

**Fremantle  
Netball  
Association  
Club Umpire  
Handbook  
2024**



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## Introduction

Umpiring is an integral part of netball, without umpires there would be no game. This handbook has been created as a resource for umpires, aspiring umpires, umpire co-ordinators or anyone who wants to learn more about umpiring and its pathway. It covers many aspects of umpiring and how to get involved and what is expected at Fremantle Netball Association.

Umpiring at FNA is organised and supported by a huge network of hardworking individuals within our community and would not be possible without them.

Our Umpire Development Officer (AUDO) provides support, education, and a pathway for all umpires in the Association. The FNA Umpire Coordinator works alongside the AUDO to provide support and to provide a link with the committee.

The members of the FNA Umpire Committee, who are nominated at each AGM, work behind the scenes to assist in coaching, talent identification, mentoring, delivery of programs and much more.

Each Club has an umpire co-ordinator who supports their Club umpires and rosters umpires onto their own games. Each Club has their own structure and programs that works for them and their Club.

This guide is intended to help Clubs, umpire coordinators and umpires to better understand the structure and processes of umpiring at Fremantle Netball Association.

## Contacts

FNA's Association Umpire Development Officer (AUDO) is the primary contact point for Club umpire coordinators during the season and for umpire development matters. For all other matters, Clubs and their umpire coordinators can contact the FNA Office.

2024 AUDO	Bethan Duffill	<a href="mailto:umpiring@fremantlenetball.com.au">umpiring@fremantlenetball.com.au</a>	0412 284 587
2024 FNA Office	Keryn Rae Kate Bond	<a href="mailto:admin@fremantlenetball.com.au">admin@fremantlenetball.com.au</a> <a href="mailto:registrar@fremantlenetball.com.au">registrar@fremantlenetball.com.au</a>	(08) 9335 3430 0412 186 234

## Role of an Umpire

It is the role of an umpire to ensure a fair and safe game of netball each time they step out onto the court. It is the umpire's responsibility to umpire within the Rules of Netball and umpire to the best of their ability in every game they umpire.

Umpires must be confident, knowledgeable, consistent, fair and fit. It is up to the umpire to ensure they are both mentally and physically ready to umpire the game at hand. Please refer to the Rules of Netball 2024 for all specific umpire roles.



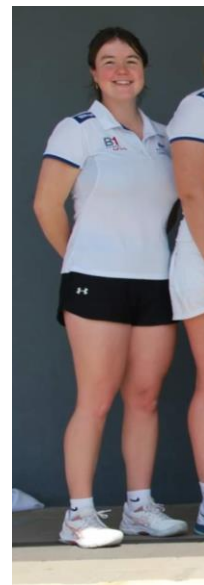
## Dress Code

Club umpire uniform requirements are covered in the FNA **Uniform Policy**, clause 4(c)(i):

*Club umpires are expected to wear suitable attire, including a white umpiring shirt or other designated umpiring uniform. Suitable attire includes:*

- 1) Suitable footwear;*
- 2) Shorts, skirt, or leggings in plain colours.*

Please see photos below for examples of suitably dressed umpires. The AUDO or Association may request that Clubs communicate with one or more of their umpires in relation to suitable umpire attire if it becomes an area of concern.



## Payment Recommendations

FNA has made umpire payment recommendations that we strongly encourage all Clubs to follow, however it is up to each Club to determine how much they pay their umpires. The recommended payments for 2024 are:

<b>Senior matches:</b>	<b>\$35</b>
<b>18U + 16U matches:</b>	<b>\$30</b>
<b>14U and below &amp; NetSetGO matches:</b>	<b>\$25</b>

In addition to the above, FNA recommends an increase of \$5 per badge level for accredited umpires.

Clubs may also consider increasing payments for those umpires who have current accreditations such as the Foundation Umpires Course and a pass mark in the Rules of Netball Theory Exam.

This information is also available on the FNA website:

<https://fremantlenetball.com.au/resources/>

## Umpire Development & Pathway

FNA seeks to provide a clear and comprehensive pathway for umpires at all experience levels and ages, and with clear links into the NWA pathway.

