

## Buckinghamshire Young Umpire Development Plan Season 2008/2009

1. We intend to place a foundation umpire course at Milton Keynes and Aylesbury Hockey clubs during August, with further course to be planned southern county club early October. From this we can see the interest of young umpires within the county and the development that is needed for the following season.

2. Once foundation courses in place there will be two main entry points for all young umpires (up to the age of 18), e.g. foundation and then age 15+ through the level one presentation and assessment.

One of the main focus for young umpires will be at junior club and county games up to U17 including Bucks Youth Games. Our future intention is that these games are to be solely umpired by young umpires with mentors and coaches on each pitch. The main objective is for all umpires to have a fun experience of junior hockey and to take something positive away from each event.

3. Umpires are ranked in 3 bands, Top, Middle and Lower. This allows us to appoint umpires to events within their capabilities.

Top Band – Can umpire Boys and Girls County Championships U13/U14 age groups as the **senior colleague** with a middle band young umpire. Can umpire Boys and Girls County Championships U15/U16/U17 as the **junior colleague** with a graded umpire within BHUA.

Middle Band – Can umpire Boys and Girls County Championships U13/U14 age groups as the **junior colleague** with a top band young umpire or a graded member of BHUA. Can umpire girls County Championships U15 as the **junior colleague** with a graded umpire within BHUA.

Lower Band – Can umpire mini's hockey U11 and U13 age groups, boys and girls.

4. Our aim is to appoint young umpires to all U17 and below County Championship fixtures arranged in Buckinghamshire with mentors/coaches present at each fixture as well as senior BHUA umpires.

5. Top Band umpires will be nominated for the South Mini's Finals in April. Umpires that progress from there may be selected for the National Finals and/or appointed to other events by the South RYUAG.

6. Top Band umpires if they have not come through the level one course, will be encouraged to do so. If appropriate, umpires who pass their Level 1 will be integrated into the BHUA system and appointed to low level Saturday league fixtures, with coaches from BHUA.

7. Young umpires details are kept on a database by Lynn Turnbull (BHUA YDO). Those who have completed level one will be encourage becoming members of BHUA. Emails / letters are sent out to young umpires with details of upcoming events and their future appointments once known.

8. Coaches and umpires within BHUA are also involved with the coaching and development of young umpires.

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