



# Criteria for Devon Neutral Umpire Panels

Updated: 3/1/18

The Selection and Coaching Committee (SCC) of the Devon Hockey Umpires' Association (DHUA) review the criteria for the Devon Neutral Umpire Panels on an annual basis before the start of the normal hockey season.

The review is carried out so everyone is aware of the criteria used by the DHUA SCC in determining what panel an umpire is placed in and will be used for forthcoming Neutral Umpire Panel placements.

Contact details for the DHUA SCC can be found at:

<http://www.devonhockey.net/public/allcommittees.php>

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## ***Definition of Neutral Panel A\*:***

At least a Level 1 Umpire and capable in the opinion of the Selection Committee of umpiring at regional (i.e. West) level. Have been available for DHUA appointments for at least 50% of League weekends without overriding playing or other commitments for the preceding half season. There is an expectation that an A\* Panel umpire will attend coaching and development group opportunities within the County and be coached/assessed at least once during the season.

Panel Coaching and Assessment Contact – Pete Hammond

## ***Definition of Neutral Panel A:***

At least a Level 1 Umpire deemed capable of and willing to umpire up to and including West Men Conference (Tier 3) and West Women Premier 2 Leagues. Have been available for DHUA appointments for at least 50% of League weekends without overriding playing or

other commitments for the preceding half season. There is an expectation that an A Panel umpire will attend coaching and development group opportunities within the County and be coached/assessed at least once during the season.

Panel Coaching and Assessment Contact – Graham Woolcock

### ***Definition of Neutral Panel B:***

At least a Level 1 Umpire deemed capable of and willing to umpire up to and including West Men South1/Central 1 (Tier 4) and West Women South/Central Division. Have been available for DHUA appointments for at least 50% of League weekends without overriding playing or other commitments for the preceding half season. There is an expectation that a B Panel umpire will attend coaching and development group opportunities within the County and be coached/assessed as deemed appropriate by the SCC.

Panel Coaching and Assessment Contact – Neil (Foz) Foster

### ***Definition of Neutral Panel C:***

At least a Level 1 Umpire deemed capable of and willing to umpire up to and including West Men South2/Central2 (Tier 5) and divisions below West Women South/Central Division level. Have been available for DHUA appointments for at least 50% of League weekends without overriding playing or other commitments for the preceding half season. There is an expectation that a C Panel umpire will attend some coaching and development group opportunities within the County and will be coached/assessed as deemed appropriate by the SCC.

Panel Coaching and Assessment Contact – Neil (Foz) Foster

### ***Definition of Neutral Development Panel:***

At least a Level 1 Umpire deemed capable of and willing to umpire up to and including West Men Conference (Tier 3) and West Women Premier 2 Leagues. Have been available for DHUA appointments on a regular basis but may have overriding playing or other commitments. May have been identified as having potential for umpiring at a higher level and a specific development plan agreed. There is an expectation that a Development Panel umpire will attend coaching and development group opportunities within the County and be coached/assessed as deemed appropriate by the SCC.

Panel Coaching and Assessment Contact – Pete Hammond

### ***General Points Regarding Panels:***

- DHUA Panels are not gender specific – the website works on Men's and Women's panels – for it's purposes DHUA uses the Men's Panels for both genders.
- To umpire as appointed by DHUA.
- Umpire fitness to match that necessary to umpire effectively at the required level.
- To be considered for promotion the umpire must be recommended to the DHUA SCC by an appointed Assessor/Coach or by personal application to the DHUA SCC.
- To be considered for downgrading the umpire must have received an unsatisfactory report or trigger. The Chairman of the DHUA SCC will then tell the umpire concerned that they are under consideration and that they will be coached to give an opportunity to address any problems. A DHUA SCC Appointed Assessor will then

watch them and that the result of this assessment will determine the pool. (this may be a specific development plan over a defined period or number of assessments)

- The triggers that can lead to consideration for promotion or downgrading may include contact from others sources that the DHUA SCC consider sufficiently significant.
- Promotion and downgrading may occur during the season as determined by SCC.
- Opportunities may be given to umpire at a higher level than the panel criteria with a suitable colleague for development and progression purposes.

### ***Area Panels:***

All umpires who do not meet the criteria for the Neutral Umpire Panels will be placed into the relevant Area Panel (based on their Post Code). This does not mean they are unable to umpire at any of the levels indicated above, but rather their availability is such that they may not qualify to be placed in a Neutral Umpire Panel. There is no expectation that an area pool umpire will attend coaching and development group opportunities within the County but they are very welcome and encouraged to do so and they will be coached/assessed as deemed appropriate by the SCC or on request.

Panel Coaching and Assessment Contact – Assessed (EX) Paul Earnshaw  
Assessed (TQ) Denise Aplin  
Assessed (PL) Graham Smith

Unassessed (EX) Bob Whitell  
Unassessed (TQ) Pete Hammond  
Unassessed (PL) Pete Hammond

Level 1 unassessed umpires will be placed into the relevant L1 unassessed panel (based on their Post Code). They may umpire matches in Leagues marked with a (\*) provided their colleague is at least a L1 Assessed umpire.

Level 1 unassessed umpires may apply to the SCC to be assessed – The SCC will appoint them to a match [which may be their home club] with a DHUA coach first and then schedule an assessment [which may **not** be their home club] as deemed appropriate.

### ***Inactive, Reactivation and Qualified Club Umpire Panels:***

All Level 1 Unassessed and above umpires who do not meet the criteria to remain “active” will be placed into the DHUA Inactive Umpires Panel – this is to ensure we are able to maintain contact and assist them in re-activating their umpiring qualification when they wish to return to umpiring – at such time, they will be placed in the Reactivation panel. Umpires may request to be limited to their own club and not asked to give their availability via the website – these umpires will be placed in the Qualified Club Umpire Panel.

An Area Panel Umpire whose availability matches that required by the Neutral Umpire Panels may apply to the DHUA SCC to be placed in a Neutral Umpire Panel in accordance with the above criteria.

End.