



GUIDELINES
Covering the Grading of International Umpires (Indoor)

Effective as from 1st June 2006

1. General

- 1.1 Only women's matches will be taken into consideration as far as female umpires are concerned, and only men's matches will be taken into consideration as far as male umpires are concerned.
- 1.2 Matches played within the framework of an international tournament under the control of a Tournament Director appointed or approved by the FIH will be taken into account. (See also Rule 2.4A(e))
- 1.3 Any senior Inter-Nations matches which are recorded by the FIH providing the following requirements have been fulfilled:
 - (a) Match between Senior 'A' national teams;
 - (b) Match supervised by neutral umpires;
 - (c) An 'A' Teams Inter-Nations Match Result Form and/or a copy of the signed Match Report is received by the FIH. (Note: Senior 'A' national teams are considered to be the first choice team);

2. International Umpires

- 2.1 Candidatures must be sent to the FIH by an affiliated National Association to which the umpire concerned belongs.
- 2.2 Candidatures must reach the FIH on the appropriate form (Indoor-Form A) within three months of the final qualifying event.
- 2.3 Candidates must:
 - (a) Be regularly active as an umpire at the top level of an FIH affiliated National Association, not necessarily their own;
 - (b) Have a complete knowledge of the latest issue of the Rules of Indoor Hockey and interpretations as set out by the Hockey Rules Board and Umpiring Committee;
 - (c) Be medically healthy and able to achieve the fitness test requirements (subject to the relevant age limits) as set out by the Umpiring Committee, even though this test will not be conducted at Indoor events;
 - (d) Be able to understand and communicate in English, which the National Association certifies by signing the application;
- 2.4 To be considered for upgrading, umpires must have either: -
 - A. Umpired at least twice in any of the events listed below:

- (a) Senior and Junior (U21) 'A' Teams Inter-Nations Tournaments;
- (b) Senior 'A' Teams Inter-nations Matches (including a Test Series provided Rule 1.3 has been complied with);
- (c) Continental 'A' and 'B' Division Club Championships;
- (d) Other events that are approved by the Umpiring Committee to be of a suitable standard. Some such events will require the presence of a neutral FIH appointed assessor;
- (e) Test-Series with a minimum of three matches played between Senior 'A' national teams and umpired as a non-neutral umpire, providing a neutral FIH assessor is requested and appointed. (Any such request must be sent by the National Association of the umpire to the FIH on the appropriate form (Indoor-Form B). The travel, full board and any ancillary costs of such an assessor will be the responsibility of the requesting National Association).

In the case of 2.5(e) the assessor will send their report direct to the National Association (with copy to FIH) but will also supply written feedback to the umpire.

Grading to International Indoor Umpire will be considered following the receipt of a recommendation from the assessor, providing Rules 1.3(c), 2.2 and 2.3 are complied with.

B. Umpired at least once in any of the events listed in 2.4A, and umpired at least once in the events listed below:

- (a) Continental 'C' Division Club Championships

2.5 Before a candidature can be submitted the following criteria must be met:

- (a) The umpire must have controlled a minimum number of three matches at each of the required two events as described in Rules 1.2 and 2.4A or 2.4B within the three calendar years preceding the candidature. Where the matches were in a tournament, the candidate must have achieved a mark of at least 6.5 in each match umpired at the events listed in 2.4A and at least 7.0 in each match listed in 2.4B.
- (b) At least one of the required two events must be a Senior or Junior (U21) 'A' Teams Inter-Nations Tournament or Continental 'A' or 'B' Division Club Championship, in which a minimum of three matches shall have been umpired.

2.6 Where an umpire controls a minimum of four matches at an event listed in Rule 2.4A(a) or (c), and achieves a minimum mark in each match of 7.0, then that umpire may, at the discretion of the Umpiring Committee, be upgraded to International Umpire after that single tournament.

2.7 The position of active International Indoor Umpire will cease:

- (a) At 31st December following reaching the age of 47 years;
- (b) Upon own request or notification of retirement;
- (c) Upon ceasing to be regularly active as an umpire at top level (Rule 2.3(a)) for more than 12 months;

- (d) After three consecutive years without umpiring at a Tournament as per 2.4A(a) or (c);
 - (e) At the discretion of the Umpiring Committee upon receipt of a report of unacceptable actions/behaviour or poor performance or poor fitness;
- 2.8 Non-active International Indoor Umpires will retain their badge but will no longer be appointed by the FIH or the Continental Federation to international matches or tournaments. However, a National Association may still nominate a non-active International Indoor Umpire for such events and they will once again be considered active having umpired these matches or tournaments.
- 2.9 Further progress is governed by Rule 3 onwards.

Note: Umpires who show potential for progression to Grade 1 may, subject to the decision of the Umpiring Committee, be placed on a 'Promising Umpires List' (although this is not a pre-requisite to achieving Grade 1 status). The PUL will be reviewed on a regular basis. Before being placed on this list the umpires will have achieved marks with a minimum of 7.3 in each match umpired in a tournament considered to be of a suitable standard.

Umpires who fail to achieve Grade 1 status within two tournaments or within a period of three years will be returned to the list of International Umpires. PUL (and Grade 1) status may be achieved once again in the light of performances at subsequent events.

3. Grade 1 Umpires

- 3.1 Umpires can only achieve an upgrading to Grade 1 status by being awarded the required marks at an event.
- 3.2 Candidates must satisfy all the requirements set out in Rule 2.3, and be able to understand and communicate effectively in English.
- 3.3 To be considered for upgrading, umpires must have umpired at least twice in any of the events listed below. (This is in addition to any event attended in relation to International Status).
- (a) Senior and Junior (U21) 'A' Teams Inter-Nations Tournaments;
 - (b) Continental 'A' and 'B' Division Club Championships;
 - (c) Other FIH approved tournaments that are considered by the Umpiring Committee to be of a suitable standard.
- 3.4 The following criteria must be met:
- (a) The umpire must control a minimum number of three matches at each of the required two events as listed above under Rule 3.3. Where the matches were in a tournament, the candidate must have achieved a mark of at least 7.5 in all matches umpired, except one (where a mark of 7.40 shall be the minimum).
 - (b) At least one of the events must be a Senior or Junior (U21) 'A' Teams Inter-Nations Tournament or Continental 'A' Division Club

- Championship, in which a minimum of three matches shall have been umpired.
- (c) At least one of the events shall be of a type where an Umpires' Manager has been appointed or approved by the FIH
- 3.5 Where an umpire controls a minimum of five matches at an event listed in Rule 3.3 (a) and (b), and achieves a minimum mark in each match of 7.7, then that umpire may, at the discretion of the Umpiring Committee, be upgraded to Grade 1 Umpire after that single tournament.
- 3.6 Once appointed to Grade 1 the umpire must continue to fulfil the conditions listed in Rule 2.3.
- 3.7 The position of active Grade 1 Indoor Umpire will cease:
- (a) At 31st December following reaching the age of 47 years;
 - (b) Upon own request or notification of retirement;
 - (c) Upon ceasing to be regularly active as an umpire at top level (Rule 2.3(a)) for more than 12 months;
 - (d) After three consecutive years without umpiring at a tournament as per 3.3(a) or 3.3(b);
 - (e) At the discretion of the Umpiring Committee upon receipt of a report of unacceptable actions/behaviour or poor performance or poor fitness;
- 3.8 Non-active Grade 1 Indoor Umpires will be subject to conditions listed in Rule 2.8.

Note to the Grading Guidelines

For the purposes of these Grading Guidelines, it should be noted that the final decision regarding all upgradings rests with the Umpiring Committee.