



Gerringong Netball Club Inc. Umpiring Policy

Gerringong Netball Club (GNC) is committed to providing appropriately trained and supported umpires to officiate games at Kiama Netball Association (KNA) and associated carnivals. This policy outlines the standards, expectations, and responsibilities for umpires and Gerringong Netball Club. It ensures consistency, fairness, safety, and a positive sporting experience for umpires, players, coaches, and spectators.

Aims:

To provide umpires that are:

- Player-centered: Supporting safe, enjoyable participation for all players.
- Fair and neutral: Officiating games impartially and based solely on the rules of netball.
- Development-focused: Supported to learn, grow, and progress through clear guidance and constructive feedback.
- Professional: All interactions reflect the values of the Club, Netball NSW, and the wider community.

Registration process:

GNC encourages club members including playing and non-playing club members to register their interest in umpiring as part of the registration process through PlayHQ or via contact with the club or umpire's coordinator.

Non-playing umpires are required to be registered as a volunteer with GNC through PlayHQ.

Minimum requirements to Umpire:

GNC has minimum requirements for umpires to preserve the quality of umpiring within the club. Minimum requirements for umpires to officiate a game are:

- Minimum 70% pass on Rules of Netball Exam
- Completion of Foundation Umpire Education Course (Netball Australia)
- For competitive age groups (Juniors and above), umpires should be working towards or holding a Level or C Badge Accreditation

Fees for the Rules of Netball Exam (\$13) and Foundation Umpire Course (\$50) will be reimbursed by GNC for the 2026 season.

Unbadged umpires will be supported throughout the season by club umpire mentors with a minimum National C Badge.

**Game Day Requirements:**

- Wear appropriate clothing – see Uniform Requirements below
- Be prepared – hair tied back, have a good whistle and something to keep track of the centre passes (hair tie)
- Sign on at KNA clubhouse
- Arrive at the court 10 - 15 minutes prior to the schedule start time of the game
- Introduce yourself to the other umpire – and agree which side you will umpire
- Check the court and equipment – and ensure that the goal post protectors are in place
- Check the players' uniforms, jewellery, fingernails and adornments
- Ask for the captain from both teams to come forward and conduct a toss to decide which team is going to have the first centre pass and in which directions the teams will stand at the start of the game
- Advise the scorer which team is having the first centre pass
- Demonstrate calm, confident, and consistent decision-making
- Communicate respectfully with players, coaches, and fellow umpires
- Avoid coaching players during play; only brief clarifications are permitted
- Refrain from using mobile phones during game time

Adult Supervision:

Adult supervision is recommended for all umpires 14 years and younger. A parent, coach or trusted adult is expected to be courtside to support junior umpires if a club mentor is not allocated.

The role of the supervisor is to:

- Provide support in the event of a courtside issue
- Seek support from KNA officials if required
- Provide emotional support and encouragement.

Rostering:

The Club's Umpire Coordinator is responsible for the rostering of all umpires for Junior, Intermediate & Cadet games. The Club's Umpire Coordinator will roster Senior umpires pending the availability of umpires for Senior timeslots. If the Umpire Coordinator is unable to source an umpire for a Seniors allocation, the team will be responsible for providing an umpire for their allocation.

Umpires will be rostered based on their availability, ability, experience and qualifications. Junior umpires will be rostered on games that suit their competency and where a mentor is available, they will assist with the development of the umpire to higher ages/divisions.

Umpires are allocated games after the release of fixtures and allocations from KNA. The following factors will be considered to determine the appropriate umpire:

- Availability of games
- Number of GNC games in each timeslot
- Maximum game requirements as per KNA By-Laws
- Appropriate rest times



- Difficulty & demand of games
- Skill level of umpires

Umpires are required to confirm their availability for their allocated game or make any requested changes as soon as possible after notification (preferably within 24 hour) of games to the Umpires Coordinator.

Where necessary, the Umpires Coordinator may actively source an umpire from outside the club if they determine the needs of the game would be best served by an umpire external to the club.

Uniform Requirements:

Umpires must be dressed in a white shirt in conjunction with the below as per the KNA guidelines:

- White, black or navy skirt or shorts
- White, black or navy pants
- Club uniform underneath

Payments:

In recognition of the important contribution umpires make to GNC, umpires will be paid for the games they umpire on behalf of the club. Payment to umpires is based on their level as follows:

C Badge or higher - \$30

Level 2 - \$25

Level 1 - \$20

Level 0 - \$10

Mentoring - \$15

Payments will be made via bank transfer fortnightly following the confirmation of games umpired with KNA. The Umpire Coordinator or another committee member will confirm games umpired with KNA on game day or as soon as possible following game day to enable prompt payment.

The club reviews pay rates per game annually in line with KNA's recommendations and the clubs fees at the discretion of the committee.

Umpire Resources and Development:

GNC will advise umpires of upskilling opportunities such as workshops and development opportunities through Netball Australia, Netball NSW and KNA. This includes development opportunities at gala days, carnivals and other events. Those willing to seek further hands-on training are encouraged to attend club training sessions where game play will occur.

GNC supports the learning and continual development of umpires. The club may reimburse some, or all, costs relating to umpire development courses and workshops at the discretion of the committee.



Umpire Development Pathway:

GNC has an umpire development pathway and action plan aligned with KNA and Netball NSW/Netball Australia.

The umpire development action plan is as follows:

1. Registration in PlayHQ (as an official, volunteer or player)
2. Read the [World-Netball-Rules-Book-2024.pdf](#)
3. Completion of online Rules of Netball Theory Exam
4. Completion of online Foundation Umpires Course
5. Allocation of GNC games with Mentor
6. Progression through KNA Umpire Levels 1 & 2 with Mentor assistance as outlined in the KNA By-Laws
 - a. Level 1 – Association Beginner Level 1 – Assessed by 2 experienced umpires from GNC or other club in line with the Level 1 Criteria
 - b. Level 2 – Association Level – Assessed by 1 Club umpire & 1 KNA Umpires Committee Member in line with the Level 2 Criteria
7. Optional – Assessment for National C Badge
8. Optional – Umpiring at Representative carnivals and tournaments
9. Continual learning through KNA & Netball Australia workshops and online learning
10. Optional – Assessment for National B Badge and above in conjunction with Netball NSW