

UMPIRE GREEN BAND INITIATIVE

Umpire Supervisor Fact Sheet

Purpose of the Initiative:

- The Green Band initiative is designed to identify and protect umpires under the age of 18 officiating netball.
- It aims to address poor sideline behaviour and ensure that any complaints or issues are managed according to the Netball Australia Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy (effective 1 February 2025).
- To integrate with existing umpire development and training programs and to complement all other umpire awareness campaigns.

Purpose of the Green Band:

- The green bands are not an indication of umpire skill or ability.
- They serve as a visible recognition of young umpires' leadership and responsibility in officiating.
- The bands aim to celebrate the contribution of young umpires to the netball community and help others recognise their important role.

What is Poor Sideline Behaviour?

- Disputed rulings
- Negative comments
- Aggressive or foul language
- Verbal or physical threats
- Inappropriate approach towards umpires
- Encroaching on an umpire's personal space

Role of Umpire Supervisor:

- Ensure all eligible umpires wear a visible band.
- Assist umpires in handling on-court or bench-related behavioural issues (umpires are not responsible for addressing spectator misconduct).
- Report instances of poor sideline behaviour in line with Netball Australia's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy.
- Submit complaints in writing to Netball NSW (during State Titles).

Umpire Supervisor Responsibilities:

- Umpire supervisors and mentors should be present to assist when needed, however, umpires can address poor behaviour from on-court or bench players, coaches, and officials if competent.
- Spectator behaviour concerns should be managed by the umpire supervisor through the proper complaint processes.

Child Safety and Education:

- Netball Australia Child Safety Practices ensure that all young people in netball have the right to feel safe, included, encouraged, and supported. Netball Australia's Safeguarding Children and Young People course is available via Netball Learning. This free course is a mandatory requirement every four years. Umpire Supervisors, Umpires, Coaches, and other officials working with young people must complete the course. For more details, refer to the Netball Australia Safeguarding Children & Young People Policy. You can read it [here](#).

**Umpiring can be challenging, and we appreciate the dedication of umpire supervisors in mentoring young umpires. Thank you for your invaluable efforts.
Let's band together in support of young umpires.**