

## **Procedure for Appointment of Officials to Ranking Matches**

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### **Rationale**

A system of ranking the senior teams of member countries that play regular international test matches in Netball was established in 2008 (details may be found on the World Netball web site). This provides a gauge as to the relative performances of teams at any time as well as up to date information for seedings for the draw at World Netball competitions.

World Netball's vision is to be a sport that is open to all and inspires netballers to embrace opportunities and achieve their potential, with international play being an important component of the strategy. Matches between the senior teams of member countries may be used for rankings purposes. Because of the importance of the results of such matches, the standard of officiating must be appropriate to the standard of play. Neutral umpires are appointed to reduce the perception of biases. World Netball supports the decision to maintain neutrality as a key contributor to the performance outcome for players, coaches, and umpires. Neutrality promotes transparency and lessens umpires of the pressure associated with partisan supporters which may impact their performance. It also contributes to a positive mental approach by players enabling them to perform uninhibited to their full potential. Detailed information about Deployment of Umpires and Umpires Appointment Panel (UAP) is available separately.

### **Procedure**

#### **STEP 1 Request for Umpires and UAP**

- 1.1 Host countries must make an application to World Netball for matches to be used for rankings, and umpire and UAP appointments using the attached form, which should be submitted in World Netball netWorld. This should be made not less than 4 months before the event while an advance notice of 6 months is requested where possible.
- 1.2 'Urgent applications' (i.e., those made less than 4 months before the event) will be considered but appointments may not be possible. If International Umpire Awardees (IUAs) are not available, International Talent Identified Umpires (ITIDs) will be considered for appointment.
- 1.3 Applications will not be considered for events less than one month away.

#### **STEP 2 Guidelines for Appointments**

- 2.1 All umpires (including reserves) appointed to ranking matches must be neutral.
- 2.2 All umpires (including reserves) must be available for all matches at an event.
- 2.3 For matches between teams ranked 1 to 10, match umpires should hold the International Netball Umpire-Award (INUA) or be scheduled to take an INUA test. ITIDs could be considered for matches between teams ranked 6 to 10 for development purposes.
- 2.4 For matches between teams ranked 11 to 20, match umpires should either hold the INUA or be an ITID.
- 2.5 For other matches, World Netball may specify any requirements that should apply.

STEP 3 Appointment of Umpires and UAP

- 3.1 Upon receipt of an application the International Officiating Manager (IOM) issues a notification as per the World Netball Officials Appointments - Selecting umpires for international events and World Netball Officials Appointments - Selecting UAP for international events, to enable identification of which umpires and which members of the ITP and/or ITP Cadet will be recommended for an event.
- 3.2 Umpires and UAP will be invited, from those recommended, preferably at least 3 months before the event.
- 3.3 World Netball will issue invitations to umpires who must confirm their acceptance within 10 working days (this includes listing on the current World Netball 'Fit to Umpire' register).
- 3.4 World Netball will advise the names of the umpires and UAP to their home (and residential) countries at the time they are invited.
- 3.5 World Netball will advise the names of the umpires and UAP to the host country and confirm these with their home (and residential) countries, once they have all confirmed their acceptance. Participating countries, OC, ITP, and ITP Cadets (who are not active IUAs) will also be notified of all the appointments.
- 3.6 The UAP will assess and, where appropriate, coach on umpires' performances during the appointment as per the World Netball Procedure for the Coaching of Umpires on Ranking Matches.



## INTERNATIONAL UMPIRE AND UAP REQUEST FORM

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requests World Netball (WN) to appoint International Umpires and UAP to the following international match:

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For confidential events, please let World Netball know what date they can add the event to the calendar:

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Participants ..... -V- .....

Date of Match(es): .....

Time of Match(es): .....

Date Umpires required: .....

Venue: .....

Are there any other events in which the umpires would be expected to participate or invited to attend?

Yes / No (Please delete as appropriate and if "yes" detail below)

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Please attach safeguard guidelines for umpires and UAP that are being appointed to the event.

It is understood that the participating countries will share all the umpires' expenses associated with officiating at the above match(es).

Will this fixture be played according to World Netball rules as an official rankings fixture?

Yes/No (Please delete as appropriate)

World Netball will approve the ranking status of this fixture upon appointing the umpires.

Results must be submitted within two weeks of the fixture taking place to [info@worldnetball.sport](mailto:info@worldnetball.sport) for the fixture to count in the ranking system.

World Netball will look to appoint the most suitably qualified officials as umpires and UAP but should you have specific requests to consider please provide them here:

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For and on behalf of

..... (Name of Netball Association/Region)

Signed: ..... Position: .....

Date.....

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