

# Administration of Europe Netball Umpire Assessor Award



**EUROPE  
NETBALL  
OFFICIATING**

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## 1. Introduction

This document defines the minimum standards for the Europe Netball Umpire Assessor Award. Member Countries must adhere to these minimum standards, but may mandate a higher standard, if they consider that there is a need. It contains the details for accreditation as an Umpire assessor

at 'C', 'B' and 'A' level and should be read in conjunction with other Europe Netball Umpire documents relating to assessment which can be found on the Europe Netball website:

- Europe Netball Umpire Assessors Handbook
- Administration of Europe Netball Umpire Assessments

Europe Netball Member Countries are required to use the Europe Netball practical assessment criteria when assessing their umpires using appropriately qualified assessors, as defined by Europe Netball. The Europe Netball criteria for practical assessment for the Europe Netball 'C', 'B' and 'A' awards are aligned to the Umpire Competencies used by World Netball. This means that umpires at all levels are now graded using the same criteria, but the score that an umpire needs to achieve is lower for higher levels of the umpire awards.

## **2. Role of the Assessor**

Establishing and maintaining a pool of qualified assessors at all levels is a key element in umpire development and the growth of netball. The assessor's role is to ensure that standardised quality is achieved in gaining qualification as an umpire. They do this by observing the umpire's performance and analysing that performance against the umpire competencies and criteria.

Being an assessor can be rewarding and enjoyable – umpires rely on the assessors' feedback, support and guidance as they progress along the Europe Netball Umpire Pathway.

The assessor's role is a natural progression from umpiring to help future umpire development.

A qualified assessor may assess at the relevant level on behalf of any other participating Member Country with permission and agreement from the Europe Netball Officiating Director. Assessors may only assess at the level of, or up to, their umpiring qualification.

## **3. How to Become an Assessor**

The requirements for becoming an assessor, the assessor pathway and the administration of the Umpire Assessor Award are set out below. Each Member Country welcomes any expression of interest in becoming an assessor and also welcomes potential assessors who would like to attend any Umpire Assessor course which that Member Country may organise. An Application Form (see Appendix B) will be included on each Member Country's website and publicised in other media as appropriate.

Attendance at an Umpire Assessor Award course is the first step in the Assessor Pathway: the maximum timeframe for completing the Assessor Pathway to become a 'C' award assessor is 24 months. After this time, the trainee assessor will need to start again and attend another Umpire Assessor Award course. Each Member Country will maintain a register of all course attendees and all who become qualified assessors.

## **4. Assessor Requirements - Eligibility and Personal Skills**

Person specification	Criteria
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be affiliated to a Member Country and aged 18 or over</li> <li>• Must be a qualified umpire (active or inactive), holding the Europe Netball 'C', 'B' or minimum 'A' award</li> <li>• Minimum of two years umpiring experience at the level at which they are assessing</li> </ul>
Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must attend an Umpire Assessor Award course</li> </ul>
Qualification	<p>Supervisory assessors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervisory assessors must hold the Europe Netball 'B' or 'A' umpire award</li> <li>• Minimum of four years assessing experience at the level at which they are assessing</li> </ul>
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actively involved as an umpire and/or umpire mentor</li> </ul>
Personal qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rules knowledge</li> <li>• Be committed to umpire development</li> <li>• Be able to view the match as an umpire</li> <li>• Be able to assess umpire performance related to the competencies and criteria</li> <li>• Be able to provide and communicate constructive feedback to a learner umpire</li> <li>• Be able to prioritise the strengths and areas for development for a learner umpire</li> <li>• Be able to collate information and report on the relevant assessment documents</li> </ul>

## 5. Assessor Pathway and Accreditation as an Assessor

### 5.1 'C' award

After a trainee assessor has attended an Umpire Assessor Award course, they then undertake a minimum of two observations at 'C' award assessments. Each Member Country will arrange this for the trainee assessor.

The supervisory assessor (see below) should explain the assessment procedures to the trainee assessor who then carries out actual assessments, although their ratings will not affect the result.

The trainee assessor will:

- Be directed by the supervisory assessor on where to stand and move, shadowing the supervisory assessor and be present throughout the assessment process
- At observation 1, complete the Europe Netball Learner Assessment Report Form (LARF) (see Appendix C) for both learner umpires, join in the discussions on the performance of the learner umpires with the assessors and be a silent observer when the assessors deliver feedback to the learner umpires
- At observation 2, complete the LARFs for the learner umpires, for the supervisory assessor to review and, under the guidance of the supervisory assessor, deliver feedback to one learner umpire

To be accredited as a 'C' award assessor, the supervisory assessor should review the trainee assessor's LARFs and the feedback provided, to decide whether the trainee assessor is considered competent. If the trainee assessor is considered competent, the supervisory assessor will then sign the trainee assessor's LARF and send it to the trainee assessor's Member Country, to confirm that the trainee assessor should be accredited as an assessor. On registration with that Member Country, the successful trainee assessor will then be accredited as a 'C' award assessor for 4 years from the date of the assessment.

