

1. *Introduction*

A handover was not possible for me taking over the officiating role in October 2020. Paperwork is secure but not currently accessible as it is in my office at Bournemouth University.

2. *England Netball (EN) Updates*

Netball resumed from 29/03/2021 and continues to be played according to the amended rules of the game. The modified netball game rules, in place as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, will be removed on **21/06/2021** if the government continue with the planned lifting of restrictions and EN are recommending that is when the assessment pathway is restarted.

Vicki McQuaid (EN) issued an update into officiating on 12th April and I obtained the relevant attachments on 5th May – here is a summary:-

INTO OFFICIATING

- the normal course expiry date from course attendance (24 months) has been extended by **22 months** due to the coronavirus pandemic
- INTO award normally expires within 4 years and any that expire between **16/03/2020** and **31/08/2021** are extended by 22 months

C, B and A AWARD

- The normal written pass expiry date is 24 months. Any written award pass due to expire on or after **16/03/2020** is extended by **22 months**
- Those who successfully gain their written award between **16/03/2020** and before **01/09/2021** will be extended by **22 months**
- A/B written assessments will commence from **03/07/2021**

EN hosted a zoom meeting update on officiating on 28th April 2021, here is a summary of notes:-

INTO OFFICIATING

- Competencies updated and online course available from **May 2021**

C AWARD

- Online C award course to be launched in **June 2021**
- Online written assessment piloted in 3 counties with a 90% pass rate in May 2021
- Online written assessment guidelines, user guide and paper now available
- There is a OneFile Registration process available to all whose Engage details are up to date and correct. Applicants for the online written assessment must attend a C award course beforehand (course attendance and written assessment are now linked)

- Applicants for the C Award online paper will be registered on OneFile and receive an email with a hyperlink to set up an account and password (password valid for 7 days, therefore 7 days to take the paper)
- Applicants are given 30 minutes to complete 2 parts and need 21/25 and 3/5 correct to pass and no questions may be skipped
- Online written assessment launched in June 2021 and will be connected to the course booking process

B AWARD

- Online B award course to be launched in **July 2021**
- A/B award written tests will commence from **03/07/2021**

PRACTICAL ASSESSMENTS

- All existing applications for practical assessment remain valid
- There is a 22 month extension from the date that the assessment was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic for a new assessment to be arranged
- New applications for practical assessments can start from **01/09/2021** and must be completed within the following timeframes from application
 - C award 6 months
 - B award 8 months
 - A Award 12 months
- There is a plan for the assessor to directly update ENgage following a practical assessment in Phase 3 of the development (dates not given)

3. Outstanding Assessments

League umpiring contacts will ensure outstanding assessments will be implemented in the required timeframe according to EN guidelines listed above.

4. Mentoring Beginner Umpires

League umpiring contacts will liaise regarding identification and invitation for suggested mentors. Suggested guidelines: - all mentors must know the rules of the game, keep up to date with the rules of the game, be personable, friendly and committed, volunteer for a mentoring role, have good communication skills and be able to spend time with the umpires at the end of the game. Leagues to maintain their own mentoring records until such time that EN initiate their mentoring schemes. Lisa Caldecourt-Townsend and Sally Wolfenden are trialling mentoring over the summer in the BNA league using the EN Umpire Feedback Book.

5. Umpiring contacts for Dorset Netball Leagues

Kelly Browne – Weymouth League

Jane Howard (Covering Karen Royals) – North Dorset (Blandford) League

Wendy Perry - Poole League

Sally Wolfenden – Bournemouth Netball League

6. *Umpire Award Assessors for Dorset Netball Leagues*

Kelly Browne

Nicki Hindmarch

Naomi Hindmarch

Any others?/TBC.

Sally Wolfenden

Director of Officiating