



Extension of Netball Europe officiating awards / roles due to COVID-19

To: Netball Europe Members
Cc: NE Board

The Netball Europe Officiating Group has carefully considered the impact of the cessation of Netball competition due to COVID-19 on the expiry dates of officiating awards and the following decisions have been made. In making these decisions the group considered the following factors:

- Fairness
- Equity
- Different dates across all NE member countries for cessation and restart of competition due to COVID-19
- Sufficient time for umpires to get back into umpiring after the restart of competition, so they are ready for their practical assessment.

Notes:

- C, B and A umpiring awards regulations are under the jurisdiction of Netball Europe and therefore all member countries are **required** to follow these regulations
- Assessor and tutor awards are member country specific, so the member country makes the final decision but they are strongly advised to adopt the recommendations below for tutor and assessor awards.

Netball Europe C, B and A umpiring award

Written awards C, B and A

- Any umpire who already has a written award pass with an expiry date on or after the date of cessation of competition due to lock down (**date to be confirmed by each member country**) will have their expiry date extended by 12 months. *Example: expiry date April 30th 2020 will extend to April 30th 2021*
- Any umpire who successfully gains their written award pass after the date of cessation of competition due to lockdown (**date to be confirmed by each member country**) and before competition recommences after lockdown (**date to be confirmed by each member country**) will have their award expiry date extended by 12 months

Attended a C or B course and not already applied for written assessment

The NE umpiring pathway states that an umpire **must** attend a C or B award course prior to applying for a written assessment.

- If a member country has stipulated a timeframe within which an umpire must apply for their written assessment after attending a course, NE recommends that this is extended by 12 months from the recommencement of competition following the end of lockdown (**date to be confirmed by each member country**)
- This applies to any umpire who has already attended a course and not applied for their written before the cessation of competition in their member country

Application for C, B and A practical assessment



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All applications for practical assessments that have already been submitted to a country organiser will remain valid. When competition recommences following the end of lock down (**date to be confirmed by each member country**), organisers will be required to arrange the assessment within the following timeframes:

- C award - 6 months (currently 3 months)
- B award - 8 months (currently 4 months)
- A award - 12 months (currently 6 months)

These timeframes have been extended to allow the candidates sufficient time to undertake relevant match umpiring in preparation for their practical assessment and to allow organisers sufficient time for the organisation of the assessment.

Tutor and assessor awards

NE recommends that all tutor and assessor award expiry dates are extended by 12 months from the commencement of competition following the end of lockdown (**date to confirmed by each member country**).

Actions required by member countries

- Member countries are required to notify NE of the date that competition ceased and restarted within their member country due to COVID-19. Email: cheryldanson@aol.com
- Any additional requests for further extension of the umpiring award timescales due to **extenuating** circumstances should be submitted to the member country for consideration and decision.

On-going review

The NE officiating group and Board will review the situation every 3 months to determine if any further considerations and changes are required as a result of COVID-19.

Cheryl Danson, NE Director of Officiating on behalf of NE Officiating Group, 22nd May 2020