unassessed and been given an EH Registration Number
- Be GMS Registered so an appointment for assessment can be made
- Have completed an online Rules Test within the last 2 years
- Complete an online Level One Umpire Course with England Hockey within the last 2 years
- Had at least 3 practice games of a competitive nature at a suitable level for the games the candidate wishes to umpire
- Demonstrate a suitable knowledge and ability so they can have a good stab at being successful on the assessment

Assessment Timetable

- Each Club Umpire Developer is requested to contact, via email, the Area Club Liaison Lead and Level 1 Assessment Manager with details of any umpire they believe they will be putting forward for assessment in the next 3 months [12 weeks]. The communication should identify a target assessment month when you believe the candidate will be assessment ready.
- During the period between the initial notification and the confirmation the candidate is assessment ready, you will be put in touch with a member of the Club Liaison team to support you as Club Umpire Developer, should you need assistance or advice.
- Confirmation when you believe the candidate is assessment ready must then be sent to the Area Lead Developer and Level 1 Assessment Manager that the candidate is ready AT LEAST by the 10th of the month previous for the appointments team to accommodate your assessment need. As much notice time is really important to ensure the candidate is given the best experience possible.
- When you are making the final booking, the following information is of great importance, particularly if the assessor has not had any previous contact with yourselves or the candidate.
 - ✓ Candidate's Name
 - ✓ Candidate's EH Reg Number
 - ✓ Age (under 18 or over 18 is sufficient)
 - ✓ Club
 - ✓ Date of Rules Test Pass
 - ✓ Date of Course Attendance
 - ✓ Dates and comments regarding games they have umpired. What standard the game was etc. At least 3 games please to an acceptable standard. Preferably as close to Grade 4 as possible.

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- ✓ YOUR comments regarding the skills the candidate is currently working on, so they are ready. That will not go against the candidate, it's so we can help you as the Developer to gauge when the right time is for the assessment and then we can set it up.
- The assessor will be required to contact the candidate to discuss the assessment at least 7 days before the assessment.

Assessment Matches

The matches a candidate is to be assessed MUST be a competitive match of a reasonable standard.

Assessment matches must be at least a Grade 4 level or a Junior Cup or Senior Cup level. Matches of a similar level are permitted. If you are in any doubt, contact the Level 1 Assessment Manager for clarification. The assessment of an unassessed umpire is permitted within the league rules provided the umpire on the other side is an experienced Level 1 umpire. Both captains should also be informed the assessment is happening.

The umpire is expected to umpire the whole match.

The Assessor MUST:

1. Be either an England Hockey Accredited Umpire Coach or Assessor for Level One Umpires or be at least an active Level 2 Umpire.
2. Be in full agreement with the principles and standards outlined in this document and the Guidance issued to the Level One Candidate.
3. Be known to the Area Lead Umpire Developer.
4. Agree to use the England Hockey Report Forms should the candidate be successful.
5. Be given sufficient contact details of the candidate so they can make contact before the assessment day.
6. Contact the candidate by the middle of the week leading up to the assessment.
7. Be given sufficient time on the assessment day, to meet with the two umpires before the game to discuss the assessor's involvement, and sufficient time after the game to discuss any coaching points the assessor may wish to share with the candidate.

Assessment Reports – For the Assessor only.

At the time this document is distributed, we are still getting to grips with what the computer systems will or will not allow us to do. This should however not stop us from carrying out assessments and registering the successful candidates with EH.

To ensure there is helpful information and full records for those working with the candidates, could I ask you for the time being to use the EH report form in 2 ways.

The first is when the candidate is awarded their Level 1 and needs registering with EH. We complete the report form and email it to umpiring@englandhockey.co.uk. When you do this, please could you also Ray Hipkin ray@rayhipkin.co.uk into the email so we can ensure the umpire and the Club Developer receives onwards

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support for taking the umpire forward. Ray Hipkin will ensure the form is forwarded on to the other Leads who need to know the outcome.

Should however the candidate be not ready for the level 1 award, could you still please complete the form and send it to Ray Hipkin so he can arrange any assistance that may be needed. Again, Ray Hipkin will forward the information on to the other Leads who need to know the outcome.

Assessment Criteria [as outlined to the candidate in their guidance]:

Remember we do not expect perfection – we are looking for a good attempt to apply the principles.

1. Preparation and Appearance

- Whether the umpire has prepared themselves: made an effort to dress appropriately and given themselves time to get into umpire mode.
- Did they meet with their colleague in good time to discuss control of the game?
- Do they have sufficient fitness for the level of game they are umpiring, and the level of alertness required for that level of game?

2. Positioning

- Making good positional choices to see and deal with offences.
- Making good positional choices to assist their colleague.

3. Communication

- Attempting to use their management and communication tools appropriately (eyes, ears, mouth, whistle, signals, cards).
- Attempting to establish rapport with the players and bench.
- Attempting to operate as an umpiring team, keeping consistency with decisions made.

4. Control

- Did they show willingness to make decisions in their circle and their 23m area?
- Did they show recognition of dangerous play and attempt to deal with it?
- Did they attempt to adjust their use of communication tools in response to how the game was developing? For example, whistle tone variation.
- Did they attempt to deal with intentional breakdowns such as 5m encroachments?

Candidate Feedback

- Please remember, there is no such thing as PASS or FAIL. The candidate is either ready or not ready.
- Where they are ready, we give encouragement and positive tips for further skills development.
- Where they are not ready, we give positive feedback as to what was positive about their umpiring, but also the weak points, making sure we give positive input as to how those weak points can become more positive.