



NEW UMPIRE COACHING

A guide for Mentors and Parents

What is your role

- TO ENCOURAGE!
- Be engaged throughout the game

Where you need to stand

- Stand behind and away from the side/goal line, ideally in the goal third. This is so you can provide feedback as play moves (i.e. blow whistle, run).

Encouragement

- Encourage the umpire to blow their whistle when they see an infringement.
- Never tell them they have made an incorrect call (even if it is).
- Tell them to run - they need to be with the play.

Whistle

- Encourage a loud whistle (always)
- If play doesn't stop after they blow the whistle, get them to blow it again (encourage a louder whistle).
- Do not use your whistle to make a call if they miss an infringement. Go up behind and tell them to blow their whistle (and say the infringement to the umpire, for them to tell the players).

Voice

- Encourage a loud voice (always project, not yell), the whole court needs to hear.
- Encourage them to practice calls away from game situations, so they can become more confident.

What to focus on

- The number one thing to focus on - blow the whistle and gain confidence
- Focus on one thing at a time (i.e. blow the whistle, then one rule at a time)
- Always encourage them to call what they see, but focus on one rule at a time (i.e. obstruction, making sure the defender is 3ft before arms up to defend)
- Signal for a goal (straight arm in the air) and then signal for the next centre pass.
- Make sure they blow the whistle for the centre pass (after a goal is scored at their end of the court)

If play gets out of control or someone is injured, you can step in to help them manage the situation (see below).

We do not expect hand signals (apart from a goal and centre pass), the goal is to make the call. If they can cope with hand signals in addition to the calls, that is a bonus but not a focus for first year umpires.

Use the following table to help give feedback to the umpire what they need to work on.

First focus - Confidently blow whistle Once they can confidently blow their whistle you can move on to any of the below skills	
Voice	Use a loud voice to say the infringement. All players and the other umpire need to hear the call.
Identify infringements on their own (focus on one at a time)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact - Obstruction - Footwork
Saying the correct infringements and sanction	For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WD contact, penalty pass yellow; or - GA footwork, free pass green
Hand Signals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact - Obstruction - Footwork
Hold time	When there is a ball on court, blow a loud whistle, say "hold time", wait for the ball to be removed from the court then restart time by blowing the whistle loud.

Holding Time for injury/illness/blood

New umpires are generally allocated to the under 10's and under 11's grades. These divisions need more assistance in holding time for injury/illness/blood. If there is an instance where time is to be held for injury/illness/blood and the player concerned cannot ask the umpire for time, please step in as the mentor and ask the player calmly, 'would you like time?' If they cannot answer this themselves as they might be crying or severely injured, please ask the coach/manager if they want time. In serious cases where it is obvious the player needs to come off the court, please do not wait for anyone to hold time and call it yourself.