

Welsh Bowls Umpires Association (WBUA)

Umpire Development and Qualification.

The training and development of Bowls Umpires in Wales is outlined below:

Grades of Umpires:

- a. Level 1 Umpire Qualification – enables qualified umpires to officiate at any internal or national competitions within Wales. This course will take place annually depending on the number of candidates.
- b. Level 2 Umpire Qualification – eligible to be selected to officiate at Home International and British Isles events. This course will take place as required by the WBUA Management Committee.

Level 1 Umpire Training Course.

1. Module 1. Once an application is received together with the relevant charges, candidates will be sent a question paper consisting of questions and a copy of the World Bowls Ltd DVD. Candidates must return the completed paper to the Secretary. Candidates who achieve a pass mark of 90% will then be invited to the practical instruction seminar (Module 2).
2. Module 2. All successful candidates from above will be invited to a suitable venue for a one day instructional course on the techniques and skills of measuring. Debrief on question papers may also be included in this day.
3. Module 3. At least 2 weeks after the above, successful candidates will attend an Assessment Day which will comprise of:
 - a. A short written test paper to be completed without the aid of the Law Book.
 - b. A practical assessment of candidates measuring skills using 10 – 12 of the statutory measures laid down in the World Bowls Ltd Umpire Development document.

On completion of Modules 1,2 & 3, candidates will be assessed for suitability as Level 1 Umpires by the WBUA Panel and candidates will be informed by the WBUA Secretary of the Panels' decision. Successful candidates will be supplied with the current Law Books for both Outdoor and Indoor Bowls.

Level 2 Umpire Training Course.

1. Module 1. Suitable candidates will be invited to apply for this course. Once an application is received together with the relevant charges, candidates will be sent a question paper consisting of 50 questions. Candidates must return the completed paper to the Secretary. Candidates who achieve a pass mark of 90% will then be invited to the practical instruction seminar.
2. Module 2. Successful candidates will attend an Assessment Day which will comprise of:
 - a. A short written test paper to be completed without the aid of the Law Book.
 - b. A practical assessment of advanced measuring and other relevant skills.

On completion of Modules 1 & 2, candidates will be assessed for suitability as Level 2 Umpires by the WBUA Panel and candidates will be informed by the WBUA Secretary of the Panels' decision.

International Badge.

1. Level 2 Umpires selected to officiate at Home Internationals or British Isles events may apply for their International Badge once they have completed an extended period of duty at one of the above events.

Markers Course.

1. The WBUA will, as required, run a Markers course for specific International or National events. Level 1 or Level 2 qualified Umpires may be invited to attend this course which is designed to ensure that standard best practices and techniques are used during the course of marking a Singles game.

General Notes.

1. The edition of the World Bowls Crystal Mark Edition of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls in use at the time of the course will be used for all WBUA courses.
2. Completed Level 1 and Level 2 Theory papers should be returned to the WBUA Secretary at least 6 weeks prior to the dates of the practical course or assessment, to enable time for papers to be marked and successful candidates notified of the next stage of the course.
3. Level 1 courses are normally run during the Autumn. Level 2 Courses and Markers Courses are normally in the Spring. However the WBUA may change the time of these courses as required by circumstances and may also run additional courses if the WBUA Management Committee so authorizes.