

1. INTRODUCTION, SCOPE AND APPLICATION

- 1.1 This Code of Conduct for International Umpires will take effect from 1st November 2023 and may be amended from time to time by the Board.
- 1.2 This Code of Conduct for International Umpires applies to and binds all Umpires and Umpire Support Personnel (collectively, the **Participants**), each of whom is deemed to have agreed to be bound by and to comply with its terms.
- 1.3 If a Participant ceases to be bound by this Code of Conduct for International Umpires, such Participant will nevertheless remain subject to this Code of Conduct for International Umpires in respect of any matters arising prior to that cessation.
- 1.4 Capitalised terms in this Code of Conduct for International Umpires will have the meanings given to them in the Appendix. Unless the context otherwise requires, words denoting any one gender include all other genders, and words denoting the singular include the plural and vice versa; words importing persons will include associations, federations, corporations and other organisations whether incorporated or unincorporated.
- 1.5 This Code of Conduct for International Umpires and any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with it (including non-contractual disputes and claims) will be governed by and construed in accordance with English law. Any potential breach of this Code of Conduct for International Umpires will be investigated in accordance with the WN Disciplinary and Dispute Resolution Regulations (as amended from time to time), and any alleged breach of this Code of Conduct for International Umpires will be pursued under such regulations. Subject strictly thereto, any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with this Code of Conduct for International Umpires will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 2.1 Each Participant must:
 - (a) comply with the obligations imposed on them by the WN Memorandum and Articles of Association, WN Regulations, the WN Code of Conduct and the WN Code of Ethics and Anti-Corruption;
 - (b) conduct themselves, at all times, in accordance with the highest standards of professional, disciplined and sporting behaviour and should avoid any action that discredits WN or the sport of Netball;
 - (c) not commit any acts of misconduct i.e. any conduct, behaviour, statements (including, without limitation, statements made on social networking platforms or sites such as Twitter and Facebook, or similar) or practices, on or off the court, that are unsporting and/or insulting and/or contrary to the integrity of the sport of Netball and/or that bring or have the potential to bring the sport of Netball, an

International Event, a Regional Federation or Member, a match official, WN and/or any sponsor or other commercial partner of WN into disrepute;

- (d) not engage in any conduct (whether through the use of language, gestures or otherwise) that is likely to abuse, offend, insult, humiliate, intimidate, threaten, disparage or vilify any player, team official, match official, tournament official, host country official or spectator, whether on or off the court;
- (e) not commit any acts or make any statements that are discriminatory by reason of colour, disability, ethnic origin, nationality, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation;
- (f) be a positive role model (including for other umpires) on and off court, both in behaviour and personal appearance, and act with courtesy and consideration towards all those with whom they come into contact during the course of carrying out their duties and responsibilities; and
- (g) not make any public pronouncement or media comment that brings or has the potential to bring the sport of Netball, an International Event, a Regional Federation or Member, a match official, WN and/or any sponsor or other commercial partner of WN into disrepute, or that is detrimental to relations between National Associations, Regional Federations and WN.

2.2 In addition, each Umpire must:

- (a) have (and maintain) a comprehensive, up-to-date knowledge and understanding of the official rules of the game of Netball (and their correct interpretation and application), along with any related protocols and procedures;
- (b) exercise reasonable care and skill in enforcing the official rules of the game of Netball, to apply them fairly and to effect control of the game to ensure the safety of the players;
- (c) at all times umpire accurately, consistently, independently and with complete impartiality, applying sound judgement in the proper implementation of the appropriate penalties and/or disciplinary sanctions to all players and team officials, including in respect of any matters not covered by the rules of the game and any conduct that is contrary to the spirit of the game;
- (d) maintain a total focus throughout each match to which they are appointed, and not be distracted by any external influences;
- (e) remember that they are the controllers of the match; their decisions should be fair and firm and should not be influenced by players, team officials or spectators;
- (f) maintain a standard of physical and mental fitness which enables them to control, both effectively and efficiently, the matches to which they are appointed;

- (g) wear appropriate clothing (including any specified for the event) when on-court;
- (h) not umpire whilst under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and must abstain from consuming alcoholic drinks or smoking at the event venue and whilst officiating;
- (i) exercise self-control at all times and not engage in any actions that could be seen to compromise their independence or impartiality;
- (j) work together with other umpires, match officials and tournament officials in a constructive, cooperative and collegial manner, including being courteous, respectful and open to discussion and interaction; and
- (k) seek continual self-improvement by ensuring that their high standards of umpiring competence (defined in terms of the quality of their technical knowledge and understanding, practical skills, and the ability to apply those attributes in matches) are maintained through study, performance appraisal and regular updating of competencies;

2.3 It is acknowledged that, in addition to this Code of Conduct for International Umpires, Participants may also be subject to separate regulations of National Associations and/or Regional Federations, and that the same circumstances may engage not only this Code of Conduct for International Umpires but also such other regulations. For the avoidance of doubt, this Code of Conduct for International Umpires is not intended to limit the responsibilities of any Participant under such other regulations, and nothing in such other regulations will be capable of limiting a Participant's responsibilities under this Code of Conduct for International Umpires.

**APPENDIX
DEFINITIONS**

Articles mean the Articles of Association of WN, as amended from time to time.

Board means the board of directors of WN, elected or appointed pursuant to the Articles.

Code of Conduct for International Umpires means this code of conduct, as amended from time to time.

International Event means a duly-sanctioned match, competition or event contested by national representative teams or by teams under the jurisdiction of different National Associations or by teams representing different Regional Federations.

International Umpire means an Umpire appointed in respect of any International Event.

Memorandum means the Memorandum of Association of WN, as amended from time to time.

National Association means a national governing body of Netball that has been admitted as a member of WN in accordance with the Articles.

Netball means the sport of netball and other derivatives of the game as determined by the Board from time to time.

Participant has the meaning given to that term in clause 1.2.

Regional Federation means a regional federation established in accordance with the Articles.

Regulations means any rules, regulations, codes or policies made by or on behalf of WN, as amended from time to time.

Umpire Support Personnel means any member of the umpires appointment panel, assessor, umpire coach/tutor, umpire manager or umpire mentor appointed in respect of any International Event, or any other person working with or assisting an umpire at an International Event.

WN means World Netball, the trading name of International Netball Federation Limited.