



TASMANIAN SOFTBALL COUNCIL INC.

T/A

Softball Tasmania

GREEN SHIRT POLICY

**For Softball Tasmania
Development Umpires**

Purpose

This program aims to provide Associations with the tools and support that enables Green Shirt Umpire Program participants and Supervisors to effectively navigate the program. This program also aims to create and develop the supportive culture required to make umpiring a valued and attractive pathway to engagement and participation in softball.

Reference Documentation

When administering trainee umpires within the Green Shirt Program, Association representatives must use the Softball Australia Level 1 Introductory Participants Manual and associated documentation (available at <http://www.softball.org.au/level-1-introductory-to-umpire-program/>).

All documentation about the Umpires Policy to contain the Softball Tasmania logo. In addition to the state logo association logos are permitted

Aim

The Green Shirt program aims to:

- Make trainee umpires identifiable, so they are easy to recognise and support
- Promote the program to the softball community to raise awareness and increase the recognition and support of trainee umpires.
- Assist in reducing the pressure, lessening abuse and conflict directed towards trainee umpires
- Create a culture of support for these trainee umpires through the education of players, spectators, coaches and other community members.
- Provide a pathway for trainee umpires to enter the National Accreditation System.

As the number of umpires is decreasing, Softball Tasmania, aims to encourage, attain and retain umpires in this sport, by assisting them to move through the Green Shirt Program and into Association Representation.

It is imperative that Associations can accommodate all trainee umpires in the program with assigned supervisors and umpire coaches to assist the trainee umpires in expanding their skills and knowledge. (In each Association there should be a ratio of at least one supervisor to ten umpires to ensure the umpires are getting the most out of the program.)

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Program Expectations

All Local Associations should:

- Provide a supportive environment for trainee umpires
- Appoint a Level 2 Umpire or Supervisor to coordinate the program on behalf of the Association.
- Codes of behaviour acknowledged and understood.
- Associations attain shirts and allocate/record names/affiliation details of who is allocated a shirt.
- Educate participants on how to complete any online training courses.
- Appoint supervisors who are able to support trainee umpires throughout the program.
- Provide feedback appropriate to the level of the official about their performance by a qualified / recognised supervisor and utilise the KPI sheet for umpire evaluation.
- Association to raise awareness of the program and its aims.
- This program is for non-accredited umpires only.
- Once Green Shirt Umpires have been assessed as competent in accordance with the Level 1 On Diamond Competency Checklist they should be encouraged to progress to Level 1 accreditation.

Expectations of Club / Players / Spectators

- Encourage and support new umpires
- See, hear and listen to the feedback from your umpires
- Create a culture of support for umpires from Association Executive level down to team managers including spectators.
- Clubs and teams participating to support and promote “Play by the Rules” principles for all trainee umpires. Note that trainee umpires under the age of 16 must be supervised by their parent or guardian when undertaking “Play by the Rules” on line courses. see – www.playbytherules.net.au
- Clubs and players to provide positive feedback for umpires prior to the conclusion of the game.
- Commit to a fair and safe culture.
- No protests, negative questioning or harassment following a decision by the Green Shirt umpire will be permitted. Any such incidents should be reported to the Umpire Supervisor, Local Association competition management or Tournament Chief Umpire if at a tournament.
- Teams can give feedback through the Umpire Supervisor, Local Association competition management or Tournament Chief Umpire if at a tournament for training and controlled feedback purposes.

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The Next Step

- Consolidation of skills and knowledge gained within the program and from attendance at Future Umpire Program training.
- Complete the online rules assessment annually. (See softball.org.au rules assessment portal).
- Attendance at a Basic Umpire Training Program to improve skills and prepare for advancement to the next level.

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