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# Community Umpiring Guidelines

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We live this game.



**NETBALL**  
NEW ZEALAND  
POITARAWHITI AOTEAROA

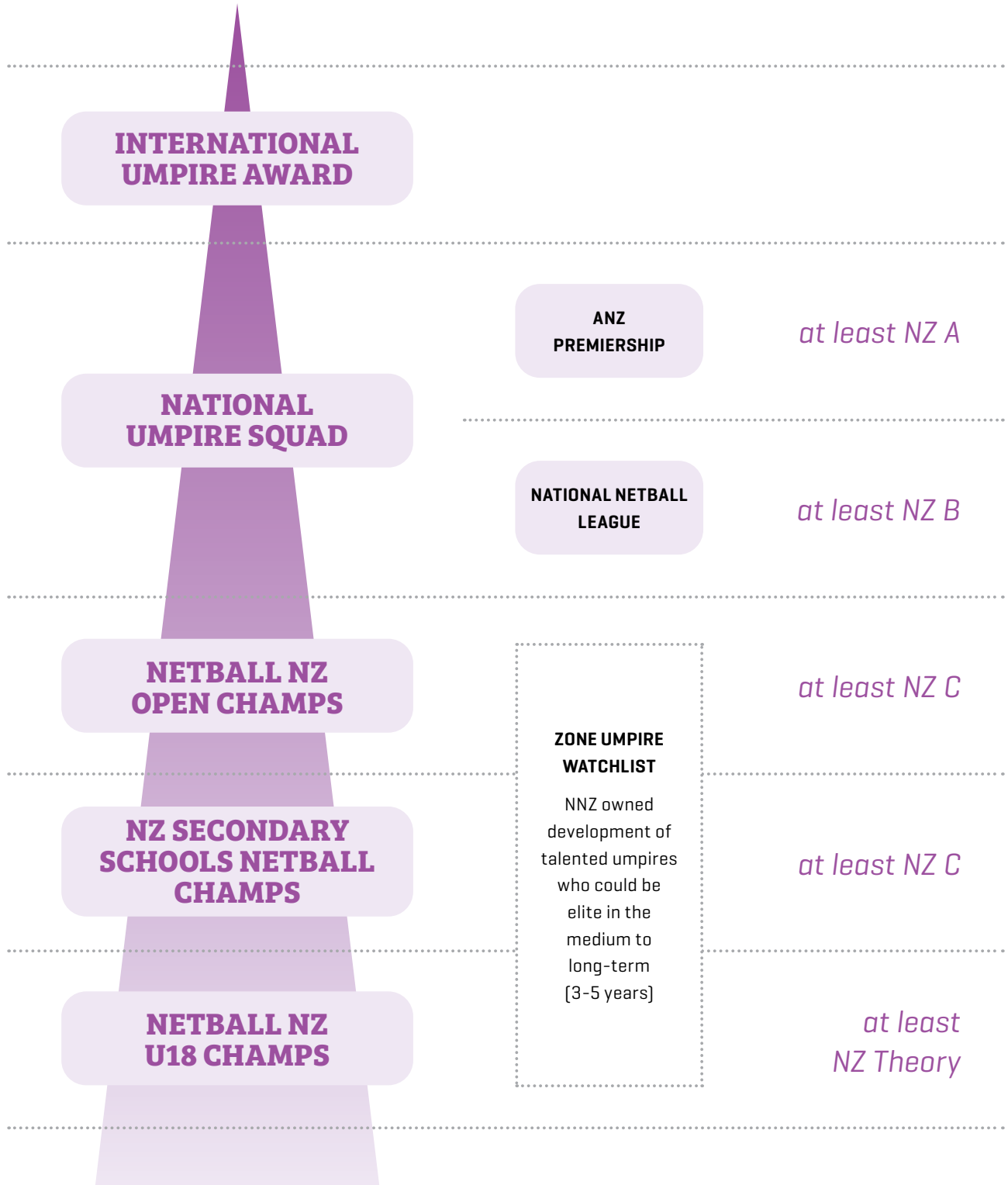




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# New Zealand Umpire Pathway



