



STNA Junior Umpire Mentoring Policy

INTRODUCTION

This policy provides a guide for members wishing to mentor junior umpires on Southern Tasmanian Netball Association (STNA) netball games.

The STNA is committed to providing the best training environment and development opportunities for umpires.

The objectives of this policy are to:

- Clarify STNA's position on junior umpire development
- Outline STNA's requirements for mentoring junior umpires.

Through the implementation of this policy, the STNA aims to:

- Increase the pool of skilled umpires
- Increase the standard of competition
- Increase member enjoyment and safety
- Contribute to successful pathways for aspiring umpires.

STNA POLICY

It is the policy of the STNA to provide a safe and supportive environment for all junior umpires, which encourages active learning, provides opportunities to increase skill and knowledge and rewards performance.

IMPLEMENTATION

The STNA has the following expectations when junior umpires are mentored:

The club shall ensure:

- The junior umpire is placed on a game that is commensurate with their experience.
- An experienced umpire (preferably A badge umpire) will be present to mentor the junior umpire for the entire game and will continue to be provided on games that extend the junior umpire's skill and ability.
- Attempt to ensure that the mentor remains with the junior umpire throughout their training.

The mentor shall:

- At the very first game, ensure the junior umpire is provided with an overview of standard umpiring protocol **prior** to the game. This will, as a minimum, include an explanation of areas of control, controlling the centre pass and pre-game checks.
- Position themselves on the sidelines and communicate to the junior umpire in a manner that does not interfere with the junior umpire's ability to focus on the play. Mentors are not encouraged to shadow the junior umpire whilst the game is in their area of control as this can be distracting for the junior and confusing to the players. If the mentor wishes to



communicate with the junior umpire, this would be appropriate when the play is in their other umpires control.

- Refrain from using their whistle (commonly known as the 'second whistle') unless they believe the junior umpire has been unable to maintain control of the game, resulting in potential danger to players. In this instance, once the mentor has blown their whistle, they shall maintain control of the game until the end of the quarter.
- If deemed appropriate, introduce the junior umpire to the coaches prior to the start of the game.

The junior umpire shall:

- wear a white top and appropriate attire