



England Netball
London & South East Regional Unit

B Award Pathway

- 1. Attend an online B Course, followed by a practical session**
- 2. Pass the Written Assessment**
- 3. Enter Umpiring experience in the Log Book**
- 4. Pass the Fitness Test**
- 5. Pass the Practical Assessment**

FAQs

1. Q. Do I have to hold the Netball Europe C Award before I prepare to move forward to the B Award?

A. Yes.

2. Q. Do I have to attend a B Award Course before applying for my B assessment?

A. Yes.

You must attend an online B Award course within 2 years of applying for the Written Assessment, followed by a practical session.

In exceptional circumstances (TID – Talent Identification) this may be waived.

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

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

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

3. Q. I attended a B Award course before the March 2020 lockdown, do I still have to apply for the Written Assessment within 2 years of the date of the course?

A. No. Providing that the course was still valid (with the two year timeframe) prior to the March 2020 lockdown, Europe Netball have confirmed that the 2 year period will be extended by 22 months from the expiry date of the original 2 year period.

4. Q. Do I have to attend a B Award Written Assessment Course before applying for my Written Assessment?

A. No.

However, L&SER has courses and mentoring available which are specifically designed to prepare umpires for their written assessments. Please contact your County Officiating Lead for information.

5. Q. How do I apply for my B award written paper?

A. Applications for the A/B written paper are made via ENgage. Learners will need to liaise with their County Officiating Leads as to suitable locations for sitting the paper.

6. Q. Is it important which matches I umpire as evidence for my Log Book?

A. Yes.

The Log Book must contain a variety of matches which are appropriate to the level of the B Award. (This must include a minimum of at least 6 matches as identified by Regional Umpiring Personnel within L&SER).

7. Q. Do I have to have a mentor before applying for my 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 a B Award Assessor or who knows the B 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.

8. Q. Where can I download the B Award Practical Application Form

A. An Application Form can be found on the L&SER and individual County websites. Specific information for L&SER will be on this form, so it is important that it is used. Do not use the one on the EN website which will be a generic form. You will need to get your Application Form endorsed by the Regional Officiating Lead, your County Officiating Lead, a B award assessor or other recognised County/Regional person (which can include your mentor).

9. Q. Is the C Award Umpire paid by the team for umpiring when being assessed?

A. No.

Counties and the Region must make this clear to the teams involved in the assessment.

10. Q. When will I know about my B Award Practical Assessment?

A. The Practical Assessment is set up by the Region. The Assessment is usually set up outside of the C Umpire's normal umpiring environment i.e. outside of their County. Detailed instructions will be sent to the C Umpires and Assessors in plenty of time.

The Assessment must be arranged as soon as possible but definitely within four months of the receipt of the Application (unless there are extenuating circumstances). This period has been extended to eight 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 C Umpire to ensure that, during the waiting period for an Assessment, they maintain their fitness and quality of umpiring.

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

A. Yes, but this will only occur in extreme circumstances

The Regional Officiating Manager for B Award Assessments will endeavour to allocate two independent assessors. However, if there are no other assessors available for the assessment and to wait for two independent assessors would cause unnecessary and extensive delay in the scheduling of the assessment, the C Umpire's mentor may be appointed as an assessor. England Netball and Europe Netball have stated that where a mentor is required to assess their own Learner Umpire, they must not be appointed as the Lead Assessor.

12. Q. When will I have to submit my Fitness Test?

A. Proof that the level of 6.1 has been achieved will need to be sent with the Application Form. This is to ensure that you are of the fitness standard required for the Assessment. A second Fitness test will only be required if the Practical Assessment is more than six weeks after the Application Form was sent. The C Umpire must reach a minimum of level 6.1 on the Multi stage fitness test.

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

A. This is a personal decision for the C 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.

14. 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 C Award umpire who has not passed the B Award Practical Assessment may reapply. The Lead Assessor will be responsible for determining the given timeframe before re-applying.

The C Award umpire is required to list at least four matches of the approved standard in the Log Book. The new application must be endorsed (see Q8) and the C Award Umpire is also required to submit another fitness test.

The C Award Umpire does not have to attend another B award course unless the period of two years has elapsed since the Written Pass date, in each case extended by 22 months where the original expiry date was on or after 16 March 2020 or the pass date was between 16 March 2020 and 1 September 2021. If this happens, the umpire must attend another course and retake the written paper.

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