We encourage Clubs to facilitate the development of their umpires whilst FNA provides support and offers many Association-run programs and courses.

In addition to programs run by FNA, Clubs can contact the AUDO at any time and request:

- Umpire coaching for individual umpires;
- Courses to be run at the Club for a group of Club umpires;
- The assessment of an umpire for their Badge;
- The viewing of an umpire during match play to assess their readiness for obtaining their C Badge or being selected into an FNA Program;
- Mentoring of umpire coaches.

### FNA Umpire Talent Identification

Umpire talent identification happens both informally and formally throughout the season with the intention to increase the number of umpires engaging in the pathway. Please refer to the FNA **Umpire Talent Identification Policy** for more information on the process.

## FNA Programs and Workshops

The aim of all programs and courses run at FNA are to increase the knowledge, confidence and capabilities of umpires within the Association. For more information, or to register, please visit the FNA website <https://fremantlenetball.com.au/umpiring-education/>.

### Programs:

#### Junior Umpire Development Program

**Cost: \$105**



The aim of the Junior Umpire Development Program (JUDP) is to support entry level umpires in developing umpiring skills and the confidence to umpire. The program is open to umpires aged between 14 and 17 years in the year the program runs.

Registrations for the JUDP open at the end of each season and prospective participants must attend Representative Team trials through October, November and then successful umpires are invited to trial in February for a place in the program.

The program includes a theory session to discuss the rules of netball and their application, and a practical component that



runs for six weeks during the Winter Competition, during which umpires are coached and supported on games to gain experience and develop their umpiring skills.

#### Adult Umpire Development Program

**Cost: \$60**

The Adult Umpire Development Program (AUDP) is open to anyone over the age of 18 with any level of umpiring experience. Participants can be beginner umpires, be looking to develop existing umpire experience, or seeking to further their umpire accreditation.

Registrations for AUDP open at the start of the season, and applicants are accepted on a first come, first served basis.

The program includes a theory session and a practical component, which runs for four weeks during Rounds 10 to 13. During the practical component, participants will umpire four matches in total, and are coached and supported by FNA umpire coaches.



#### Metro Development Umpire Program

##### Club Nomination/ Invite Program

The Metro development umpire program is run during October and November during the Metro Development Competition where pathway athletes compete against other associations. Clubs are asked to nominate their strongest umpires to be a part of the umpire group who are then allocated to game during the 6-week program. These umpires then receive coaching from experienced FNA Squad and Academy umpires. This program forms part of the FNA pathway where umpires are assessed for readiness to move into the FNA umpire Academy or Squad.

#### FNA Umpire Academy

##### Invite only program



The Umpire Academy is an invite-only program for umpires who have been talent identified by their Clubs or the Association as having the potential to progress through the umpiring pathway.

This year-long program aims to build on the umpire's current skills and knowledge in umpiring, and the application of their knowledge in the context of the game. Academy participants are strongly encouraged to contribute to their Clubs in both an umpiring and an umpire coach or mentor capacity. In 2024 the Umpire Academy is again lucky enough to

have Fremantle Ports as its sponsor for the year.



**Fremantle**  
PORTS



## FNA Umpire Squad

### Invite only program

The FNA Squad is an invite only program for our top performing umpires at the Association. These umpires are usually currently in, or have previously been in, the Netball WA umpire pathway.



Squad umpires engage at the Association through umpiring our top-ranked matches in the Winter Competition, coaching umpires in FNA's development programs and at carnivals, as well as by supporting Club umpires at the Association on match days. They are the friendly faces you see wearing white tracksuit tops.

## Workshops:

**Registration for all workshops will be available via the website closer to each workshop date.**

### School Holiday Umpire Program

**Cost: \$50**

Aimed at school-aged children and beginner-level umpires, this program is a one-day workshop that includes both theoretical and practical components covering the basic rules of netball and umpiring skills and techniques.



