

# TOAG Umpiring Levels

## Role of the Umpire

The umpire has the authority over a particular match and is in charge of the court and its immediate surroundings. The umpire ensures the match is conducted in accordance with the Laws of Badminton, the rules and regulations of the BWF and any other regulations pertinent to the specific tournament.

The umpire makes calls regarding service faults and other player faults or lets. The umpire keeps the match score which he or she announces after each point. The umpire also keeps a record of any incidents of misconduct and reports them to the referee. The umpire's jurisdiction shall exist from the time the players enter the court before the match until they leave the court after the match. The umpire reports to and acts under the authority of the referee.

All Umpires must adhere to the BWF Technical Officials code of conduct.

Within USAB we have 3 levels of umpire which you can progress through. The higher your level the more tournaments you will get invited to or offered the option to self-fund for at higher levels.

If an official fails assessment at a national level or the PAN AM Accredited level, it will normally be 1 year before the person is put forward for assessment again. If the USAB re-assessment is within 2 years of the original assessment, a passed written exam or on court assessment will still stand. Assessments will only be carried out at USAB, BPAC or BWF sanctioned events.

Umpires may only wear their USAB uniform at USAB, BPAC or BWF sanctioned events.

## Domestic Levels

### Regional

To be certified as a Regional Level umpire, elements (a) – (g) must be satisfied:

- a) Must be a current USAB member with a current background check and safe sports certification.
- b) Must have attended a USAB Regional Umpire Clinic, in person or online.
- c) Able to use the umpire's scoresheet.
- d) Proficient at using basic umpire vocabulary.
- e) Familiarity with the Laws of Badminton and Recommendations to Technical Officials
- f) Must pass the Regional Umpire Written Test
- g) Must have independently umpired satisfactorily, as judged by an existing National level or above umpire, or a referee, a minimum of three complete matches, including at least one doubles match.

To maintain regional level an umpire should officiate 20 matches in the year.

### National Accredited

To be considered for promotion to this level, elements (a) – (o) must be satisfied:

- a) Must have been a regional umpire for at least 12 months.
- b) Recommended for promotion by a member of TOAG or a Referee.
- c) Must have been actively involved and demonstrated commitment to the TOAG program.
- d) Must be a current USAB member with a current background check and safe sports certification.
- e) Consistently accurate in using all umpire vocabulary.
- f) Demonstrates adequate voice projection and tone of voice.
- g) Demonstrates thorough knowledge of Laws of Badminton and Recommendations to Technical Officials
- h) Able to identify and call all kinds of faults and lets during a match.
- i) Accurately fill in the score sheet.
- j) Demonstrates control of court and surroundings, including timing of intervals.
- k) Able to identify and call obvious service faults during a match.
- l) Ability to umpire and service judge domestic tournament matches up to and including semi-finals of Adult Nationals, Junior Nationals, and Junior Selection Event
- m) Demonstrates basic team work on and off court and camaraderie within the Technical Officials team at an event.
- n) Must pass the National Accredited Umpire Written Test
- o) Must pass a practical assessment as judged by at least one TOAG appointed assessor. The assessor will also gather feedback from other senior umpires at the tournament and the referee team.

To maintain national accredited level an umpire should officiate 30 matches in the year across 2 tournaments.

### National Certificated

To be considered for promotion to this level, elements (a) – (o) must be satisfied:

- a) Must have been a National Accredited umpire for at least 2 years. (TOAG reserves the right to put forward experienced talented umpires at a minimum of 1 year at the previous level.)
- b) Recommended for promotion by a member of TOAG or a Referee.
- c) Must have been actively involved and demonstrated commitment to the TOAG program.
- d) Must be a current USAB member with a current background check and safe sports certification.
- e) Have a high level of presentation.
  - Consistently accurate in using all umpire vocabulary in all aspects of the game.
  - Demonstrates adequate voice projection and tone of voice.
  - Follow the march on and off process for the tournament.
- f) Demonstrates thorough knowledge of Laws of Badminton and Recommendations to Technical Officials
- g) Generate neat and tidy correctly filled in score sheets.
- h) Able to identify and call all kinds of faults and lets during a match, in a timely manner.
- i) Demonstrates control of court and surroundings, including timing of intervals, not causing a delay of the match because you are not ready for play, be aware of players at all times.

- j) Able to identify and call obvious service faults during a match.
- k) Ability to umpire and service judge domestic tournament matches up to and including finals of Adult Nationals, Junior Nationals, and Junior Selection Event. Also, in the opinion of the assessor be able to umpire a quarter final match at the US open or finals of an international series match.
- l) Demonstrates strong teamwork on and off court and camaraderie within the Technical Officials team at an event. This includes strong teamwork with the service judge and line judges when umpiring and support of the umpire when service judging.
- m) Exhibits control under pressure and intensity of a match. This includes allowing the match to flow in a timely manner and controlling excessive celebration by players.
- n) Must pass the National Certificated Umpire Written Test. Part of the goal of this exam is to ensure the candidate has an understanding of rules that impact international tournaments that they will not come across in domestic tournaments. There will be questions on clothing regulations and IRS as part of the exam as well as general umpiring questions. There are no questions on Para badminton.
- o) Must pass a practical assessment as judged by at least one TOAG appointed assessor. The assessor will also gather feedback from other senior umpires at the tournament and the referee team.

To maintain national certificated level an umpire should officiate 30 matches in the year across 3 tournaments including an adult tournament.

## Continental Levels

These levels are defined by the Continental federation. TOAG is asked to put forward candidates for assessment to PAN AM accredited by the Continental federation. To be considered as a candidate by TOAG the official needs to meet the following:

1. Must have been at National Certificated for 2 years. (TOAG reserves the right to put forward experienced talented umpires at a minimum of 1 year.)
2. Must be in good standing with USAB
3. Actively umpired top level National and international tournaments during the last 2 years and must include working with fixed height service devices and finals duties on top level domestic tournaments.
4. Umpired at the US open in the last 2 years and having umpired a semi final and assigned a duty on finals day.
5. Continental levels are designed as a steppingstone to BWF levels and candidate priority will be given to officials who can make it to the BWF level.

PAN AM will invite PAN AM Accredited umpires to go for Certification.

[PAN AM Accredited](#)

[PAN AM Certificated](#)

## International Levels

PAN AM will put forward candidates for BWF assessment.

[BWF Umpire](#)