If the supervisory assessor considers that the trainee assessor's LARFs and/or feedback do not meet the criteria, the trainee assessor must observe a minimum of 1 further 'C' award assessment.

The successful trainee assessor's contact details will be registered with their Member Country and updated as appropriate (see Continuing Professional Development).

## **5.2 'B' award**

To progress to become a 'B' award assessor, a 'C' award assessor must complete a minimum of 2 'C' award assessments and attend any required standardisation training or Rules updates. They then contact their Member Country to express interest in becoming a 'B' award assessor and that Member Country will arrange a 'B' award assessment, at which the 'C' award assessor undertakes an observation.

The supervisory assessor (see below) should explain the assessment procedures to the 'C' award assessor who then carries out actual assessments, although their ratings will not affect the result.

The 'C' award assessor will:

- Be directed by the supervisory assessor on where to stand and move, shadowing the supervisory assessor and be present throughout the assessment process
- At the 'B' award observation, complete the LARFs for the umpires, for the supervisory assessor to review and, under the guidance of the supervisory assessor, deliver feedback to one umpire

To be accredited as a 'B' award assessor, the supervisory assessor should review the 'C' award assessor's LARFs and the feedback provided, to decide whether the 'C' award assessor is considered competent as a 'B' award assessor. If the 'C' award assessor is considered competent, the supervisory assessor will then sign the 'C' award assessor's LARF and send it to the 'C' award assessor's Member Country, to confirm that the 'C' award assessor should be accredited as a 'B' award assessor. On registration with that Member Country, the successful 'C' award assessor will then be accredited as a 'B' award assessor for 4 years from the date of the assessment.

If the supervisory assessor considers that the 'C' award assessor's LARFs and/or feedback do not meet the criteria, the 'C' award assessor must observe a minimum of 1 further 'B' award assessment.

The successful 'B' award assessor's contact details will be registered with their Member Country and updated as appropriate (see Continuing Professional Development).

### **5.3 'A' Award**

To progress to become an 'A' award assessor, a 'B' award assessor must complete a minimum of 2 'B' award assessments and attend any required standardisation training or Rules updates. The process will be the same as that for the progression from trainee assessor to 'C' award assessor and from 'C' award assessor to 'B' award assessor.

## **5.4 Summary**

Notes:

1. A 'C' award umpire can only assess at 'C' award level provided the other assessor is a Europe Netball 'B' award or a minimum Europe Netball 'A' award umpire and a qualified assessor.

Umpire Assessment level	Assessor minimum umpire qualification (active or inactive)	Assessor minimum time held umpiring award	Assessor previous level of assessment experience
'C' award	'C' award *	2 years	None
'B' award	'B' award	2 years	'C' award
'A' award	Minimum 'A' award	2 years	'B' award

2. 'C' award umpires who are qualified assessors cannot do pre-assessments, if pre-assessments are part of a Member Country's Umpire Pathway.

## 5.5 Assessments

The following are suggested recommendations for the maximum number of assessments to be carried out by assessors in any one period:

- 'C' award – 8 learners per day
- 'B' award – 4 learners per day
- 'A' award – 1 assessment (two learners) per day

Note: For 'A' award assessments conducted as part of a multiple day competition, assessors may conduct assessments for up to 4 learners over 2 matches BUT these circumstances must be discussed and authorised in advance by the Europe Netball Director of Officiating.

## 6. Lead assessor

Lead assessors are appointed by their Member Country. The lead assessor makes the final decision in all situations where the assessors disagree on any aspect of the assessment process and/or criteria that affects the outcome of the practical assessment for the learner umpire i.e. PASS or Not Yet Met Criteria (NYMC).

## 7. Continuing Professional Development

Member Countries which do not have a Europe Netball endorsed and approved system in place for the provision of standardisation training should request Europe Netball to organise standardisation training. Each Member Country will organise Rules updates.



Assessors are expected to attend regular training, including the four yearly standardisation training, to maintain their qualification. Any request for exemption should be sent to their Member Country Assessment Organiser.

Assessors should maintain a logbook of the assessments and pre-assessments which they undertake, to evidence their on-going assessing experience.

## **8. Register**

Each Member Country will maintain a Register of course attendees and qualified assessors, which will be held in accordance with applicable data protection legislation.