Officiating Update March 2014

Items following EN conference call 4.3.14

Assessing

EN is still in the process of developing a procedure on how someone becomes an Umpiring Assessor

This is not going to be available until 2015.

So there will be an interim process put in place for September 2014 for those that could not reaccredit in 2013

Or for new assessors to become approved.

They will still need to hold the B award and then attend an assessing workshop and go onto successfully shadow two actual C award umpiring assessments.

Beginner/Youth Umpire awards.

Both are EN umpiring awards, and they are looking at combining them into one.

Reasoning behind that, is both awards are very similar in content Beginner award need new updated resources

Whereas YUA has very good up to date one.

So by combing both as one makes sense. There was a lot of discussion on this which I won’t go into but will

No doubt get questions on from you all, so will answer them as they come in.

I did air the view that having the title “Beginner award” was not the best, as it puts some off of wanting to do it as will having “Youth” in the title. So EN is open to any sensible suggestions for what to call the new award. I will be putting forward “First Step” and “Foundation” Officiating Award if you have ideas please share it.

Match Bench Officials Award

New updated resources still in development due September 2014. I pointed out that I have had to put

Proposed courses on hold for too long already, so Regions have been invited to get involved with the pilot

Course project which we will be asking to join in with.

Officiating Pathway

We were advised that anyone taking the C award assessment should have attended a C award course.

And anyone that has gained the YUA will need to do so which they had not in the past.

INF Rules Interpretation

After much discussion it was agreed that guidance relating to “Game Management” is not to be given until

The present Superleague season has finished. I will send you the EN guidance when we finally get it ASAP.

Tutors are to be sent information on how to adapt presentation of course in the interim time.

There is guidance on Penalty Set with Player Substitution which I will attach with this update.

Landscape Review

EN implementation of updating grassroots officiating so we will be getting questionnaires re several topics,

Once collated there will be an EN chaired meeting in the region.

C level written paper

Discussion over feedback from assessors administering C award written paper in particular to the questions

Relating to photographic images for hand signals.

It was pointed out that the award structure is not owned by EN but NFEA. The findings would be forwarded onto EFNA but they are not due for review t0 2015 so it’s unlikely we will see changes before that.

Age limits

There was a lengthy discussion on this and to how with the updated duty of care policy impacted on this

The upshot is the proposed guidance from EN will be subject to further review before being issued.

This will however be on the existing guidelines that no one under the age of 16 should umpire adult netball

And those that are 16\17 that do should have appropriate support courtside while they do.

Regional Topics to be considered

B Award assessing

I have had several emails regarding this over the last few weeks that I hope we will be able to resolve or come with a strategy that will resolve this in the long term.

Firstly I think everyone should know the criteria that needs in place to enable a B assessment to take place.

1 Suitable standard of game historically we use Avon Premier League or RL2 and now RL3

2 Indoor venue suitable for assessment (room and table officials)

2 Candidates not allowed to be assessed in their own county

3 Two Assessors not from same counties as candidates one must be an A award

4 Two candidates and preferable a reserve that have

Currently passed B written assessment, been on B award course within two years of application, Recorded suitable number of games of adequate standard in their log book and finally reached required level in a Multi Stage Fitness test within six weeks of assessment.

All of this although somewhat problematic is in place to ensure standards are meet and maintained and the candidates are best placed to gain the award.

What is becoming apparent is that with the current seasonal plans we have in place that candidates are getting along the pathway to applying for assessment at the end of the season when opportunities to assess them on a suitable game are decreasing.

So are there suitable games out there in what would be counties summer leagues if they have them? If not candidates that apply in April or later will not be able to be assessed until September.

Umpire Fitness Testing.

We are experiencing a problem with umpires that are actively umpiring in the regional league structure that are not or at least not notifying the league that they have reached an adequate level on the Multi Stage Fitness Test in September and January.

This requirement is there for obvious reason. At present non compliance is not punishable but its fast becoming a situation where it will.

TID process

At present we have the TYUP/TUP programmes in place with lessening success.

I would like to improve this but will need your input to do so.

Opportunities for developing umpires a scares and I try to give what opportunities that are available to those that are furthest along the pathway to achieving the next level they are going for. With the main group being B umpires working to A award. They get the NPL opportunities and anything else that comes along.

This is an area where I could do with your input so thinking caps on please.

Education & Training Working Group

This Group is responsible for a lot of what goes on with Officiating and to a lesser degree Coaching in the region. At present Sarah Weston, Pat Haden and I are the officiating representatives on the group. The group try to hold CCS/CUS meeting throughout the season to bring you all up-to-date. Not an easy task so I would like some input here as well on how you all think we can improve this.

Danny Neill