

Redbacks Umpiring Development Information

My name is Jodie Henley, and I am the Umpire Coordinator for Redbacks Netball Club.

As an umpire, you will learn and grow through practicing and personal experience during games.

It is important as a club, that Redbacks Netball Club provides training, assistance and guidance to all netballers, coaches and umpires to enhance their growth and understanding within their role.

As the Redbacks Umpiring Coordinator I intend to:

- Provide an easy format of guidance to you during games and answer any queries you may have
- Assist in actively promoting the code of conduct to spectators, before, during or after the game
- Observe and match you to game levels which we believe you are able to umpire
- Get feedback from you to how you think you went during the games so I can assist with any issues you may have

As an identified Umpire I ask that:

- You arrive at games 10-5 minutes prior to starting time prepared
- You can discuss and identify times which you are able to umpire, or a particular grade preferred
- If you are not able to umpire on any date, I am provided this information in advance
- If you have been rostered for a game, that you cannot do, you let me know as soon as possible so a replacement or alternative time can be identified.
- If you are having any issues that you come and let me know, so that we can try to rectify or work them out.

The information below is to assist in knowing the requirements of an umpire.

Umpiring Uniform:

As an umpire it is important that you are identified by the coaches and umpire from the other team. It is an MDNA requirement that skirts and shorts are worn.

Top: White shirt

Bottom: Redbacks Netball skirt, white netball skirt, white shorts

Other items: Hat, sunscreen

Equipment required to umpiring:

- Whistle
- Hair tie for change of centre pass
- Hat

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Even though people are at different levels of umpiring, the items identified below are where we would aim for all of our umpires to be after a certain level of training and assistance.

As an umpire it is important that you practice:

Communication:

Effective use of your voice, whistle, hand signals and terminology during games

- **Voice:** Firm, decisive and loud enough that all players understand your directions and they are able to hear you
- **Whistle:** Metal hand held whistle – blowing for a crisp and clear sound
- **Hand Signals:** used consistently and correctly
- **Terminology:** correct and efficient reflecting the rule book terms
- **Manner:** Firm, confident and pleasant

Positioning on the court:

Generally in positions level with, or slightly ahead of play (we can practice this).

- Re-adjust positions quickly when play direction changes
- Ability to learn and read play
- Times movement in and out of goal area appropriately
- Moves along sideline to clearly see play and is able to give accurate decisions

Fitness:

All umpires, just like players need to have the ability to move up and down the court with the speed of the game as well as maintain concentration.

Assessment:

During the season informal assessments will be done to ascertain your levels of umpiring skills, and recommendations will be provided to you in relation to the level of games to umpire.

I believe that there is no such thing as a silly questions, so if you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, I am more than happy to answer and assist.

You can contact me on:

Email: jodesterroadster@gmail.com

My contact number is: 0417231332

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Umpires Checklist – What to check before the game

Being prepared, and knowing what to check for is important before a game. It is also about the health and safety of the players on the courts, as well as you and the other umpire.

Equipment:

- Post pads are on the goal posts
- Court is free from bark, rocks and other debris
- Whistle, hair tie, drink bottle

Prior to teams taking the court:

- That nails of players are cut to the appropriate levels
- No plastic head bands, or hard hair items are worn
- You have met with the other umpire and decided on which side you are umpiring
- Ask spectators to move back from the solid court area and that anyone between the courts – unless on a grassed area, moves from that area. (Unless they are a coach/scorer)
- Coin toss between captains, and notify the scorers of who has centre pass, and place your hair band on the appropriate hand.

During the game:

- At each break, meet and discuss the game with the other umpire
- Ensure to keep hydrated and have a drink when possible
- Check that you and the other umpire have the same centre pass. If you are not sure, check with the scorer
- If at any point you need assistance, do not hesitate to let someone know.

After the game:

- Thanks the other umpire
- Sign the score card
- Thank both teams and coaches
- Remind the captains of the teams to sign the score card
- Take a big breath, as I am sure you have done a great job.