

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES AND ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS.

TIMES & DATES FOR TRAINING 2011-2012

1. Unit 1 Sessions run from October up to Christmas each year;
2. Unit 2 Sessions will commence in the January, finishing about mid-March;
3. Unit 3 Practical experience and Accreditation throughout the playing season with some winter training.

It is thus possible to complete the entire Umpire Accreditation Course over a twelve-month period. Learners, however, are not *obliged* or *required* to do so. Sessions may be taken in stages to fit in with your personal situation, aspirations or circumstances. Exams will be offered at key dates for each Unit.

Pre-Season Training Weekend - 17/18 Sept. - New Recruits Orientation; Current Umpires Review.

- Effective Communication; Technique Workshops;
- Law Changes and local Playing Conditions
- LBW – know the law, be clear in what you see
- Positioning – getting there early and what to look for.
- Code of Conduct – Local standards and procedures
- Ground Weather Light – how to apply for ACA
- Mental Strengths, Fitness and Nutrition for all

Fortnightly Training Sessions

- 17 Oct. Feedback & Results Vault, Self-Assessment - Accreditation - Critical Decisions & buying time
- 31 Oct. Health & Safety issues. Managing playing times; ground, weather and light decisions.
- 14 Nov. Improving LBW decisions
- 28 Nov. The Dead Ball and Unfair Play – laws & practical actions. Times to call – times to act.
- 12 Dec Exam – Accreditation for Club Level – ACUSA - **CHRISTMAS BREAKUP**

Principles for Umpires Education

- Accreditation is the first step along the pathway - and progress is by application and selection – with clear criteria explained to all. The higher the levels - the more transparent the selection/accreditation processes must be seen to follow these criteria. You can indicate your availability and career objectives in your annual plans. Your progress will be supported by our education programme.
- The objective is to equip the officials with the knowledge, skills and processes that are required at the targeted level of cricket. The aim is to improve umpires performances at all levels. The better you are prepared the more you will enjoy your umpiring.
- Umpires understand that although there is a competency-based approach to all courses and learning, attendance and accreditation is only a pre-condition to your achievement. Future selection and appointments of all officials is be made on:
 - proven performance ability,



- past assessments and accreditation
- suitability for the event, series or match or panel ahead.
- Professional development becomes more important at the higher levels, as law knowledge, interpretation and field techniques acquired at earlier levels need to be refined to match the level of cricket.
- Skills and techniques, as well as knowledge of laws and fitness, plus physical & medical reports are part of umpire qualifications that are re-measured and assessed on a regular ongoing basis to maintain standards. One successful experience at any level is not a guarantee forever.
- Auckland Umpires are expected to share knowledge and work in a cooperative environment – the basis for all effective officiating and voluntary umpire education.

The Umpire Education Units

Unit 1 - Governing the Game: The Laws of Cricket and Local Playing Conditions

Laws knowledge alone does not make a good umpire, but no umpire can ever be successful *without* a comprehensive understanding of the Laws of the game and their interpretation and application.

Unit 1 comprises 8 sessions, each of approximately one hour's duration. Each session concentrates on Laws related to specific topics, with special emphasis on those most likely to be administered during matches. But this is not 'rote-learning' - learners will not just understand *what* the Laws say but *why* they say it. A considerable amount of home study is also required, together with regular written work. In addition to assessment throughout the Course, Unit 1 concludes with a multiple choice/multiple option assessment.

Unit 2 - Managing the Match: Management issues and umpiring

To create a fair and proper environment for the players – and to create an atmosphere you can effectively operate within requires appropriate behaviour and conduct amongst players and between players and umpires. The increasingly competitive - 'win at all costs' - nature of society these days is unfortunately reflected within cricket, too. Similarly the 'Duty of Care' responsibilities upon all sports officials and the need to adhere to the Spirit of Cricket will require special skills.

Unit 2 sessions, each lasting approximately 90 minutes hours, cover key aspects of man-management; conflict resolution; communication skills; field-craft techniques; use of body language, humour and personality; and duty of care. In other words, all the basic personal skills, qualities and attributes necessary for controlling the conduct of the players and a match. Each session is individually assessed.

Unit 3 - Practical Experience and Self- Management

This unit consists of a full season's practical umpiring experience - a minimum of 10 completed match appointments - in an appropriate level of cricket. Performances during this time will be independently assessed by ACUSA trained and accredited Boundary Assessors over a number of matches. Additionally, learners will be required to complete a self-assessment log of *all* matches in which they stand during this period. Training in self-evaluation techniques forms part of this unit.

NB: Auckland Umpires may apply to the Appointments, Grading and Accreditation convenor for up to two special Grading matches each season.



An Example of How Accreditation works

Unit 3 : Self Management

To achieve each outcome a learner must demonstrate the ability to:	
1 Understand the value of self-management	a) Understand and apply the principles of self-management and personal and professional development in the role of the umpire.
	b) Describe the responsibility of the umpire to apply the rules of cricket law and playing condition.
	c) Explain how the welfare of players is achieved.
	d) Describe the pre-match preparation process and explain the benefits of planning.
	e) Discuss and implement a personal development plan to maintain and update skills and knowledge.
2 Understand and apply people management skills through effective communication.	a) Understand the principles of effective communication.
	b) Explain the barriers to communication.
	c) Explore a range of communication techniques and assess how they benefit the role of the umpire
	d) Describe a range of potential conflict and explain methods of conflict resolution
3 Understand and apply health and safety and risk management processes within the umpire’s span of responsibility to managing matches.	a) Describe the duty of care of umpires to maintain the safety and wellbeing of all – players, umpires, grounds & facilities.
	b) Identify and develop a risk management process to cover all the appropriate responsibilities of the umpire
	c) Apply the principles of health and safety legislation and cricket law



SELF-ASSESSMENT – Support information to help you complete your match form.

If a Boundary Assessor or G & A member is present please use this form when discussing your performance.

Performance Enhancement Checklist:		
Self-Assessment Date _____ Colleague _____ _____ v _____		
Control	Decision Making	Communication
• Did I enjoy the match?	• Was I impartial throughout the match?	• Did I talk to players in a respectful manner?
• Was I relaxed?	• Did I base my decisions only on what I saw and heard or did other factors influence my decisions?	• Did players respond to my communication as I expected?
• Did I have the respect of the players?	• Was I in the best position to judge accurately when called upon to make a decision?	• Was my tone of voice and body language appropriate on all occasions?
• Was I positive in my approach?	• Were any of my decisions questioned?	• Did I appear to get the message across as it was intended?
• Did the players enjoy the match?	• Did I treat all players equally?	• Did I use one-way communication when appropriate?
• How did I control the match, was I loud and aggressive or was I low key and gently assertive?	• Was I consistent, that is, if in doubt give not out?	• Did I use two-way communication when appropriate?