

VOLUME 3

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CONTROL

75% of umpiring is **CONTROL**. If we have control we can allow the game to flow and enjoy our umpiring.

How do we **gain** control?

1. By being clearly understood - whistle and signals.
2. By being in the **right** place, at the **right** time to make the **right** decision and give the **right** penalty.
3. By maintaining concentration.
4. By being fair.

How do we **lose** control?

1. By allowing players to make decisions for us.
2. By being inconsistent with penalties.
3. By allowing time wasting and dissent from players.

To avoid losing control through these areas umpires need to keep a firm grip on the players and show that poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated.

BUT - don't go overboard.

Over use of warnings (verbal or cards) will undermine their value. A warning given at the wrong moment could lose your control of the game for the rest of the match. If you are going to warn a player you must have the desired effect from it and it must achieve good results. try not to dominate the player or intimidate her; keep it short and to the point and then get on with the game.

we need to identify early in the match the physical from the lack of skill, the trivial from the important and to penalise accordingly. To maintain credibility we need to be above all **CONSISTENT**.

In all it is your decisions that are going to make your reputation. A good reputation will take you a long way! Aim at being fair whilst not being afraid to make the tough decision when one is merited.

COACHING VIDEO

The association has available for hire an umpiring coaching video (VHS) at a fee of £5 per week plus a refundable deposit of £20. Contact either John James or Pete Lovell should you wish to take advantage of this facility. the video covers many aspects of umpiring including signalling, obstruction, advantage and positioning. it is a good coaching aid either for established umpires or beginners.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that annual subscriptions become due soon. To assist you in this, a direct debit form is attached, which should be completed by you and returned to Pete Lovell who will then forward them as appropriate. Should you wish to pay as before, also attached is a registration form. annual subscription remains at £3, for which you will receive a rule book when they become available for the new season. We hope that most of you have found the association helpful and will decide to re-register. Should you know umpires who are not members but would benefit from the association why not encourage them to join. the more the merrier.

BADGES

Association badges are now available at a cost of £2.25 each. Anyone requiring extras please send your remittance to Pete Lovell who will then forward them to you as soon as possible.

COACHING

There will be coaching for umpires this season - we are going to concentrate on those who have their 'C' badge and wish for extra tuition. Wednesday evenings at Westberries LHC are mainly for testing our numerous 'C' candidates this summer, but we may have room for one or two extras. Also on Wednesdays there is a mini league running at Coombe Dingle. We hope to use this for more competent umpires looking for advancement.

In addition to this we will be organising "one-offs". Details to follow.

If you wish to be included in any coaching session, let one of the committee know in good time.

the summer leagues will start in May and finish in July, with two matches at each venue per evening.

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QUIZ II

Right! You score six out of six on Quiz I. (The answers are later in this newsletter so that you can be certain!)

Now try these:

1. 1.The goalkeeper's pads look rather wide. You measure them and find that they are 12" wide. What do you do?
2. 2.A free hit is awarded to the defence well within the 25 yard area. the defender takes the hit and tops the ball which rolls forward about a foot. An attacker rushes in but before reaching the ball the same defender hits the ball up field to another player of her team. Play on?
3. 3.At a penalty corner the umpire responsible notices that the defenders have four players behind the goal line. What action do you take?
4. 4.A penalty stroke is taken. the goalkeeper drops her stick and catches the ball in both hands. What is your decision?

5. 5. At a penalty corner the person taking the hit out, instead of hitting the ball to the top of the circle where the other attackers are waiting for it, hits it along the goal line towards the goal. The ball hits the heel of a defender and is deflected accidentally into the goal. What is your decision ?
6. 6. What is the minimum period for which an umpire may temporarily suspend a player ?