# New Zealand Umpire Accreditation Framework

AWARD	PREREQUISITE	PRACTICAL	ENDORSEMENT	SCREENING <sup>1,2</sup>	ASSESSMENT
<b>Centre</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coaching</li> <li>New Umpire Module and/or Centre Theory Test</li> <li>Screening</li> </ul>	Local game <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4x 10min or</li> <li>2x 20min</li> </ul> Or at least 40min consecutive game time	Every four years or gain higher badge	At least two assessors, allocated by the Centre	At least two assessors, allocated by the Centre
<b>Zone</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Centre Award</li> <li>Zone Theory Exam Pass</li> <li>Coaching</li> <li>Screening</li> </ul>	Minimum 4x 10 minute game approved in the Zone or Centre	Every four years or gain higher badge	At least two assessors, who may be allocated by the Centre or Zone	At least two assessors, who may be allocated by the Centre or Zone
<b>NZ C</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zone Award</li> <li>NZ Theory Exam Pass</li> <li>Coaching</li> <li>Fitness Level</li> <li>Screening</li> </ul>	Game standard approved by the Zone. At least 40 minute consecutive game time at a suitable level	Every four years or gain higher badge	At least two assessors, who may be allocated by the Centre or Zone	At least two assessors, who may be allocated by the Centre or Zone
<b>NZ B</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZ C Award</li> <li>NZ Theory Exam Pass</li> <li>Coaching</li> <li>Fitness Level</li> <li>Screening</li> </ul>	Game standard approved by the Zone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum 4x 10 minute game</li> </ul>	Every four years or gain higher badge	At least two assessors, allocated by the Zone <sup>3</sup>	At least two assessors, allocated by the Zone <sup>3</sup>
<b>NZ A</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZ B Award</li> <li>Fitness Level</li> <li>Screening</li> </ul>	Games approved by the NNZ National Technical Officials Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimum 4x 15 minute game</li> </ul>	Every four years or gain IUA	At least two people from the NNZ Umpire Selection Panel or International Testing Panel <sup>4</sup>	At least two people from the NNZ Umpire Selection Panel or International Testing Panel <sup>4</sup>
<b>IUA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NZ A Award</li> </ul>	Subject to INF	Every four years	International Testing Panel	International Testing Panel

## Note:

- Umpires must resit the relevant theory exam if they don't gain their practical within six years, and they must remain current with the previous practical level. For example, an umpire with NZ Theory must continue to have their Zone Award endorsed every four years until gaining their NZ Practical Award.
- An umpire who is not endorsed becomes non-current.
- Screenings and assessments may also occur at NNZ Domestic Events by an NNZ approved Events Panel.
- Umpires will not be advised when they are being screened.

1. Screening will take place over one or more games.

2. If an assessment or screening is being conducted over two consecutive games, there should be no more than 15 minutes between games.

3. NNZ will work with Zones to identify a pool of assessors to screen and assess Umpires for their NZ B Award.

4. It is recommended that an umpire not be screened or assessed for their NZ A Award by their appointed coach.

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# Other Information

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## Endorsement Information

- Umpires wishing to have their NZ C, NZ B and NZ A Awards endorsed must have:
  - » A current fitness test pass [within two weeks of the most recent fitness testing deadline]
  - » Have been successfully screened
  - » A current NZ Theory exam pass
  - » Have been screened on an approved game.
- An umpire who does not endorse or upgrade within a four-year period may be considered for a previous award [e.g. a Zone umpire may become a Centre umpire] or will become non-current.
- Umpires must be successfully endorsed by the end of the fourth year but not within two years of gaining their award or endorsement.

## Reporting

### CENTRE UMPIRE AWARD

- The umpire and Centre will be emailed/given a copy of the assessment or endorsement report.
- Centres must update the database and file records annually with the Zone.

