



England Netball
London & South East Regional Unit

Into Officiating Award Pathway

- 1. Attend an online 'Into Officiating' (IO) Course**
- 2. Enter Umpiring experience in the Log Book**
- 3. Pass the IO Practical Assessment**

FAQs

1. Q. Do I have to attend an IO Award Course before applying for my Practical Assessment?

A. Yes.

Once you complete an online IO Award course, you must apply within 2 years to your County Officiating Lead for your IO Practical Assessment. Failure to do this will mean that you will have to complete another IO Award course.

Application to attend an online IO Award Course is via England Netball's ENgage system.

Further information on IO award courses can be found on the England Netball's website: www.englandnetball.co.uk

Drop down buttons – Get Involved – Officiating Courses - IO Award Umpire Course

2. Q. I attended an IO Award course before the March 2020 lockdown-do I still have to apply for the Practical Assessment within 2 years of the date of the course?

A. England Netball have confirmed that the 2 year period will be extended by 22 months from the expiry date of the original 2 year period. Therefore if you attended an IO course prior to 16th March 2018, and you had not applied for your Practical Assessment, then your course has expired. If you attend a course after 16th March 2018 but before the netball suspension on 16th March 2020, you are eligible for the 22 month extension in addition to the 2 year course timeframe.

3. Q. How do I gain practical umpiring experience after the course?

A. Your County Officiating Lead will be able to advise you on the practical umpiring opportunities within your County.

4. Q. Is it important which matches I umpire before my Practical Assessment?

A. Yes.

Learner umpires should officiate a variety of matches which are appropriate to the level of the IO Award, as identified by your County Umpiring Personnel and enter them in their Log Book.

5. Q. Do I have to have a mentor before applying for my Practical Assessment?

A. No.

It is not mandatory to be mentored before applying for a Practical Assessment. However, it will be of benefit to work with a mentor (ideally one who is an IO Award Assessor or who knows the IO award assessment criteria), who can help you to progress to the appropriate standard.

Please contact your County Officiating Lead for details of mentors in your area.

6. Q. Where can I download the IO Award Practical Application Form

A. An Application Form can be found on individual County websites. Specific information for each County will be on this form, so it is important that this version is used. Do not use the application form on the EN website which will be a generic form.

7. Q. Is the Learner Umpire paid by the team for umpiring when being assessed?

A. No.

Counties will make this clear to the teams involved in the Assessment.

8. Q. When will I know the date of my IO Award Practical Assessment?

A. The Practical Assessment is set up by your County. Detailed instructions will be sent to the Learner Umpires and Assessor in plenty of time.

The Assessment must be arranged as soon as possible but definitely within one month of the receipt of the Application (unless there are extenuating circumstances). This period has been extended to six months from 1 September 2021, in respect of Applications which had already been submitted in early 2020. A delay can also occur between the end of one season and the start of the next season. It is the responsibility of the Learner Umpire to ensure that, during the waiting period for an Assessment, they maintain their fitness and quality of umpiring.

9. Q. Can my Mentor take my Practical Assessment?

A. No.

Only one assessor is required for an IO assessment and therefore this must be an independent assessor.

10. Q. What should I do if I am injured/unwell when I receive my Assessment date?

A. This is a personal decision for the Learner Umpire.

However, if you do not think that you will be fully fit on the Assessment date, please consider whether it would be better to ask for another Assessment date, when you expect to be fully fit and can perform to your best.

11. Q. If I do not pass my Practical Assessment at the first attempt how long do I have to wait before I can retake the Practical Assessment?

A. Three months is the recommended period before a Learner Award umpire who has not passed the IO Award Practical Assessment may reapply for another Practical Assessment. The minimum period will be determined by the assessor.

The Learner Award umpire is required to list at least four matches of the approved standard in the Log Book.

The Learner Umpire does not have to attend another IO course unless their existing course expires before they can apply for their Practical re-assessment. If this happens, the umpire must attend another course.

12. Q. Does the Into Officiating Award have an expiry date?

A. No.

The IO Award does not have an expiry date, but it is only valid when accompanied with a valid England Netball Membership.

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