

2025

UMPIRE HANDBOOK



Introduction

This handbook has been created as a resource for umpires, umpire coordinators, or anyone who wishes to learn more about umpiring and its pathway.

Our RDNA Umpire Development Officer (AUDO) provides support, education and development opportunities for all umpires and club umpire coordinators throughout the association, including but not limited to coaching, mentoring, talent identification, delivery of workshops and programs.

An umpire's role is to ensure the game is kept to a fair, safe and consistent standard and to umpire within the Rules of Netball to the best of their ability every game. It is up to the umpire, club umpire coordinators and AUDO to ensure an umpire is allocated to a game they are both physically and mentally capable of.

Each club has its own umpire coordinator, who is every umpire's first contact. Club umpire coordinators support their affiliated umpires, rostering onto games and ensuring capabilities and expectations are met during those games. If any concerns or feedback is raised this should first be directed to the club umpire coordinator, who may then redirect to RDNA AUDO.

Contacts

2025 AUDO	Ashleigh Reynolds	Umpiredevelopment@rdna.org.au	0417 543 593
2025 Greenshirt Coordinator	Elleanor de Knegt	Greenshirts@rdna.org.au	

Dress Code

Umpire uniform requirements are covered in the 2025 RDNA handbook, clause 7.2. Umpires must wear a white shirt and/or jacket, or a green 'trainee' shirt. It is preferable that umpires wear white shorts or skirts, however black or navy shorts or skirts are acceptable, and must be visible under an umpiring shirt/appropriate length. No scrunch bum shorts. Umpire shirts over the top of playing dresses are permitted. RDNA badged umpire shirts, jackets, shorts and skirts are available to purchase from the RDNA office. A suitable audible whistle is required and able to be purchased from RDNA. Suitable non-slip sports shoes are required.

The RDNA AUDO or RDNA Management committee may ask clubs to communicate with their umpires about suitable attire where required. Failure to comply may result in removal from a game.

Uniform Price List

RDNA Squad Polo: \$45

RDNA Umpire Skort: \$50

RDNA Unisex Umpire Shorts: \$45

RDNA Squad Jacket: Price TBC

White Visor: \$7

ACME Thunderer Whistle: \$35

Umpire Payments

Umpire payments for 2025 are as follows:

Division	Unbadged Umpire	C Badge Umpire	B Badge + Umpire
Mixed Senior	N/A	\$35	\$35
Senior Div 1&2	N/A	\$35	\$35
Senior Div 3 & below	\$15	\$30	\$35
SET/GO	\$15	\$25	\$25
12U/14U/16U/18U	\$15	\$25	\$30
18U Squadded	\$15	\$35	\$35
Mentoring	N/A	\$20	\$20
Green Shirt Umpire	\$0	\$0	\$0

The umpire is responsible for ensuring payment is received at the end of a game. Cash is preferred. The 2025 RDNA umpires Facebook page will have a list of B Badge umpires.

*RDNA Mentors during the 2025 season will be paid via bank transfer. If you have any issues, please see the RDNA treasurer.

RDNA Squad Umpires

The RDNA AUDO will post squad umpire rosters to the RDNA Umpires facebook group at least two days prior to the competition day and will be on display outside the RDNA office on match day. Failure to turn up to a rostered game without notifying the AUDO may result in removal from future squad games. At least two hours notification is required, to ensure adequate time to replace umpires.

Competition Day

- All umpires participating in RDNA competitions must be affiliated and registered as an **'official'** on PlayHQ for each competition umpired. Eg. NetSetGo, Juniors, Seniors etc.
- RDNA Umpires must adhere strictly to the Rules of Netball, and the rules set by RDNA.
- Umpires must arrive at least 10 minutes prior to a game to ensure appropriate pre-game checks are conducted.
- Umpires are not permitted to coach during a game, or during intervals. If a coach is required to umpire a team, they must give up the coaching role for the game.
- No interchange of umpires is permitted during the game unless due to injury or illness, in which a replacement umpire may take over.
- In the event an umpire does not attend a rostered game, that club may be fined \$30 for NSG or \$50 for juniors and seniors

Umpire Expectations

- RDNA umpires must maintain a professional and approachable demeanor on and off the court and adhere to the associations policies and procedures.
- Treat all players, coaches, and spectators with respect
- Always uphold the game's integrity and act impartially.
- Wear the correct uniform and ensure you have all the necessary equipment.
- Review the game schedules and ensure you understand any specific rules for the grade or competition. Eg. NSG modified rules. Rules must be applied consistently and confidently during matches.