### ZONE UMPIRE AWARD

- The umpire and Centre will be emailed a copy of the assessment or endorsement report.
- Completed assessment reports will be forwarded by the assessor to the Centre and Zone.
- Zones will update the database and send to NNZ monthly.

### NEW ZEALAND B AND C UMPIRE AWARDS

- The umpire and Centre will be emailed a copy of the assessment or endorsement report.
- Completed assessment reports will be forwarded by the assessor to the Centre and Zone.
- Zones will update the database and send to NNZ monthly.

### NEW ZEALAND A UMPIRE AWARD

- The umpire, Centre, Zone and NNZ will be emailed a copy of the assessment or endorsement report.

## Badges, Certificates and Tracksuits

### BADGES AND CERTIFICATES

- Centres or Zones may order badges for Zone umpires from NNZ.
- Upon receiving successful assessment reports, NNZ will send the umpire the NZ C Qualifying Badge and Certificate or NZ B Certificate.
- On gaining an NZ C Award, an umpire is entitled to purchase an NNZ tracksuit.

### TRACKSUITS

- Tracksuits for umpires who achieve their NZ C Award may be ordered from NNZ. Umpires will receive a letter containing a link to the order form.
- Umpires who already hold an NZ Award can contact their Zone.
- Please allow up to six weeks for delivery.

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# Umpire Theory Exams

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NNZ provides online learning and examination options as prerequisites for umpire awards. Candidates need to ensure they have access to a computer with a good internet connection.

	PRE-REQUISITE FOR	FORMAT	ELIGIBILITY <sup>5</sup>	FREQUENCY
<b>New Umpire Module or Centre Theory*</b>	Centre Umpire Award	Online module	Any new umpire	Always open
<b>Zone Theory Exam</b>	Zone Umpire Award	Online examination	Current Centre Umpires	Two per year
<b>New Zealand Theory Exam</b>	New Zealand Umpire Award	Online examination	Current Zone Umpires	Two per year

## New Umpire Module

- The New Umpire Module helps umpires understand some of the important rules of the game and techniques to help them with their umpiring.
- The module also has questions that test umpires' understanding of the rules and techniques. Practice questions and answers are available here [www.netballnz.co.nz/get-involved/umpiring](http://www.netballnz.co.nz/get-involved/umpiring).

\*The New Umpire Module is under construction and will always be open. NNZ will provide a link to the module on its website when completed. In the interim, the Centre Theory Exam is a prerequisite for the Centre Umpire Award.

## Zone and New Zealand Theory Exams

- The Zone Theory exam is conducted on the NNZ Learning and Development site and is a multi-choice/drag-and-drop exam.
- The NZ Theory exam is a mix of multi-choice/drag-and-drop and questions where candidates are required to type a written answer.
- Candidates must sit the examinations without the help from another person unless use of a reader-writer has been approved.
- The use of a reader-writer may be approved for the Zone and/or NZ Theory exams under certain circumstances. Note: Candidates must send their request for a reader-writer to the NNZ National Technical Officials Manager via their Zone.
- Zone and NZ Theory exams will be a maximum of 90 minutes' duration.

## Dates

- NNZ will provide dates for the Zone and NZ Theory exam each year.

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5. An umpire must resit the relevant theory exam if they do not gain their practical within six years. Exemptions can be granted if there are extenuating circumstances. Umpires must apply to the NNZ National Technical Officials Manager via their Zone for an exemption.

## Applications

- Registrations are completed on the NNZ Learning and Development site, which can be accessed through the NNZ website.
- Registrations must be completed by the closing date. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- An online payment portal will be made available to candidates after registrations close. Candidates have two weeks to pay for their exam. If payment is not made by the date the payment portal closes, candidates will not be able to sit the exam. This date will be communicated to eligible candidates by NNZ.

## Preparation

- NNZ will provide sample questions and past exams on the NNZ website.
- Practice exams will be made available to Zone and NZ Theory candidates once registrations for those exams have closed.