There are two School Holiday Umpire Programs being run in 2024:

- Friday 12 April 2024, 8:30am to 12:30pm, at FNA Pilatti Pavilion
- Tuesday 2 July 2024, 8:30am to 12:30pm, at FNA Pilatti Pavilion

Registrations open close to the program dates.

### New Rules Updates:

**Cost: FREE**

Workshops will be F2F and delivered via teams and designed specifically for either umpires or players and coaches. These workshops will cover only the rules that have been updates and clarified in the 2024 update.

- Umpires – Tuesday 12 March 2024, 6-8pm – FNA Pilatti Pavilion + Teams Online
- Players, Coaches, Mangers – Monday 18 March 2024 – FNA Pilatti Pavilion + Teams Online
- Umpires – Monday 8 April 2024, 6-8pm – FNA Pilatti Pavilion + Teams Online
- Players, Coaches, Mangers – Monday 15 April 2024 – FNA Pilatti Pavilion + Teams Online

### Umpire Rules Discussion + Techniques Workshop

#### **Cost: FREE**

Aimed at umpires looking for rule knowledge or to refresh their understanding of the rules, this workshop covers all the rules of netball and discusses how to apply them.

There are one Umpire Rules + Techniques workshops being run in 2024:

- Monday 6 May 2024, 6pm to 8pm, at FNA Pilatti Pavilion

### Game Management Workshops

#### **Cost: FREE**



Aimed at umpires, coaches, and players, this workshop discusses how to manage foul play using the game management rules, managing injury time, and the procedures and protocols of play.

There are two Game Management Workshops being run in 2024:

- Monday 10 June 2024, 6pm to 8pm, at FNA Pilatti Pavilion
- Monday 5 August 2024, 6pm to 8pm, at FNA Pilatti Pavilion

### Coach the Umpire Coach

#### **Cost: FREE**

Aimed at umpire coaches, this workshop focusses on the basic skills of umpire error detection and how to deliver feedback to both beginner and C badge-accredited umpires.

There is one Coach the Umpire Coach workshop being run in 2024:

- Tuesday 27 May 2024, 6pm to 7:30pm, F2F + Online

### Developing Your C Badge

#### **Cost: FREE**

Aimed at C badge umpires, this workshop goes beyond the basics of umpiring and discusses how to take your umpiring to the next level and work toward a B badge.

To participate in this workshop, umpires must have a National C Badge accreditation.

Pre-Requisite: C Badge

There is one Developing Your C Badge workshop being run in 2024:

- Tuesday 17 June 2024, 6pm to 7:30pm, at FNA Pilatti Pavilion





### Rules in Action

**Cost: FREE**

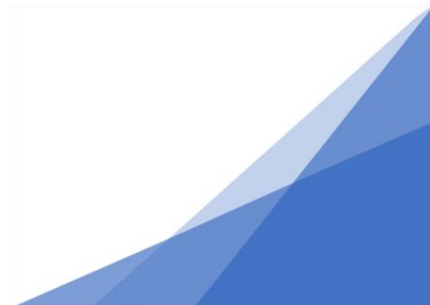
Aimed at badged umpires of any level, this workshop looks at examples of rules in the context of the game and sparks discussion around decision-making.

To participate in this workshop, umpires have a minimum of a National C Badge accreditation.