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QUIZ I ANSWERS

1. An offence by an attacker in the opponents circle. A hit may be taken anywhere within the circle as well as up to 16 yards from the back line opposite where the offence occurred.
2. Penalty Stroke. For a penalty corner to be awarded in the 25yd area the offence must have been judged deliberate. For a deliberate foul in the circle the only award is a penalty stroke.
3. Yes. The rule stipulates that a hit in is taken from the point where the ball went out of play. When the hit in is raised a foul has occurred. This foul has occurred within 16yds of the back line. Just as with any other free hit situation in this position the hit by the defence may be taken up to 16 yards from the back line.
4. 16 yard hit. For a goal to be scored the whole of the ball must cross the whole of the goal line. Patently this has not occurred - no goal! But the ball has passed over the back line - 16 yard hit. Had one half of the ball remained on the field of play then a bully would have resulted.
5. A ball cannot be deliberately hit at an opponent. If this has occurred it is a free hit to the opponent, subject to playing advantage. Equally for a foot to be a foul there must be an advantage for the kicker or her team; no advantage, no foul.
6. Bear in mind the rule that, for a goal to be scored from a short corner, the ball must not cross the goal line above 18". The height of the board is to assist in the judgement of the height of the shot. NB a flick or a scoop shot from a short corner can be raised to any height - subject of course to danger!

I told you that you scored six out of six! You should have no problems with Quiz II.

Chairman	Liz Bennison
Secretary	John James
Treasurer	Peter Lovell

LETTERS

Dear John

During a recent match a defender, running behind the goalkeeper, kicked a shot off the line. However the penalty flick I awarded was converted.

In conversation with the other umpire, who apparently played and seemed well versed in umpiring, he commented that he would probably have awarded a penalty goal.

This threw me slightly as I understood this only applies to a **goalkeeper's** breach of any rule (see page 56 of rulebook).

My questions are:

1. Could a penalty goal be given in these circumstances?
2. If not, why not, as an award of a penalty goal would make the action unprofitable. As it is, a certain goal can be turned only into a possibility at present, by an illegal action of an out field player ?
3. Also what kind of penalty should be given to the player as a result of their action?

Sincerely

J.Parfitt (Mr.)

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Answer

1. No a penalty goal cannot be awarded, you are correct in your understanding. A penalty goal can only be awarded during a penalty stroke, if the goalkeeper breaches any rule pertaining to the penalty stroke procedure.
2. An umpire can only award a goal if the whole of the ball crosses the goal line. If it is kicked away by a player then the foul has to be dealt with. The penalty for that foul is a penalty stroke. to give the umpire the option of awarding a goal in such circumstances could lead to misinterpretation and therefore greater friction between umpires and players.
3. It is possible to give an extra penalty to the player by awarding a green card for a deliberate offence. But be sure in your own mind that the penalty stroke is not a sufficient penalty before doing that.

Dear John

Maybe it is a question for the West Clubs League rather than the Umpires association - what authority/instructions has an umpire if the clubs have not followed the rules of the League ?

For instance :- both umpires are supposed to be supplied with a team list prior to the start of each match - how often has this happened in your matches - in my case I only receive a copy after making a request - usually this is hurriedly written out just before the match starts.

In another match I was told that the person wearing number 29 is in fact number 30. This was queried, with no sensible explanation given, why do you want to know and why must we supply a team list ?

I thought that when League hockey came in, not only hockey laws should be played to, but League rules should be followed. Am I the only one out of step?

Yours Sincerely

Hugh Tippett

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Answer

I contacted the League secretary on this Hugh. Any queries or information re clubs not following league regulations should be sent to the League Secretary. It is up to the League to take action. An umpire is not in a position to do anything about the infringements at the beginning of the match. However when signing the match report form indicate close to your signature that you will be sending a letter. Also speak to the teams and captains regarding the infringements. It may be possible to rectify the problem.

Maybe the first meeting next season should go through the League rules that affect umpires and their responsibilities at League matches? Let me know.

I would add that the Committee are firmly of the opinion that umpires are there to interpret the rule of hockey and not for the purpose of enforcing League rules.