- Have a thorough understanding of the current Official Netball Rules. Rulebooks are available to purchase at the RDNA office.
- Be open to receiving feedback from assessors or mentors
- It is recommended to participate in association workshops and meetings.
- Strive for continuous improvement through learning opportunities
- Clubs are paying umpires to do a job. Failure to meet expectations can impact the integrity of the game and may result in reduction or removal of umpiring opportunities within the association.

Dealing with Conflict and other Difficult Situations

There is zero tolerance for any inappropriate behaviour on and off the court. The RDNA Management Committee are here to assist should these situations arise.

- Umpires should familiarise themselves with the Rules of Netball handbook, referring to 'foul play' and 'Actions taken by umpires' sections of the handbook. In the event of a 'warning' or 'suspension', umpires must write on the back of the scorecard, a statement of events that occurred. This must include Team name, Player name and position, quarter of the game, and reason for sanctioning. Also umpire name.
- It is important for umpires to learn to build resilience on and off the court. Comments will be made regarding teams, players, and umpiring. It is important to be able to tell the difference between general sideline comments and abusive or unsportsmanlike behaviour.
- If any abusive or unsportsmanlike behaviour is displayed or if an umpire feels uncomfortable at any time, they may request a spectator to go to the RDNA office to get support from a member of the RDNA Management Committee. This must be a spectator, not the scorer/timer. In some situations, umpires may be requested to write a statement of events

Forfeits or Cancellation of Games

- Refer to RDNA Competition Handbook clause 6.11 and 6.12

Injuries or Illness

- If you injure yourself while umpiring at RDNA, call time and then please approach the RDNA office immediately. As you are registered on PlayHQ, any injuries sustained while umpiring can be claimed on insurance.
- If you have come down with illness and are scheduled for a club game, your first point of contact is your Club Umpire Coordinator. If you are rostered on a squad game, contact the RDNA AUDO with as much notice as possible to ensure your game can be covered. You may be requested to assist in sourcing an umpire to cover your game.
- To protect umpires and players from fatigue, it is recommended umpires not participate in more than four games per day as either umpire or player. If you choose to commit to more than this, you may be requested by your club or RDNA AUDO to cut back if it is impacting your performance.

Rolling Substitutions

RDNA has implemented the use of Rolling Substitutions from 2024. Teams may only make 1 substitution at a time. Players must not go offside when completing a substitution and they may not interfere with an umpire's movement. Umpires do not hold time for a substitution. If a position is left vacant on court, it is treated as a late player who can then enter after a stoppage.

Badging

Clubs may wish to put forward umpires for screening for their National C badge. Priority of coaching/screening will be given to RDNA development squad umpires. If a club wishes to have an umpire viewed this must be sent by email to AUDO. Consistency must be shown prior to screening

Accreditations

All badged umpires are required to email a copy of accreditation certificates prior to season commencement to ensure accreditations are up to date. Netball Learning courses are required to maintain accreditations.

Working With Children's Check

All paid umpires must hold a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC). These must be emailed to RDNA AUDO prior to umpiring, as well as noted on PlayHQ registration. AUDO or Club Umpire Coordinators can assist with applications. Anyone found to be umpiring within RDNA without a valid WWCC will be removed from games and prohibited from umpiring until proof of application has been sighted by RDNA Management Committee.

Workshops and Development

RDNA AUDO is working alongside Netball WA to ensure umpires have appropriate mentoring and learning. On court coaching is available, as well as development workshops including:

- Rules Discussion
- Game Management
- Contact vs Contest

Development programs offered at RDNA include:

- RDNA Greenshirt Program (See RDNA Competition handbook appendix D)
- RDNA Development Squad

If interested in further coaching and mentoring, please email the RDNA AUDO at umpiredevelopment@rdna.org.au