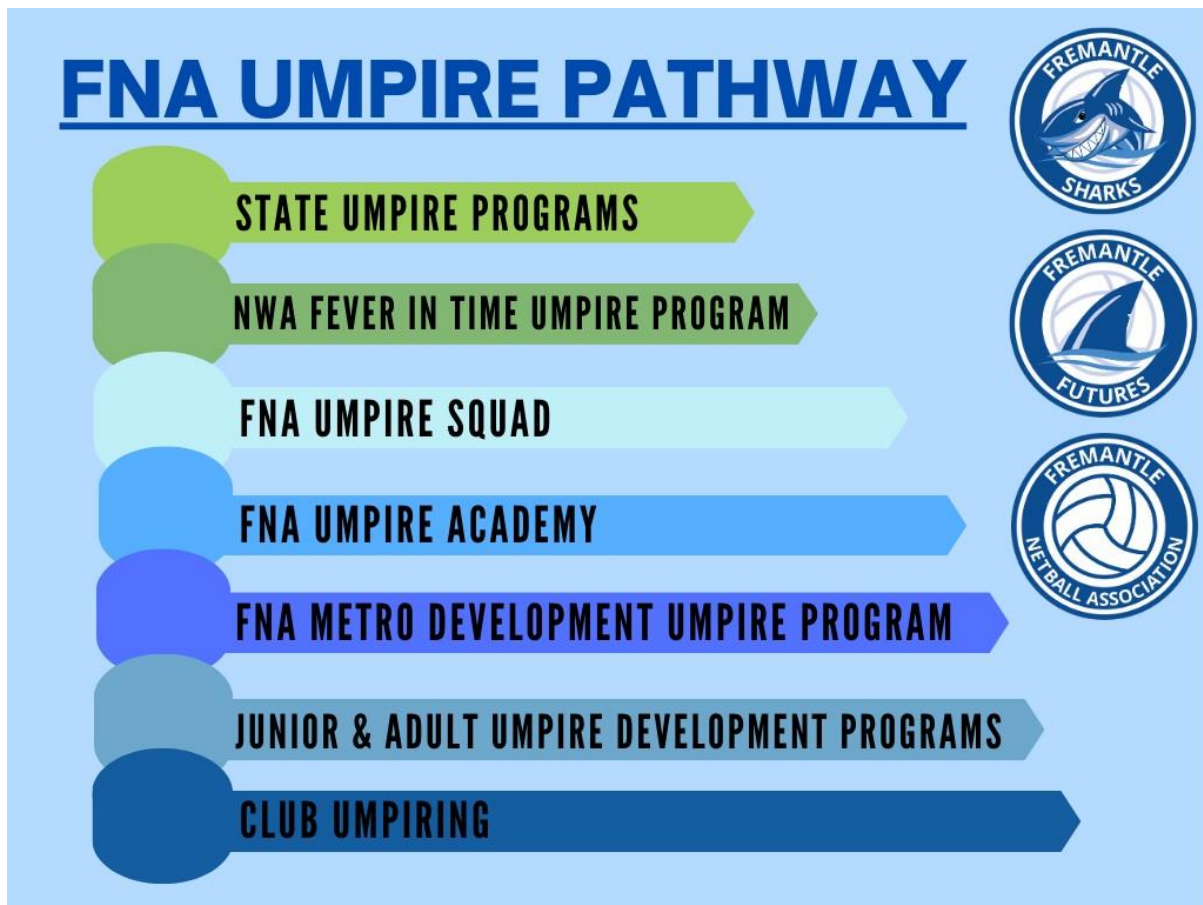
Pre-Requisite: C Badge

There is one Rules in Action workshop being run in 2024:

