

A few Reminders for Umpires

For those of you who are new to umpiring, those who have not umpired for a while, or anyone who has forgotten, the following information will remind you of your roles and responsibilities as an umpire in the CNL.

- Arrive 10 minutes before a game to find the teams whom you have been allocated to umpire. Make sure you know which teams you are umpiring and if you cannot find them, ask.
- Arrive with a whistle, score pad, timer and water.
- Always check the player's nails before a game starts.
- Make sure there is a scorer and they know how to score (see CNL booklet for guidance). CNL state that all teams must provide scorers. Make sure both scorers stand together and call out the score regularly. The timer (who is also usually the scorer) will need to come and count down from 10 seconds to tell you when it is the end of the quarter.
- Check that the court is playable and it is not dangerous.
- Games need to start on time and as long as there are 5 players on court the game must start. Discretion is needed if a player has been umpiring at another venue previously and is running late.
- At the end of a quarter, check both scores are the same and agree whose centre pass it is for the next quarter. Talk to the other umpire at the end of each quarter to check if there are any problems.
- At the end of a game, make sure you sign both CNL result slips and that you get paid £10 as agreed by members who attended the CNL AGM. Make sure both teams have swapped photo cards. Umpires **do not need** to check photo cards themselves but must make sure that both captains have seen them. Once this has been done you can tick the box that says photo cards seen and you can tick if they provided a scorer.
- Remember that you are in charge of the game so don't let people intimidate you from the sidelines or on court. If you are not happy with a player call the captains over and both umpires can talk to both captains about how they are feeling. Your decision is final so once you have made a decision stick to it! If players see that you change your mind when they question you, they will keep trying to do so.

Remember that this should be a fun hobby that you and the players enjoy taking part in. You are all, as umpires, very much appreciated and without you, we couldn't have as many teams taking part in the CNL so thank you all.

Jo Handley

(Umpire Secretary)