## Responsibilities

- NNZ will be responsible for advertising, writing, moderating and marking the exams, as well as communication with candidates after registrations have closed. NNZ will also provide sample/previous exams, results and moderators' reports to the Zones.
- Zones are responsible for ensuring candidates are eligible to sit the exams as well as working with Centres so candidates know where to register and pay on the NNZ Learning and Development site.
- Centres are responsible for working with candidates to ensure they are sufficiently prepared to sit the exams.





# Fitness Testing

*Umpires must have high physical fitness to perform their duties. Umpires who hold a New Zealand Umpire Award have earned the right to wear the NNZ logo and are representing NNZ.*

Representing a national sporting organisation comes with a responsibility to uphold the high standards of the award. Therefore, NNZ has minimum fitness standards for the various levels of Netball as follows:

UMPIRE LEVEL	YO-YO TEST LEVEL	FITNESS TEST DEADLINE
Umpires selected by the NNZ Umpire Selectors for the NNZ Open Champs	15.1	1 August each year
Umpires selected by the NNZ Umpire Selectors for the NNZ Secondary Schools Champs	14.5	1 September each year
All umpires applying for NNZ U18 Champs	14.5	1 June each year
Umpires prior to screening for NZ B or NZ C, including endorsement	14.3	Within two weeks of the most recent fitness testing deadline
All other umpires [recommended]	13.2	N/A

*Fitness testing deadlines each year for screening and endorsement of New Zealand Umpire Awards are:*

**15 March**

**1 June**

**1 September**

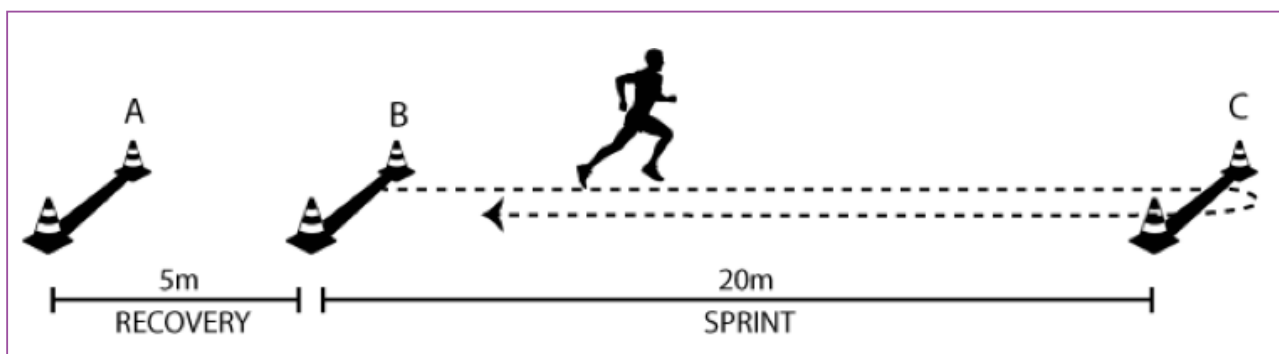
All umpires wishing to be appointed to NNZ events must provide current Yo-Yo Test results in accordance with the table above. Current means within two weeks of the fitness testing deadline. Results should be forwarded to the Zone.

The Yo-Yo Test must be carried out and verified by approved personnel.

Fitness testers are to be approved by Zones and should understand the requirements of the Yo-Yo intermittent recovery test. They must not be an umpire participating in the test.

## Yo-Yo Intermittent Fitness Test – Testing Protocols

Course layout: Cones or tape are used to mark out three parallel lines, 5 and 20m apart, as shown in the diagram below.



### PREPARATIONS

Make sure the participants are adequately prepared: well-rested, hydrated and fuelled, familiar with the test procedure and motivated to perform to their maximum ability. Give clear and standardised instructions about the test and what is expected of them, including the importance of keeping in time with the recording and completing the full 20m run.