- Monday 15 July 2024, 6pm to 7:30pm, at FNA Pilatti Pavilion



## FNA Umpire Pathway



## Accreditations/ National Badges

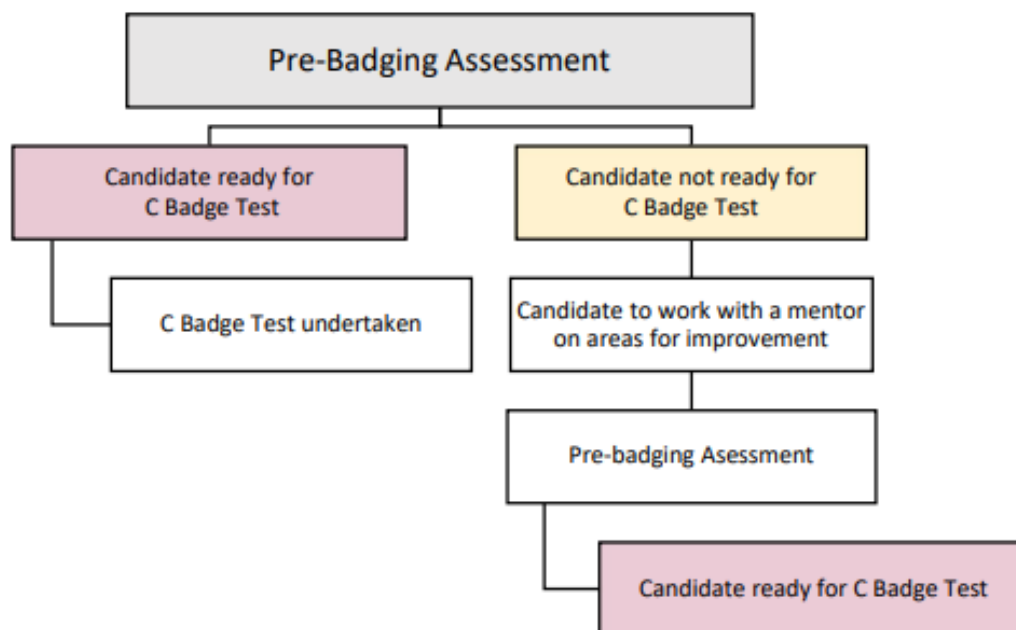
### Obtaining a National Badge

The National Umpire Development Framework (NUDF) details information about obtaining a national badge, pre-requisites and keeping accreditations up to date. This can be found on the Netball Australia website and a direct link can be found in the resources section of this Handbook.

At FNA we have many pathways and processes around obtaining a national badge. If you are a part of a program such as the JUDP, AUDP or Academy, our squad and committee will identify your readiness to be badged as part of this program and you will be put forward for testing when you are ready.

Club umpires are encouraged to communicate with the club umpire co-ordinator that they are eager to develop and receive their badge. The umpire co-ordinator will work with the umpire and/ or get assistance from the AUDO to help achieve this goal. Once a candidate is believed to be ready and all pre-requisites are complete, the Club Umpire Co-ordinator must approach the AUDO. The AUDO will then organise a pre-badging assessment to be completed from a member on the NWA Accredited Testers List. From here the assessors will decide if the candidate is ready for badging or whether the candidate needs further coaching and experience. The AUDO is then responsible for game and badging panel allocation for the C badge test.





National B badges are the highest level of badge able to be awarded at an association on a SA1 or high level SA2 game. FNA offers programs and workshops to assist umpires in building on their C badge and moving towards this level. If you want further information on achieving a B badge, please discuss further with the AUDO or an FNA committee member.

National badges are only valid/ considered up to date for 4 years. To keep your badge relevant, you can either achieve the next badge level or achieve a certain amount of continued education points in this time. This can be done through the Netball Learning System (discussed below) and more information on this can be found on page 13 of the NUDF.

C Badge – 20 points	B Badge – 40 Points
Select the ⌵ arrow button to expand the list.	Select the ⌵ arrow button to expand the list.
<b>Practical Umpiring</b> 10 Hours of practical on court umpiring. This is a mandatory requirement worth 10 points.	<b>Practical Umpiring</b> 20 Hours of practical on court umpiring. This is a mandatory requirement worth 20 points.
<b>Rules of Netball Exam</b> Complete the Rules of Netball Theory Exam – 70% or higher. This is a mandatory requirement worth 5 points.	<b>Rules of Netball Exam</b> Complete the Rules of Netball Theory Exam – 70% or higher. This is a mandatory requirement worth 5 points.
<b>Online Courses or Workshops</b> Complete any approved online courses or attend any Netball Aus or Netball WA workshops or courses. These are worth 5 points each.	<b>Online Courses or Workshops</b> Complete any approved online courses or attend any Netball Aus or Netball WA workshops or courses. These are worth 5–10 points each. 10 Points required from this option.
<b>Reaccreditation</b> If all points are obtained prior to the expiry date, the accreditation will automatically roll over into a new 4 year period.	<b>Reaccreditation</b> If all points are obtained prior to the expiry date, the accreditation will automatically roll over into a new 4 year period.
✓ Complete	

## PlayHQ

All umpires umpiring at Fremantle Netball Association **MUST** be registered on PlayHQ as an "OFFICIAL" with the Club they are umpiring for before they are able to take the court. Even if the umpire is registered as a player, they must also be registered separately as an "OFFICIAL". This is a Netball Australia and Netball WA requirement. Please get in contact with your Club Registrar or President for a registration link. This is free of charge for officials.

