



## UMPIRE SUPPORT SCHEME POLICY

WCNL are keen to encourage and support newly qualified umpires. Umpires who pass their IO qualification can be at very different levels of experience, it is essential as a league we support those umpires and place them in divisions they feel comfortable to umpire in so they can gain the necessary experience and confidence they need. It is also essential we support them in understanding the local WCNL rules which differ to EN rules.

This policy is written to support rule 5 of the WCNL – qualified umpires must be experienced enough to umpire in the division their team is placed in.

### Umpire Support Scheme Policy - Process

As of September 2021, in order to ensure newly qualified umpires are umpiring in the correct division for their experience, WCNL Umpiring Secretary will arrange for all newly qualified IO umpires, to be assessed to umpire in the WCNL. It is acknowledged umpires have passed their umpiring qualification; the league assessment is designed to help guide newly qualified umpires and place them into the correct division matched to their current levels of experience.

WCNL will also ensure all newly qualified umpires have an umpiring supporter, who will be an experience qualified umpire, to guide and support the start of their umpiring journey.

Umpires who have recently passed their 'C' award have probably been umpiring for many years, whilst the scheme above is essential for IO umpires, it is very much available to 'C' award umpires however is optional.

As soon as an umpire passes their IO qualification, they must contact the WCNL Umpiring Secretary ([umpiringwcnl@gmail.com](mailto:umpiringwcnl@gmail.com)) – they are not permitted to umpire in the WCNL until the league assessment has taken place. As soon as is possible, the Umpiring Secretary will arrange for an assessment to take place.

Following this, the league will advise which division the umpire can umpire up to based on their current experience and they will assign them an umpiring buddy who will be their first port of call with any umpiring queries.