### STARTING THE TEST

All participants should line up along the starting line (cone B). Participants start with both feet behind the starting line (cone B) and begin running when instructed by the audio recording. Each participant is to turn when they reach cone C (an audio beep will sound as a guide when they reach or are about to reach cone C) and return to the starting point. The participant must not start running early, must run the complete distance (including touching on or over the line at cone C), and return to the starting point before or in time with the recorded beep.

### DURING THE TEST

There is an active recovery period of 10 seconds between every 40m run, during which the participant must walk or jog to the next line (cone A) and return to the starting point. At regular intervals, the running speed will increase.

### FINISHING THE TEST

The participants must continue for as long as they can. Some will choose to stop when they have reached their physical limit. For others, you will need to give a warning as they drop behind the required pace or make one of the errors listed below. On the second infringement they are pulled out of the test.

You give a warning when the participant:

- Does not come to a complete stop before starting the next 40m run
- Starts the run before the audio signal (breaking)
- Does not return to line B before the required audio beep
- Turns at the 20m mark without touching or going over the line (therefore running short).

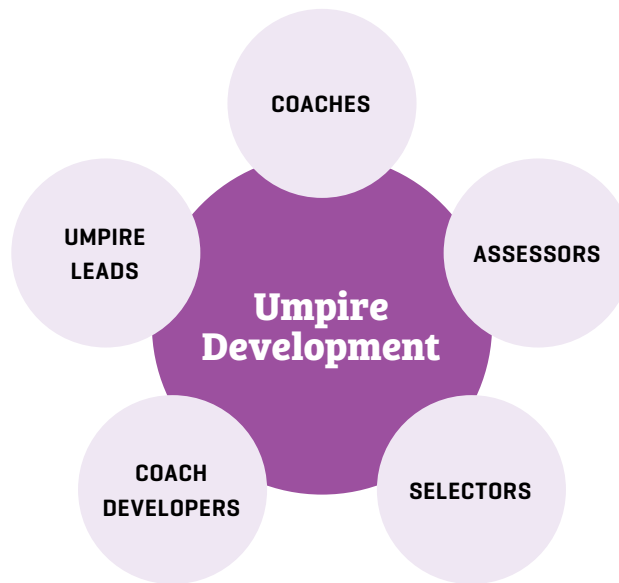
**Note:** A participant is withdrawn from the test on the second warning.

### SCORING

After stopping or receiving two warnings, the participant's score is the level of the last fully completed successful shuttle.

# Umpire Development

NNZ works with and supports Zones to take an active role in developing umpires and umpire coaches and assessors. There are many roles that contribute to umpire development.



## Roles

*Coaches facilitate learning and development for umpires.*

Zones will invite applications for positions as umpire coaches at all levels. It is expected that all applicants to become a Zone or NZ coach will have attended the appropriate workshops and have been formally observed coaching umpires. Umpire coaches will be appointed for a term of up to four years.

Assessors observe umpires as they move through the Umpire Award framework. Zones will invite applications for positions as umpire assessors at all levels. It is expected that all applicants to become a Zone or NZ Coach will have attended the appropriate workshops. Umpire assessors will be appointed for a term of up to four years.

LEVEL OF COACH/ASSESSOR	COACHING UMPIRES	ASSESSING UMPIRES
Centre	Up to Centre Award	Up to Centre Award
Zone	Centre and Zone Awards	Centre and Zone Awards
New Zealand	Up to NZ B Award	Up to NZ B Award

Selectors identify and select umpires for Zone tournaments and recommend umpires for NNZ events (if applicable). Zones are responsible for appointing selectors.

Umpire coach developers respond to coaches' needs and the context in which they operate by providing and facilitating a range of formal and non-formal learning opportunities. This can include: facilitating workshops, observation, mentoring, providing reviews and feedback. Zones will work with NNZ to identify and develop umpire coach developers.

Umpire leads facilitate learning and development opportunities for all involved in umpire development. This can include: professional development opportunities, programme design support, observation, mentoring, professional development plans, networking, monitoring and evaluation support.