## Netball Learning System:

The Netball Learning System is the home of all umpire education, training and accreditations. It is here you can find and complete the Rules of Netball Theory Exam and Foundation Umpires Course as well as enrol in badging assessments and keep accreditations up to date.

The learning system can be accessed here:

<https://learning.netball.com.au/totara/dashboard/>

If My Netball has previously been used, be sure not to create a new account, instead use the previous My Netball email and click "Forgot Password" and follow prompts to enter the account. This will mean all previous accreditations will transfer over.

## Dealing with Difficult Situations

At FNA we have a zero tolerance for any poor/ inappropriate behaviour on or off the court and are here to support umpires in dealing with any difficult situations that may arise.

As an umpire:

It is important umpires do their part to prevent these situations and attend workshops such as rules discussions and game management workshops that are offered for free by FNA. It is also important umpires familiarise themselves with the "Foul Play" and the "Actions taken by umpires" section of the Rule Book.

If on court umpires are having difficulty managing poor behaviour, look for a white or blue tracksuit. Call us over and we will be there to assist. If we cannot be found, look for a friendly face and ask them to come to the office and ask us to come up to the court.

As a coach or player:

All concerns regarding umpires or unsportspersonlike behaviour happening on court must come directly from the coach or team manager. Please ensure when asking for assistance you tell us your team and what the exact concern is so we can help as quickly as we can when we get to the court.

Match Feedback Form:

If after the game, as an umpire, player or coach you have concerns about any unsportpersonship behaviour that took place during the game please come and talk to and official representative of FNA. If you do not feel comfortable doing this or wish to bring attention to your concerns in retrospect, please fill out this google docs form.

<https://forms.gle/6fYs8w776csZ6Lau9>



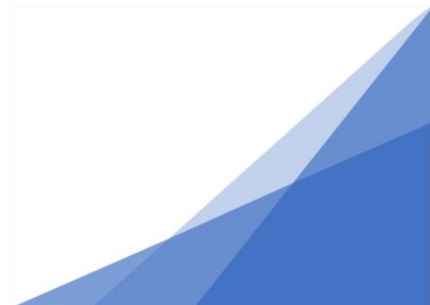


This form is monitored by our AUDO and FNA Office Staff and while all reports will be recorded and considered for further action where appropriate, individuals will not receive a response or feedback on any action taken. Not all reports may be actioned if not deemed appropriate.

## Umpire Injury

As part of PlayHQ registration (as mentioned above), you can claim for any injuries obtained through umpiring you can claim for through insurance. If you injure yourself while umpiring at Fremantle Netball Association, please attend first aid immediately – if you do not attend first aid you cannot claim insurance. Please then use this link and follow the instructions to fill out the insurance forms.

Information can also be found on the FNA website. <https://wa.netball.com.au/insurance>



## Additional Resources

FNA Courses: <https://fremantlenetball.com.au/umpiring-education/>

NUDF: <https://netball.com.au/sites/default/files/2022-05/National-Umpire-Development-Framework-Update-May-2022.pdf>

Badge Competencies: [https://netball.com.au/sites/default/files/2019-06/2017-Updated-Badge-Competencies\\_29112017.pdf](https://netball.com.au/sites/default/files/2019-06/2017-Updated-Badge-Competencies_29112017.pdf)

Umpiring Accreditation info: <https://netball.com.au/umpiring-accreditation>

Rules of Netball: [https://netball.sport/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/10214\\_WN\\_NETBALL-RULE-BOOK-MANUAL-2023-v13-RGB-HR.pdf](https://netball.sport/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/10214_WN_NETBALL-RULE-BOOK-MANUAL-2023-v13-RGB-HR.pdf)

FNA Policies: <https://fremantlenetball.com.au/policies/>

Netball Learning System: <https://learning.netball.com.au/login/index.php>