## Umpire Modules

*NNZ has developed a range of Umpire Modules to help umpires and umpire coaches continue to acquire and develop skills.*

Umpires and umpire coaches are encouraged to attend workshops which will be organised in conjunction with the Zone. Umpires and umpire coaches working and learning together help foster the umpire/umpire coach relationship and offer opportunities to apply learning and coaching skills in a practical way.

MODULE	TARGET AUDIENCE	KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES
<b>Techniques 1</b>	New and Pre-Centre Umpire Award umpires	Understand Position, Vision and Timing and the impact they have on umpiring
<b>Techniques 2</b>	Centre umpires wishing to progress to their Zone Umpire Award	Understand Position, Vision and Timing and the impact they have on umpiring. How they impact on decision-making for Contact, Obstruction and application of Advantage
<b>Obstruction</b>	Umpires and umpire coaches at all levels	Understanding of Obstruction and to take part in discussions based on Umpire-Centred Learning
<b>Post-Match Discussion</b>	Umpires who are working to attain Centre, Zone or New Zealand practical qualifications	Understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Netball New Zealand's umpire coaching approach and what it means for umpires</li> <li>How to benefit from coaching and post-match discussions</li> <li>The Priority Order of Development and its purpose in umpire development/self-analysis</li> </ul>
<b>Self-Analysis</b>	Umpires who are working to attain Centre, Zone or New Zealand practical qualifications	Growing umpires ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyse umpires' current reality</li> <li>Understand the skills required for success</li> <li>Analyse key areas for development</li> <li>Managing disappointment</li> </ul>

## Coach and Assessor Modules

*NNZ values the time and skills this group of people bring to umpiring and will provide ongoing training and development opportunities.*

It is possible an individual may wish to focus on coaching alone and not be involved in assessing. That option is available when applying for accreditation.

NNZ has developed a training programme for umpire coaches and assessors, which will be delivered by umpire coach developers within the Zone.

A structured framework will cater for new coaches through to coaches of talented umpires.

All coach and assessor training will:

- Be based on an umpire-centred approach to coaching
- Be interactive and practical as much as possible.

MODULE	TARGET AUDIENCE	KEY LEARNING OBJECTIVES
<b>Introduction</b>	New coaches and assessors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The role of assessor, coach and mentor</li> <li>· Umpire-Centred Learning</li> <li>· Priority order of development</li> <li>· Coaching styles</li> <li>· Personality and learning styles</li> <li>· Understanding key performance indicators of umpires</li> <li>· Report writing</li> </ul>
<b>Level 1</b>	Umpire coaches and assessors Pre-requisite: Coach and Assessor Introduction Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Facilitate umpire coaching through umpire ownership, self awareness and self responsibility.</li> <li>· Recognise and facilitate umpire coaching which promotes learning through an umpire-coach partnership including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Umpires' strengths</li> <li>» Umpires' areas for development</li> <li>» Understanding skills required for development</li> <li>» Umpires game understanding.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Annual Update</b>	All umpire coaches and assessors	Annual programme announced at the end of the previous year.

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# National Event Appointments

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## Umpire Appointments

*The NNZ Umpire Selection Panel is appointed by NNZ and will appoint umpires to the following national events:*

- NNZ Open Champs
- NNZ Secondary Schools Champs
- Other events as required.

Selections will be made in accordance with the relevant NNZ Umpire Selection Policy.

For the NNZ U18 Champs, NNZ will seek nominations for umpires from Zones, which should be received by NNZ before 30 May.

## Event Coaching Panels

*Event coaching panels will be appointed for all events.*

The NNZ Open Champs and NZ Secondary Schools Champs are considered high-performance pathway events for umpires. Coaching panels for these events will be made up of members from the NNZ Umpire Selection Panel. The coaching panel may be supplemented with a coach from the National Umpire Squad or Zone umpire watch-list coach.

The NNZ U18 Champs Coaching Panel will be made up of people identified by NNZ as those who are actively involved in the development of umpire coaches.



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